



Referral and Eligibility Guidelines

Eligibility Criteria

Patients referred to the Orthotics and Prosthetics Service are assessed for their eligibility to receive treatment and then triaged to ensure they are seen within a suitable time frame. This document outlines who is eligible to receive services from the Orthotics and Prosthetics Service and clarifies the eligibility criteria for patients being referred.

Inpatients

All Orthotic inpatients at Fiona Stanley Hospital (FSH) and Royal Perth Hospital (RPH) require inpatient e-referrals, that are triaged and assessed based on the urgency of referral and are fully funded. All other WA public admitted inpatients will require an outpatient referral to FSH.

Amputee inpatients at Fiona Stanley Hospital (FSH) and Royal Perth Hospital (RPH) are provided with prosthetic services as requested through inpatient e-referrals, that are triaged and assessed based on urgency. The Prosthetic service is based primarily at Fiona Stanley Hospital with limited services at Royal Perth Hospital as needed. These services are fully funded under public health or insurance bodies. All other WA public admitted inpatients will require an outpatient referral to FSH.

Outpatients

All orthotic outpatients seen within 3 months of discharge from any public admitted inpatient facility, will be fully funded if the reason for their hospital stay is related to the Orthotic/Prosthetic outpatient referral. Following this discharge period, the following applies:

- We **only** accept referrals from GPs, WA Public Health Service Providers and Community Orthotists
- We do not accept private referrals, please refer to [Community Orthotists](#).
- All referrals must **clearly state and substantiate funding** eligibility.

Prosthetic outpatients who have been accepted for Prosthetic services by the Rehabilitation Consultants will be seen for Interim Prosthetic services. These services are funded by Western Australian Limb Service for Amputees (WALSA) or through insurance bodies.

Please note there are no definitive prosthetic services provided by the FSH Prosthetics team.

Orthotic Funding Eligibility

- All funding eligibility needs to be addressed prior to referral for assessment and clearly documented on the referral before patients will be assessed. Should funding not be clear on the referral, this referral will be rejected subject to evidence of funding. Should the patient be ineligible for funding, evidence of rejection from MAC, NDIS and CAEP will need to be attached to the referral.
- All outpatient orthotic referrals for patients over the age of 65 will need to have addressed their patient's eligibility for My Aged Care (MAC), and Community Aids and Equipment Program (CAEP).

- All outpatient orthotic referrals for patients under the age of 65 will need to have addressed their patient's eligibility for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) or CAEP for long term health conditions not captured under the NDIS.
- Refer to [NDIS](#), [MAC](#) and [CAEP](#) website for eligibility and accessibility criteria.

CAEP Referrals

- We are a Specialist Equipment Service Provider for East Metropolitan Health and South Metropolitan Health Services for Orthoses.
- The initial referral from the GP/Specialist is to the local CAEP service provider. If a specialist referral is required to FSH orthotics, they will refer onto the department via e-referral.

NDIS Referrals

- We are not an NDIS Service Provider and require all NDIS eligible patients to be referred to [Community Orthotists](#) in the first instance.
- On occasions community orthotists may refer to our service for ongoing orthotic need that may not be able to be met in the community setting. These patients are required to be self, or plan managed.

Podiatry Referrals

All podiatry outpatient referrals will need to address the funding eligibility outlined above.

In addition:

- We do not accept referrals for depth/width footwear.
- All custom-made shoe referrals will need evidence of **rejection** by MAC/NDIS/CAEP to be assessed if eligible to receive services from the Orthotic and Prosthetic Service.
- If eligible for CAEP/MAC/NDIS referrers will need to organise their patient's footwear assessment.
- Referrals from podiatrists for foot orthoses will be charged to the referrer at the following cost:
 - Custom pair \$ 200
 - Custom single \$150