

## Categories of Assistive Technology provided by EnableNSW

EnableNSW provides assistive technology in four categories:

- Communication
- Mobility
- Respiratory Function and
- Self-Care.

This document should be read in conjunction with:

- *Section 3 of the NSW Health Policy Directive 2011\_027* available at: [http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/pd/2011/PD2011\\_027.html](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/policies/pd/2011/PD2011_027.html)
- *The EnableNSW Prescription and Provision Guidelines (PPG's)*:  
These guidelines provide specific information regarding functional and clinical eligibility criteria for each device, features and supply limits for the assistive technology devices provided through EnableNSW.

Specific supply limits apply for each device, in particular consumable items (such as continence, respiratory and home enteral nutrition products.)

- *Professional Criteria for Prescribers*  
This documents the professional qualifications and level of experience required to prescribe specific devices.

These documents are available on the EnableNSW website [www.enable.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.enable.health.nsw.gov.au).

### General Exclusions

EnableNSW does not provide the following:

- Devices costing less than \$100, unless approved as a recurrent consumable.
- Assistive technology devices that do not comply with Australian Standards where these exist or devices that are not registered with the Therapeutic Goods Administration, as applicable.
- Non-disability specific items that are commercially available.
- Installation or home modifications.
- Second items for the same functional goal<sup>1</sup>.
- Devices to deliver medication (except for oxygen).

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<sup>1</sup> Some exceptions apply – refer to the relevant Prescription and Provision Guidelines or contact EnableNSW

The table below sets out the categories of assistive technology provided by EnableNSW.

## COMMUNICATION

Assistive technology devices that help an individual to communicate.

*Specific functional and clinical criteria and supply limits apply for each device.*

INCLUSIONS	EXCLUSIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speech-generating devices</li> <li>• Disability-specific communication software for speech generating devices</li> <li>• Systems for accessing speech-generating devices including switches</li> <li>• Disability-specific equipment to access computer, such as special mouse, keyboard, or specialised software</li> <li>• Mounting systems</li> <li>• Voice amplifiers</li> <li>• Electrolarynxes</li> <li>• Voice prostheses and consumables</li> <li>• Tracheostomy speaking valves</li> <li>• Disability-specific software and devices that enable alternate access to reading, producing and storing text and other visual format information</li> <li>• Disability-specific assistive listening devices and alarms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computers, computer upgrades, and associated equipment such as printers</li> <li>• Regular batteries (including re-chargeable)</li> <li>• Installation</li> <li>• Rental costs for telecommunication access</li> <li>• Hearing aids</li> <li>• Cochlear implants</li> <li>• Devices primarily for sport/recreation</li> <li>• Commercially available devices such as mobile phones, personal digital assistants and portable touch screen equipment</li> <li>• Spectacles</li> <li>• Prosthetic eyes</li> </ul>

## MOBILITY

Assistive technology to allow an individual to access and mobilise in his/her home and community, including seated and ambulant mobility devices and items that are worn by the individual.

*Specific functional and clinical criteria and supply limits apply for each device.*

INCLUSIONS	EXCLUSIONS
<p><b>Ambulant mobility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking frames</li> <li>• Elbow crutches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Axillary crutches</li> <li>• Devices specifically for sport or recreation</li> <li>• Kitchen trolleys</li> </ul>
<p><b>Upper &amp; lower limb prosthetics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prosthetic limbs – upper &amp; lower limbs from complete trans-metatarsal and trans-metacarpal levels only</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secondary prosthesis, except in line with Prescription and Provision Guidelines</li> <li>• Sport or recreation-specific prosthetic limbs for adults</li> <li>• Myoelectric prostheses</li> </ul>
<p><b>Footwear</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extra depth and width footwear</li> <li>• Medical grade custom footwear</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard footwear to accommodate orthoses or other corrective items</li> <li>• Footwear to support treatment or clinical intervention such as wound healing.</li> <li>• Flat feet inserts</li> </ul>
<p><b>Orthoses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lower limb orthoses</li> <li>• Calipers</li> <li>• Braces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orthoses to support treatment or clinical interventions (surgical and pharmaceutical)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Compression garments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compression garments for circulatory support for lymphoedema</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compression garments for burns patients</li> <li>• Compression garments for varicose veins or post acute/outpatient care</li> <li>• Garments, pumps and bandages for treatment of ulcers</li> </ul>

INCLUSIONS	EXCLUSIONS
<p><b>Seated mobility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manual wheelchairs and accessories</li> <li>• Powered mobility devices</li> <li>• Specialised strollers</li> <li>• Postural supports including seating systems, where they are the primary means of positioning or mobility</li> <li>• Alternative controls for powered mobility</li> <li>• Specialised car seats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wheelchairs or accessories specifically for sport or recreation</li> <li>• Motorbikes, cars, motorized tricycles</li> <li>• Three-wheeled scooters</li> <li>• Vehicle modifications or vehicle seats</li> <li>• Commercially available off the shelf car seats</li> </ul>
<p><b>Transfers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobile hoists</li> <li>• Ceiling hoists</li> <li>• Slings</li> <li>• Sliding boards, turntables</li> <li>• Hoists and portable ramps used to transfer people and/or wheelchairs into a vehicle</li> <li>• Electric lift chairs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Platform-style vehicular hoists</li> <li>• Installation of ceiling or vehicle hoists</li> <li>• Stair climbers and lifts</li> </ul>

## RESPIRATORY FUNCTION

Assistive technology devices that allow individuals manage their respiratory condition at home including oxygen therapy, respiratory support devices and secretion management equipment and respiratory consumables.

*Specific functional and clinical criteria and supply limits apply for each device.*

INCLUSIONS	EXCLUSIONS
<p><b>Home Oxygen Therapy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oxygen concentrator (with standard supply of nasal cannulae and extension tubing)</li> <li>• Portable oxygen cylinders in special circumstances</li> <li>• Backup cylinders in special circumstances</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short term oxygen therapy (one month supplied by discharging hospital)</li> <li>• Oxygen therapy – Palliative Care (three months supplied by discharging hospital)</li> <li>• Oxygen Therapy – Neonatal (Infants under six months and/or eligible for or receiving services from the Neonatal Oxygen Program)</li> <li>• Additional Nasal cannulae</li> <li>• Additional Extension tubing</li> <li>• Oxygen face masks</li> </ul>
<p><b>Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) devices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CPAP machines (pressure range 4-20cm with basic ramp feature)</li> <li>• Humidification is provided with appropriate justification</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher level CPAP devices (Autoset, EPR, C-flex)</li> <li>• CPAP circuit/tubing</li> <li>• Masks e.g. nasal, full face, nasal pillows</li> <li>• Chinstraps</li> <li>• Additional device filters</li> <li>• Battery and charger</li> </ul>
<p><b>Non-invasive ventilation devices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-invasive ventilation devices (Spontaneous and Spontaneous/Timed models according to patient needs)</li> <li>• Hybrid non-invasive ventilation devices</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interface (mask/mouthpiece or connectors)</li> <li>• Circuit (tubing/oxygen connectors/expiratory port)</li> <li>• Additional device filters</li> <li>• Additional transport ventilators</li> <li>• Battery and charger</li> </ul>

<p><b>Ventilation devices for continuous ventilatory support</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ventilators for use in the home</li> <li>• Battery and charger for continuous ventilation</li> <li>• Contractual equipment maintenance and repairs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional transport ventilators</li> <li>• Additional device filters</li> <li>• Masks/mouthpieces</li> <li>• Respiratory monitoring systems (e.g. pulse oximeters)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Secretion Extraction, Management and Respiratory Consumables</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suction Unit - electrical &amp; portable</li> <li>• Secretion extraction device</li> <li>• Humidification Unit</li> <li>• Consumables (disposable &amp; non-disposable)</li> <li>• Contractual equipment maintenance &amp; repairs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respiratory monitoring systems (e.g. pulse oximeters),</li> <li>• Nebuliser Devices</li> <li>• Cough assist devices</li> </ul>
<p><b>Direct Care Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal care attendants for consumers on the Adult and Children's Home Ventilation Programs to assist family members care for them at home.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School based care</li> <li>• Family carers do not receive payment</li> </ul>

## SELF- CARE

Assistive technology devices that allow an individual to live more independently or that help carers look after a person with disability in self-care activities.

*Specific functional and clinical criteria and supply limits apply for each device.*

INCLUSIONS	EXCLUSIONS
<p><b>Personal alarms and monitors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial set up of personal alarm systems</li> <li>Disability-specific features for smoke alarms</li> <li>Blood pressure and blood glucose monitors with alternative access to assist people with sensory impairments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continence, movement, seizure and SIDS alarms</li> <li>Rental</li> <li>Installation of additional electrical or telephone “plugs”, or home alarm systems</li> <li>Scales</li> <li>Standard smoke alarms</li> </ul>
<p><b>Beds and sleeping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hi/lo beds</li> <li>Pressure mattresses and overlays</li> <li>Postural supports for sleeping</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Non-disability specific beds and mattresses</li> <li>Eggshell mattresses, sheepskins</li> <li>Double beds</li> <li>Companion bed for partner without a disability</li> </ul>
<p><b>Nutrition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pumps and disposable items, such as giving sets, for enteral feeding</li> <li>Specialised or modified devices for eating and drinking &gt;\$100</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Foodstuffs, formulae, nutritional supplements and thickeners</li> <li>Pumps and disposable items for short-term enteral feeding</li> </ul>
<p><b>Orthoses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upper limb orthoses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Orthoses to support treatment or clinical intervention (surgical and/or pharmaceutical)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Positioning</b></p> <p>Devices to provide alternative positioning to positioning in a seated mobility device, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>seating systems that are not attached to mobility devices</li> <li>standing frames</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Items of furniture, such as recliner chairs, height adjustable chairs, foot rests, tables and kitchen stools</li> </ul>

INCLUSIONS	EXCLUSIONS
<p><b>Toileting and showering</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seats and devices to assist with toileting and showering &gt; \$100</li> <li>• Commodes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bidets</li> <li>• Bathroom fittings</li> <li>• Grab rails</li> <li>• Small items for personal hygiene</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other self-care devices</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Synthetic and human hair wigs for people with permanent alopecia totalis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wigs for patients attending oncology clinics</li> <li>• Breast prostheses</li> </ul>
<p><b>Environmental control units (ECUs)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disability-specific ECUs</li> <li>• Disability-specific modifications to commercially available devices</li> <li>• Systems for accessing ECUs including switches and scanners</li> <li>• Mounting equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercially available ECUs (including air conditioners)</li> <li>• Installation</li> <li>• Smoke alarms, door bells, door openers</li> <li>• CCTV devices for monitoring people or entrances</li> </ul>
<p><b>Continence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disposable and non-disposable products – supply limits apply</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Items for mild and/or transient incontinence</li> <li>• Nappies for children under three years of age</li> <li>• Underwear</li> <li>• Gloves, cleaning solutions, gels, creams, dressings, enemas, dressing packs</li> </ul>