

Vhi Healthcare Approved Medical and Surgical Appliances

1st April 2024

Medical and Surgical appliances are specialised devices used to support a particular medical condition, illness or injury.

All items listed on the Vhi Healthcare Approved Medical and Surgical Appliances are covered subject to the criteria outlined below for the relevant medical/surgical appliance, the cover as per your Table of Benefits and the Rules applicable to your contract.

For plans that include the “Additional cancer support benefits” in section 5, the maximum number covered per renewal year does not apply for appliances that are denoted with an asterisk (*) in the payment conditions – please refer to your Table of Benefits.

Name of Medical Appliance	What is this Appliance?	Payment conditions to claim this benefit (where applicable)
Apnoea Monitors	Device for monitoring if heart rate or respiratory rate drops/decreases suddenly	A lifetime maximum benefit of €1,269.74 for infants up to 24 months only, for the purchase or rental of an apnoea monitor following an Acute Life-Threatening Event (ALTE)
Artificial Eyes	Replacement eye	
Artificial Limbs	Replacement limb	
Colostomy Bags/Ileostomy Bags	A pouch placed on a stoma to collect waste	Maximum eligible benefit based on monthly threshold under HSE Drugs Payment Scheme (see table below)
Compression garments	Garments used to support and encourage healing of skin	Following burns injury, trauma surgery or radiation therapy
Gloves and socks for artificial limbs	Specialised gloves and socks to cover an artificial limb	Maximum of two pairs per annum
Glucometer	Device used to monitor Blood Glucose Levels (Can include Continuous Glucose Monitoring Systems)	
Kneehab XP® (neuromuscular electrical stimulation device)	Device used to promote muscle regeneration of the quadricep following surgery	Unit rental to a maximum eligible amount of €89 per month for a maximum of 3 months or purchase price of €399.00 pre or post the following surgical interventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total knee replacement, unilateral/bilateral, revision • Ligament re-construction/repair at the knee joint includes arthroscopic method. • Fracture dislocation of knee joint • Tendon transplants about the knee joint • Quadriceps mechanism repair
Laryngectomy Appliances	Appliances that support you post Laryngectomy	
Nebuliser	A machine used to deliver	When there has been documented admission to

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	medication in mist form for respiratory conditions.	hospital for status asthmaticus or respiratory failure or repeated admissions requiring intravenous theophylline's within a short period of time
Sleeping Cap	A cap worn at night to prevent loss of body heat and promote comfort	Receipt supplied should confirm that the headwear is for night-time use. Maximum benefit of €20 per renewal year*.
Surgical Bra	A specially designed bra for support following a mastectomy	Following mastectomy (maximum of two per renewal year*)
Surgical Prosthesis	A specially designed prosthesis for use following a mastectomy	Following mastectomy (maximum of one per breast per renewal year*)
Surgical Swimsuit	A specially designed Swimsuit for support following a mastectomy	Following mastectomy (maximum of one per renewal year*)
Surgical Orthopedic Shoes/Boots/Sandals	Specially designed shoes to support a range of issues with the feet	Especially made for the member, maximum of two pairs per year.
Orthotics	A device used to support or stabilize a weakened joint (i.e., splints, braces, orthotic insoles)	
Vacuum Assisted Wound Closure Therapy	Also known as Negative Pressure Wound Therapy. Used to accelerate healing in acute/chronic wounds and burns.	<p>Unit rental and dressings, following a hospital admission for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A chronic grade III or IV full thickness pressure ulcer, diabetic foot ulcer, venous or arterial insufficiency ulcer. Complications of a surgically created wound (e.g., dehiscence or post-sternotomy disunion). A traumatic wound or post-operative wound where there is a medical necessity for accelerated wound healing because the member has co-morbidities that will not allow for healing times usually achievable with other topical wound dressings. <p>Note: Benefit for Vacuum Assisted Wound Closure Therapy will depend on the machine brand that is used to complete the therapy.</p> <p>Machine Brand – Benefit per machine brand</p> <p>V.A.C.[®] Therapy (including ActiV.A.C.)-Up to maximum eligible benefit of €86.00 per day</p> <p>Venturi Therapy- Up to maximum eligible benefit of €46.00 per day</p> <p>Renasys Therapy- Up to maximum eligible benefit of €50.00 per day</p> <p>Avance NPWT- Up to maximum eligible benefit of €44.50 per day</p> <p>PICO[®] NPWT - Up to maximum eligible benefit of €20.00 per day</p>
Walking Calipers	A device to support joint movement in the lower limbs	



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Wheelchair	Defined as a motorised or self-propelled chair with wheels, used as the primary means of transport by individuals who have impairments that limit their ability to walk.	<p>A maximum benefit and excess apply in accordance with the healthcare plan (not for the rental of a wheelchair).</p> <p>Additional Information regards eligibility for benefit for Repairs and Modification to Wheelchairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repairs and modifications to approved Wheelchairs are also eligible for benefit. • Repairs will only be allowed if they are needed because of normal wear & tear. • Repairs and modifications will only be allowed to Wheelchairs that Vhi have provided a benefit towards its purchase. • Additionally, any necessary modifications or alterations are to be carried out strictly and solely by the wheelchair provider in agreement with the manufacturer's recommendations.
Wig/Hairpiece	An artificial covering worn on the head following hair loss	<p>For hair loss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • following cancer treatment * • due to an alopecia diagnosis (maximum of one per renewal year) <p>Please note a letter from a GP or Consultant is required when there is no claim history to confirm inpatient cancer treatment or diagnosis of alopecia.</p>

Threshold for reimbursement by the HSE under the Drug Payment Scheme

1st April 2022 – Present	€80 per calendar month
1 st January 2022 – 31 st March 2022	€100 per calendar month
1 st November 2020- 31 st December 2021	€114 per calendar month
From 1 st April 2019- 31 st October 2020	€124 per calendar month