

## Applicant Information Sheet Pressure Modification Devices

### What kind of pressure modification devices are covered by the Assistive Devices Program (ADP)?

- Pressure garments and custom fabricated orthoses for the management of hypertrophic scars
- Compression garments and sleeves for chronic lymphedema
- Sequential extremity pumps and accessories for primary lymphedema

### What kind of pressure modification devices are not covered by ADP?

- Pressure modification devices:
  - purchased from non ADP registered vendors
  - used for post-operative use or any use for less than six months duration
  - required for acute physical conditions
  - required for venous insufficiency or thromboembolism
  - implanted or inserted into the body
- Treatment modalities:
  - Pressure inserts, silastic elastomers and dressings for hypertrophic scar management or vascular conditions
  - Elasticized wraps and bandages
  - Hyperbaric oxygen therapy

### Who can apply?

Any permanent resident of Ontario who has a valid Ontario Health card issued in their name, and has a chronic physical disability requiring the use of a pressure modification device for a minimum of six months.

ADP does not pay for equipment available under Workplace Safety & Insurance Board or to Group "A" Veterans for their pensioned conditions.

### Who can sign my application form?

You are required to sign the application form. If you are unable to sign, someone who has the legal authority to act on your behalf may do so. This may be your spouse, parent, child, power of attorney, or public

### How do I apply?

For first access, all applicants must be examined by a specialist physician.

- Specialist physicians for hypertrophic scar management include plastic surgeons, physiatrists and general surgeons. The physician will be a member of an ADP registered burn team.
- Specialist physicians for lymphedema compression devices include vascular surgeons, plastic surgeons, medical oncologists, radiation oncologists, internal medicine specialists, paediatricians, physiatrists, orthopaedic surgeons, general surgeons, gynecologic oncologists, cardiovascular surgeons, general practitioners in oncology, wound care specialists and dermatologists with applicable experience.
- If applying for funding for a sequential extremity pump, the specialist physician will be a member of an ADP registered lymphedema team.

### What will happen next?

Your specialist physician will refer you to a health professional registered with ADP as an authorizer. The authorizer will complete an assessment to determine your eligibility and the type of device you require. Authorizers are:

- For hypertrophic scar garments and orthoses: occupational therapists, physiotherapists and certified orthotists who are members of an ADP registered Burn Team.
- For lymphedema compression garments or sleeves: occupational therapists, physiotherapists, registered nurses or registered massage therapists.
- For sequential extremity pumps: occupational therapists or physiotherapists who are members of an ADP registered Lymphedema Team.

The authorizer will refer you to an ADP registered vendor, where a certified fitter who is registered with the ADP will measure you and order the device(s) that you require. In some situations, the authorizer may do the measuring and ordering of the device(s). The certified fitter or authorizer will provide education about the use and care of the device(s).

## How long will it take for ADP to review my application?

It should take no more than six weeks from receipt of a properly completed form for ADP to review your application. If ADP is unable to approve funding you will be notified directly by mail. If funding is approved, ADP will notify your vendor. They will then contact you directly to proceed with delivery of the device and follow-up.

## How much money does ADP contribute?

ADP pays 75% of the ADP approved price to the registered vendor. You pay the remaining 25%.

If you are receiving social assistance benefits under Ontario Works (OW), Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) or Assistance to Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD), ADP may pay 100 per cent of the ADP approved price.

## Does this mean that ADP will pay 100% of my costs for the Pressure Modification Devices?

Not necessarily. You must pay the vendor directly for any options not funded by ADP that you may choose to purchase for your garments. Be sure to ask your vendor how much of the total cost you will be responsible for.

## What if I purchase my Pressure Modification Devices before I receive ADP approval?

ADP will only pay the amount approved after the date of approval. If you ask your vendor to order your devices before ADP approves funding, you will be responsible for paying the full amount to the vendor if ADP cannot approve your application.

## Is there a warranty for my device?

The ADP Registered Vendor must warrant the device against breakage and/or tearing. There is a specific warranty for each type of device. Speak to the authorizer and/or vendor for details.

## What if I want to change vendors?

A new application form is required. The authorizer and fitter must do new assessments. The authorizer, fitter

and vendor must submit the application form.

## What if I need to replace my Pressure Modification Devices?

- Hypertrophic scar compression garments are replaced as needed to a maximum of five sets of two outfits each in a 12 month period.
- Lymphedema compression garments are replaced as needed to a maximum of three sets of two outfits each in a 12 month period.

For replacement of previously funded garments with identical garments for hypertrophic scar and lymphedema management, a new application form is not required during the 2 year designated funding period. Contact the ADP registered authorizer and/or certified fitter who originally completed your assessment.

If the size or style of the garment changes, a new application is required. In these cases, the ADP registered authorizer and certified fitter must complete new assessments.

For replacement of previously funded compression sleeves, you must be reassessed by an ADP registered authorizer for lymphedema management. For replacement of lymphedema compression garments and sleeves, every 2 years or if you have a change of medical condition, your specialist physician or family physician or nurse practitioner must complete a new assessment.

## What if I have more questions about ADP?

You may contact us at:

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