

<b>Policy statement:</b>	<b>Orthoses/Orthotics</b>
<b>Status:</b>	<b>Group Prior Approval/Individual Prior Approval</b>

M&SECCGs commission assessment and supply of orthoses on a restricted basis.

Referrals for assessment for orthoses will only be accepted in the following circumstances

1. Neurodisability
2. Talipes equinovarus
3. Adolescent tendinopathy at risk of developmental compromise
4. Post operative patients
5. Congenital skeletal abnormality
6. Burns

M&SECCGs do not fund 'off-the shelf' orthoses/'in-shoe' appliances. Patients who have been funded for 'off-the-shelf' /'in-shoe' orthoses by M&SECCGs in the past will **no longer be funded** on this basis alone.

M&SECCGs only fund customised orthoses for patients with circumstances as listed above and where the clinical needs of a patient cannot be met using an 'off-the-shelf' orthoses.

Patients with **structural/flexible flat foot** requiring arch supports/pronation control orthoses **should not be referred** but advised to purchase 'off-the-shelf' /'in-shoe' orthoses if required.

### **Cervical Soft Collars**

M&SECCGS does not routinely fund cervical soft collars.

### **Lumbar Supports**

M&SECCGs do not routinely fund lumbar support orthoses other than custom moulded back braces when prescribed following consultation with NHS commissioned spinal specialist surgeons for which **individual prior approval is required**.

Funding outside these criteria will only be provided in clinically exceptional circumstances.

Individual funding requests should only be made where the patient demonstrates clinical exceptionality.

Further information on applying for funding in exceptional clinical circumstances can be found on the CCGs' website.