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Continence Funding Criteria

This Guideline has been developed in consultation with expert clinicians and is designed to specify the EnableNSW funding criteria for this group of assistive technology; items provided; eligible prescribers and provide a basis for consistent and transparent decision making

EnableNSW funds the following continence equipment. This list is not exhaustive and EnableNSW reserves the right to make the final decision regarding the provision of equipment that is not specifically included or excluded. Prescribers should check their eligibility to prescribe specific equipment in this category as identified in the table below.

Request Process

- Items in this category are available through the NSW Government Contract 250: Continence and Sexual Health Products.
- EnableNSW is required to order products from NSW Government Contracts. Prescribers should request items from the contract.
- Non-contract products will only be purchased if there are no items on contract, to meet a person's specific clinical need.
- A prescriber cannot also be a supplier or affiliated with the supplier of the equipment for the same request. This may include but is not limited to a personal or professional relationship with or material interest in the supplier or manufacturer of the equipment listed on the request.
- Only equipment that complies with the relevant Australian or International Standards and/or has Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) registration (class 1 medical devices) is funded.

GENERAL FUNDING CRITERIA

Provision of equipment for management of continence needs when a person has:

- Permanent or long-term moderate to severe incontinence and / or bladder or bowel dysfunction
- Equipment needs are greater than would be covered by Continence Aids Payment Scheme (CAPS) funding.

The Continence Program provides a subsidy towards a person's yearly product requirements and considers the following information:

- A person's eligibility for CAPS
- The product selected
- The actual number of products requested which may vary due to packaging
- Persons who are financial Band 3, who will be funded for 80% of their annual allocation

*Maximum annual allocation limits for all products apply. The maximum allocation where two products are requested from the same category or type will be equivalent to the allocation for a single product. Please call to discuss with an EnableNSW clinical advisor before submitting a request.

Products available on NSW Government Contract 250	Standard Annual Allocation *	Eligible Prescribers & Additional Criteria / Documentation Required
Urinary Incontinence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pads/Pullups/Tab Pads > 200mls capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disposable 810 - Washable pads/pullups/pant systems 18 • Sheaths/condom drainage 270 		Eligible Prescribers Group 1: Continence Advisor/Nurse; Clinical Nurse Consultant (CNC); Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS); Nurse Practitioner OR Registered Nurse who has undertaken a relevant continence course; OR Registered Nurse with specific training within their clinical service to prescribe continence products. <i>Relevant medical specialists and allied health professionals may submit an Equipment Request Form (ERF) in exceptional circumstances where an eligible prescriber is unavailable locally. Please call to discuss with an EnableNSW clinical advisor before submitting a request.</i>
Faecal Incontinence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pads/Pullups/Tab Pads > 200mls capacity 810 		
Urinary and faecal Incontinence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pads/Pullups/Tab Pads > 200mls capacity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disposable 1080 - Washable pads/pullups/pant systems 24 		
Bladder dysfunction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard intermittent catheters per urethra 600 (refer to QRG) • Indwelling/suprapubic catheters 9 • Reusable catheters sets 9 catheters (includes 3 sets) 		
Drainage Equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposable leg bags OR Extended care leg bags 36 disposable OR 2 reusable 		
PLUS		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disposable overnight bags OR drainage bottles OR Single use drainage bags without tap PLUS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drainage tubes Catheter valves Catheter/thigh straps OR Adhesive Catheter Stabilisation Devices 	36 disposable OR 2 reusable OR 270 single use drainage bags 6 9 4 standard/ 2 deluxe 1 box	
Reusable Bed Pads <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Washable bed pads 	3 reusable	
Non-standard and Non-contract Equipment OR Higher Allocation	Allocation	Eligible prescribers & additional criteria or documentation required
Bladder dysfunction Non-standard intermittent catheters Non-standard indwelling/suprapubic catheters Refer to <i>Quick Reference Guide (QRG) for NSW Government Contract</i>	270 9 <i>*Allocation will vary depending on equipment type, individual circumstances, packaging and cost</i>	Eligible Prescribers Group 2: Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS); Continence Advisor; Clinical Nurse Consultant (CNC); Nurse Practitioner with relevant specialty training OR Registered nurse with > 1 year experience in continence management and 3 previous supervised prescriptions Additional Criteria Standard catheters have been trialled and do not meet person's specific clinical needs, plus meets at least one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires use of catheter with specific tip Allows the person to independently catheterise Demonstrated reduction in infections following trial
Higher annual allocation of catheters and drainage equipment		A higher allocation for a time limited period may be considered where the person is: <i>(this list is not exhaustive)</i>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not eligible for CAPS • At risk of renal failure • Has a history of frequent infection requiring treatment / hospital admission • Immunocompromised • Other specific clinical requirements may be considered <p>Additional documentation from medical specialist is required to support these requests.</p>
Higher annual allocation of pads/pullups	Up to 1080	<p>A higher allocation for a time limited period may be considered in the following situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not eligible for CAPS and > 5 years old • A medical condition that increases urine output <p>Supporting documentation from medical specialist is required to support the request.</p>
Non-contract items Non-contract items are provided by exception.	<i>Allocation will vary depending on equipment type, individual circumstances, packaging and cost</i>	<p>Meets at least one criteria below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract items have been trialled and are not clinically suitable • A clinically appropriate product is not available on the contract e.g. due to size
Pads/pullups/nappies for children < 5 years old	Standard Allocation	<p>Child is four (4) years old and has a neurogenic bladder or bowel due to a neurological condition</p> <p>And meets at least one criteria below:</p> <p>b) Unable to undertake toilet training program due to multiple disability or health conditions</p> <p>c) Toilet training program has been undertaken, and outcomes indicate that child will not attain continence by five (5) years of age. (Provide report from early intervention team or childcare centre regarding outcomes of toilet training program over 6-month period)</p>
Products available on NSW Government Contract 250	Standard Annual Allocation *	Eligible Prescribers & Additional Criteria / Documentation Required
Bowel Management Anal Plugs,		Eligible Prescribers Group 3: Multidisciplinary/Specialist team including:

Washout kits, rectal catheters and accessories	Contact EnableNSW	<p>Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS); Continence Advisor; Clinical Nurse Consultant (CNC); Nurse Practitioner with relevant bowel management and product training OR Registered nurse with > 1 year experience in continence management, relevant bowel management and product training and 3 previous supervised prescriptions**</p> <p>PLUS Relevant Medical Specialist</p> <p>Meets all criteria below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anal sphincter deficit or neurological incontinence • Products that will be used on a regular basis as part of bowel management program. • Product has been trialled OR is a replacement for a product that has been used previously • Commitment from client / carer to ongoing out-of-pocket expenses to maintain bowel management program.
Excluded equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dressings and tapes • gloves • aperients, enemas and suppositories • cleaning and sterilising products • gels, creams and lubricants • barrier wipes • products for mild stress incontinence or nocturnal enuresis; • nappies for children under four (4) years of age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • chair pads • disposable sheets / bed pads / chair pads • regular underwear • products for short-term treatment / acute need • products required for treatment <p>Products for management of stomas are provided by the <i>Stoma Appliance Scheme</i> and will not be considered for funding</p>