Pressure Cushion for Stationary Seated Surface Funding Criteria

This Guideline has been developed in consultation with expert clinicians and is designed to specify EnableNSW funding criteria for this group of assistive technology; items provided; eligible prescribers; and provide a basis for consistent and transparent decision making. Refer to the EnableNSW Eligibility Information to check a person’s eligibility before submitting a request. [http://www.enable.health.nsw.gov.au/home/applying_online/applying-for-assistance-from-enablensw](http://www.enable.health.nsw.gov.au/home/applying_online/applying-for-assistance-from-enablensw)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Included equipment</th>
<th>Funding Criteria</th>
<th>Allocation</th>
<th>Request Process</th>
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</table>
| **Group 1**
Standard off the shelf item – pressure cushion through the Equipment Allocation Program | 1. May be provided where a person is at significant risk of pressure injuries following clinical and standardised risk assessment (see glossary) **AND**
2. Pressure management/prevention strategies have been implemented (i.e. nutrition, continence management etc.) and the risk of pressure injury remains **AND** 2 or more of the following criteria
- Person is unable to regularly initiate standing or other position changes to sufficiently relieve pressure (consider both physical and cognitive ability)
- The person does not have a carer who can prompt or safely physically assist with regular pressure relieving strategies
- The person has impaired sensation
- The person is unable sleep in a bed at night time
- The person has an existing pressure injury that is likely to require ongoing intervention for 12 months or more
- Person has a history of a sacral or ischial tuberosity pressure injury | **1 item** in this category where the person has not previously been provided with a seated mobility device that includes a pressure cushion. | **Eligible Prescribers Group 1:** Registered Occupational Therapist, Registered Physiotherapist, Registered Nurse **WITH** current skills and / or recent training in pressure injury management and suitable equipment prescription.
Check the online catalogue [http://www.enable.health.nsw.gov.au/home/equipment-allocation-program](http://www.enable.health.nsw.gov.au/home/equipment-allocation-program) as items in this category are only available through the Equipment Allocation Program (stock).
Submit Stock Equipment Request Form to EnableNSW.
Cushion will be couriered to the person or prescriber state-wide. |
| **Group 2**
Customised Equipment – not provided within this category | | | |

This list is not exhaustive and may be changed without notice. EnableNSW will make the final decision regarding the provision of equipment that is not specifically included or excluded in the guidelines.
<table>
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<th><strong>Group 3</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Custom made Equipment – not provided within this category</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Excluded equipment</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Cushions for comfort</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Foot rests or supports</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Heel protectors / booties</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Calf pads / cushions</td>
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**GLOSSARY**

**Pressure Injury**

• A localised injury to the skin and/or underlying tissue usually over a bony prominence, as a result of pressure, shear and/or friction, or a combination of these factors. (Pan Pacific Clinical Practice Guideline for the Prevention and Management of Pressure Injury, 2012).

**Standardised Risk Assessment**

• Formal scale or score used to help determine the degree of pressure injury risk. e.g. Waterlow, Norton, Braden / Braden Q etc. (Pan Pacific Clinical Practice Guideline for the Prevention and Management of Pressure Injury, 2012).

**Clinical Assessment**

• Thorough assessment including clinical history; pressure injury history and stage; skin assessment; mobility and activity assessment; nutritional assessment; continence assessment; cognitive assessment; other extrinsic factors. (Pan Pacific Clinical Practice Guideline for the Prevention and Management of Pressure Injury, 2012) This comprehensive assessment informs clinical reasoning and equipment prescription.

**Stationary Seated Surface**

• An immobile or static chair e.g. lounge, recliner or dining chair (NB: please refer to the Seated Mobility Clinical Criteria for pressure cushions required for use on a wheelchair.)