

Prescribing Policy (Miscellaneous appliances):

The CCG only supports the prescribing of the following products as per quantities outlined below

Lymphoedema Garments:

National guidance recommends TWO items of hosiery EVERY SIX months i.e. FOUR items per year for the affected part. Exceptions to this rule include patients with fluctuating oedema and those living a very active life style where TWO items every FOUR months would be a reasonable quantity.

Other compression hosiery e.g. support stockings

Measured and fitted stockings may cost up to £100 per year depending on the class. Two pairs per year are recommended as they are quite durable.

Silk Garments: Derma Silk, Dream Silk, Skinnies Silk

The CCG does not support the prescribing of silk garments due to poor evidence base. A systematic review of silk garments in atopic dermatitis in 2012 concluded that the evidence of effectiveness is weak and of low quality. www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23980847. It is therefore inappropriate to spend NHS resources on these products.

Skinnies®Viscose, are elasticated viscose stockinette garments, which should be considered 2nd line where the appropriate garments are not available in the Clinifast® or Comfifast® range. Comfifast and Tubifast garments can be washed, tumble-dried, and used up to 30 times.

Stoma Garments:

The CCG only supports the prescribing of stoma belts.

Stoma belts can be prescribed following a consultation with the stoma nurse. Patients are entitled to TWO belts a year.

The CCG does not support the prescribing of stoma underwear .

Deodorants:

The CCG does not support the prescribing of ALL deodorants

Cast Protectors

The CCG supports the prescribing of limb-Limbo

These are waterproof protectors made of reinforced PVC with a Neoprene and nylon seal worn on limbs and feet. They are reusable, durable and ideally should not be repeated.

Quantity to prescribe =1

Pelvic Toning Devices e.g. Pelvic Toner, Aquaflex, Kegel 8

The CCG does not support the prescribing of Pelvic Toning Devices.

There is no evidence of additional benefit compared to undertaking pelvic floor exercises alone. Patients may purchase these items from a pharmacy.

Oscillating Positive Expiratory pressure device e.g. Flutter, Acapella, Cornet.

The CCG does not support the routine prescribing of these devices.

However, the CCG supports the prescribing of a replacement device for patients with a diagnosis of Cystic Fibrosis where PEP alone has proved ineffective. These patients should have had an initial assessment and training on how to use the device in secondary care. Secondary care should supply the device.

Devices are re-usable and should only be replaced if damaged.

OPEP (Oscillating Positive Expiratory Pressure) Device	Cost	Comments
Acapella	£40.50	Not supported
Aerobika	£45.50	Not supported
Flutter	£40.50	Not supported
Lungflute	£37.50	Not Supported
Pari O-Pep	£27.28	Supported
RC-Cornet	£39.95	Not supported

Evidence Summary (PAC Committee) April 2018 **OPEP devices**: Chest Physiotherapy is an essential part of the management of cystic fibrosis

Needle Free insulin Devices e.g. Insujet® and Injex®

The CCG does not support the routine prescribing of these devices unless there is a confirmed diagnosis of needle phobia which would result in the patient not injecting insulin.

Non Hormonal Female Moisturisers/ Lubricants e.g. Replens, Sylk

The CCG does not support the prescribing of these products. These products are available to purchase over the counter at pharmacies and supermarkets without restrictions.

Tracheostomy Appliances

The compilation below is not exhaustive.

The CCG supports the prescribing of all the items outlined below but advise that quantities should be adhered too except in extenuating circumstances

Product	Description and comments	Recommended quantities & Cost effective options
HME (Heat Moisture Exchange) Cartridges/Cassettes/Foams/ Filters	Daily disposable devices. Changed daily or when contaminated	30 per month
HumidiFilter Holders	These are reusable & can be washed	1 for 4-6 months
Diaphragms/Faceplates, Flanges/Baseplates	These are reusable & can be washed, can be changed every 2-3 days	20 for 3-6 months
Adhesive Foam/ Discs/Tapes Strips <i>PS: Flexiderm oval/round/Plus or Optiderm hydrocolloids</i>	These are daily disposable devices <i>Can be kept in place for 36- 48 hours</i>	30 per month <i>15 per month</i>
Adhesive Remover Wipes		30 wipes per month. Peel Easy, Ostoclear or Sto-care
Barrier Skin wipes e.g. Kapitex		30 wipes per month Peri-Prep Non sting wipes

Stoma studs/Buttons	Reusable/Washable sturdy plastic. For patients unable to tolerate skin adhesives or those unable to use baseplates/flanges.	2 for 1-3 months.
Tracheostoma Valve Housing	Reusable.	1 per 1-3 months
Laryngectomy Protectors e.g. Buchanan,Delta-Nex	These -are reusable. Can be hand washed up to 5 times	Available in packs of 10
Suction catheters	Routinely changed daily	Available in packs of 30
Speaking/Speech valves	These are re-usable. They should be replaced monthly	Available in packs of 1.
Tracheostomy tubes <i>Comprises of an inner and outer tube.Inner tubes are replaced more frequently than outer tubes</i>	Ideally these should be changed weekly or monthly depending on the kind of tubing. Silicone tubes are changed monthly	Insight brand comes in packs of 10; ideally this should last for 2 months.
Adjustable tube holders (trach ties or collars)	These washable & re-usable. PORTEX with Velcro are not re-usable is not used by GOSH	Insight 2 Piece Latex Free Nex Rusch Neckbands
Suction catheters	Single use only	
Cleaning Solutions	Freshly boiled and cooled water or Freshly made saline or bicarbonate solution.	Ref :.National Association of Laryngectomy clubs UK
Cleaning swabs	These are disposable.	50-100 per month Non-woven swabs 4-ply
Cleaning Brushes	Reusable	Available in packs of 2. Tracheo cleaning brush
Lubricants	Aquagel 42g is the most cost effective lubricant.	Do not prescribe sachets

Erectile Dysfunction Pumps

Secondary care is responsible for the assessment training and supply of these appliances including required replacement parts.

References :

NHS Drug Tariff 2018

National Tracheostomy Safety Project (website)

Countrywide supplies (website)