



First Nations Health Authority
Health through wellness

FIRST NATIONS HEALTH BENEFITS

Medical Supplies & Equipment

CHANGES ARE COMING IN THE SUMMER OF 2019. VISIT www.fnha.ca/benefits FOR MORE INFORMATION.

First Nations Health Benefits (FNHB) provides coverage for certain Medical Supplies and Equipment (MS&E) items for clients coping with injury, illness, or receiving care at home. Using medical equipment when it is needed is important for one's safety and can provide clients with greater mobility and independence.

What is covered?

FNHB covers specific items under the following categories:

- ✓ Audiology (e.g., hearing aids and supplies)
- ✓ Bathing and toileting aids
- ✓ Cushions and protectors
- ✓ Environmental aids (e.g., feeding)
- ✓ Lifting and transfer aids
- ✓ Low vision aids
- ✓ Mobility aids (e.g., wheelchairs)
- ✓ Orthotics and custom footwear
- ✓ Ostomy supplies and devices
- ✓ Oxygen supplies and equipment
- ✓ Pressure garments and pressure orthotics
- ✓ Prosthetic benefits (e.g., breast, eye, limbs)
- ✓ Respiratory supplies and equipment
- ✓ Urinary supplies and devices
(e.g., catheter or incontinence supplies)
- ✓ Wound dressing supplies

MS&E items require a prescription or written recommendation, depending on the item. Some items also not listed as a benefit may be covered on an exceptional basis. For a full description of the MS&E benefit, please visit www.fnha.ca/benefits

Exclusions

Examples of MS&E items that are not covered include:

- Home renovations (e.g., ramps, stair lifts)
- Medical alert systems (e.g., Lifeline)
- Household items (e.g., handheld shower)
- Scooters

Working with providers

MS&E items must be provided by a pharmacy or medical supply and equipment provider recognized by FNHB. Clients can contact FNHB to find an appropriate provider.

Clients are strongly encouraged to discuss billing with their provider before booking an appointment.

Some questions to ask your provider about billing:

- Are you registered with FNHB for direct billing or do I have to pay out-of-pocket?
- Do you require payment up front for services (e.g., before treatment)?
- Do you charge above the amount covered by FNHB?

If you have any questions about the MS&E benefit, contact Health Benefits at:

1.855.550.5454 (toll-free)

Accessing MS&E Benefits

FEBRUARY 2019

1

- Client receives a prescription or written recommendation for an eligible MS&E item.

2

- Client brings prescription/written recommendation to a recognized MS&E provider. A list of recognized providers is available by contacting FNHB.
- Provider assesses the client and contacts FNHB if the item needs a prior approval.

3

- FNHB reviews the prior approval request and determines eligibility based on benefit guidelines.

4

- Client receives medical device from provider.

5

- Providers registered with FNHB may process invoices directly with the claim centre.
- Providers not registered with FNHB will request payment and provide client with a receipt. Client will need to pay out-of-pocket and request reimbursement from FNHB.

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