

# Manitoba Health (MHSC) General Information

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## Orthopedic Braces

- MHSC offers full or partial coverage for many orthopedic braces, including:
  - Walking boots – tall or low top (for fractures only)
  - Ankle braces
  - Knee braces
  - Back braces (lumbosacral and thoracolumbarsacral)
  - Neck braces
  - Wrist braces
  - Shoulder brace (limited options)
  - Elbow braces (limited options)
- Manitoba health DOES NOT cover the following orthopedic braces:
  - Foot products (ie. insoles, metatarsal pads, cushioning)
  - Compression stockings/shorts
  - Maternity supports
  - Tennis elbow braces
- For coverable diagnoses, Manitoba Health needs to know if the brace is required for activities of daily living (ADL's), work, or sports (if brace is for sports only, MHSC will not cover cost).
- Manitoba Health regularly covers one (1) brace per joint every two (2) years.
  - If a patient has had a brace billed within that time frame but it is no longer functional for them, or there is a change in condition, please indicate that on the Rx and we can attempt to bill another brace.
- MHSC has a pre-determined list of devices/braces that they cover. Unfortunately, that list does not include every style/brand of every brace that we offer. In some cases, a patient may fit better in, or prefer a brace that is not covered and they would be responsible for the cost.
- As of May 2018, Manitoba Health is no longer considered the primary provider for patients that also have coverage through:
  - Workers Compensation (WCB),
  - Manitoba Public Insurance (MPI)
  - Veteran's Affairs
  - Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)
  - Non-Insured Health Benefits (a.k.a. Treaty Status)
- Patient must have valid/active MHSC card

## Activities of Daily Living/Mobility Aid Items

- MHSC does not provide any coverage for ADL/Mobility Aid items such as:
  - Walkers, shower chairs/benches, reachers, canes, orthopedic pillows, modalities, etc.