

Medical Aids Subsidy Scheme (MASS)

Application Guidelines for Continence Aids

Version 2.05 July 2019

Continence Aids

This section must be read in conjunction with the **General Guidelines**

Eligibility

Persons eligible	Conditions of eligibility
<p>To be eligible for MASS subsidy funding assistance applicants must have a permanent and stabilised condition.</p> <p>MASS defines a permanent and stabilised condition as one where the diagnosis is known to require the assistance of continence aids for the long term.</p>	<p>This condition must be confirmed following assessment, management and reassessment of potentially treatable conditions, including relevant co-morbidities and activities of daily living. This includes medical condition(s) and/or other factors contributing to the applicant's incontinence.</p>

Eligible prescribers

Applicants wishing to apply must consult one of the following MASS designated prescribers:

- Continence Specialist Registered Nurse
- Geriatrician
- Occupational Therapist
- Paediatrician
- Physiotherapist
- Registered Nurse
- Urogynaecologist/Gynaecologist
- Urologist

MASS will consider **three yearly review** MASS 50 application forms submitted from Indigenous Health Workers and/or an Enrolled Nurse where there is evidence of consultation with one of the above MASS designated prescribers.

Application Requirements for Continence Aids

Type	Application Requirements	Additional information	Timing
<p>All applications</p>	<p>See specific requirements below for initial and reapplication to MASS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MASS provides a subsidised supply of continence aids every 6 monthly calendar period The exceptions to this are indwelling catheters, bed and chair pads which are supplied 12 monthly Clients will receive an approval letter when an order has been approved and placed with the commercial supplier/s This letter must be retained for future reference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MASS requires 1 month to process applications If further information is required by MASS regarding the application, the 1 month processing period may be exceeded.
<p>Initial application for supply of continence aids</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MASS50 Continence Aids: Initial and Review Application form Note: form must be signed by both prescriber and applicant/carer Signed MASS 84 Proxy Access to Centrelink Information form or photocopy of both sides of the applicant’s concession card Supporting clinical information 	<p>Supporting clinical information is required to confirm clinical eligibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continence assessment and management/care plan or Health assessment/care plan including continence management or Summary of continence tertiary treatment/intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A waiting list may occur when demand for subsidy assistance exceeds available resources Prioritisation criteria has been developed by MASS based on clinical need.

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Type	Application Requirements	Additional information	Timing
<p>Client reapplication for ongoing supplies of continence aids where there is no change to the type of continence aid required by applicant and the 3 yearly review is not required by MASS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call MASS on 3136 3665 or 1300 443 570 to place an order • Please have the previous approval letter available when calling to assist with the re-order, including the type and brand name of the continence aids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ongoing supply of continence aids does not automatically occur, MASS applicants must reapply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reapply 1 month prior to next supply.
<p>Review application for ongoing supplies of continence aids where there is a change to the type of continence aid required by applicant or a 3 yearly review is required by MASS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MASS50 Continence Aids Initial and Review Application form Note: form must be signed by both prescriber and applicant/carer • Photocopy of both sides of the applicant’s current concession card (unless MASS 84 has been submitted) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review of continence management/care plan is required every 3 years or when there is a change in the applicant’s health care needs • A clinical review needs to consider potentially reversible and treatable causes of incontinence, and the suitability of continence aid/s requested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications must be received 1 month prior to next supply.

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Type	Application Requirements	Additional information	Timing
Incomplete applications			Incomplete application forms will not proceed further, and the prescriber and applicant/carer will be advised.
Late applications			Late applications will incur a delay in supply.

Subsidy Levels

Continence aids	MASS subsidy levels	May be subsidised when								
Reusable absorbent pants	<p>Subsidised in 6 monthly calendar periods</p> <p>Supply is the same for children (5 to 15 years of age) and adults</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be supplied in a combination with other types of continence aids. 								
Disposable pads for a child	<p>Child is 5 to 15 years of age</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> up to 4 pads a day <p>Level of need subsidy funding assistance is based on an incremental scale and will be calculated by MASS according to justified clinical need (i.e. quantities used).</p> <p>Subsidised in 6 monthly calendar periods</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Number of daily pads required</th> <th>MASS supply quantity (child)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 to 2 pads</td> <td>up to 2 pads/day</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 pads</td> <td>up to 3 pads/day</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 or more pads</td> <td>up to 4 pads/day</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Number of daily pads required	MASS supply quantity (child)	1 to 2 pads	up to 2 pads/day	3 pads	up to 3 pads/day	4 or more pads	up to 4 pads/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent and stabilised disability Urinary and faecal incontinence MASS makes considerations for children with complex needs MASS does not supply continence aids for other body fluids.
Number of daily pads required	MASS supply quantity (child)									
1 to 2 pads	up to 2 pads/day									
3 pads	up to 3 pads/day									
4 or more pads	up to 4 pads/day									

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Continence aids	MASS subsidy levels	May be subsidised when						
<p>Disposable pads for an adult</p>	<p>Adult is 16 years of age or older</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> up to 2 pads per day <p>Level of need subsidy funding assistance is based on an incremental scale and will be calculated by MASS according to justified clinical need (i.e. quantities used)</p> <p>Subsidised in 6 monthly calendar periods.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="316 768 799 987"> <thead> <tr> <th>Number of Daily pads required</th> <th>MASS supply quantity (adult)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1 to 2 pads</td> <td>up to 1 pads/day</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 pads</td> <td>up to 2 pads/day</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Number of Daily pads required	MASS supply quantity (adult)	1 to 2 pads	up to 1 pads/day	3 pads	up to 2 pads/day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permanent and stabilised disability Urinary and faecal incontinence MASS does not supply continence aids for other body fluids.
Number of Daily pads required	MASS supply quantity (adult)							
1 to 2 pads	up to 1 pads/day							
3 pads	up to 2 pads/day							
<p>Disposable pull-on style pads</p>	<p>As per disposable pad subsidy for a child or adult</p>	<p>Points to consider for selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant has difficulty applying or maintaining correct position of disposable shaped pads The applicant will not wear a pad due to cognitive/compliance issues The applicant has been using the pull-on style for a significant period Security of containment for faecal incontinence Conduct a specific assessment to ensure ability of applicant/carer to apply and remove pull-on style pads Applicant/carer aware of financial implication for private purchase of pull-on style <p>Consult with the MASS continence clinical advisor or other continence advisor specialists as necessary to assist with the prescription/ application process.</p>						

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Reusable stretch pants	Subsidised in 6 monthly calendar periods Supply is the same for children and adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will only be supplied for use with a non adhesive pad.
Disposable all-in-one pads	As per disposable pad subsidy for a child or adult	<p>Points to consider for selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant will require assistance with putting on the all-in-one style pad Pad application is usually undertaken with assistance in a lying position.
Reusable bed and chair pads	2 supplied on initial application 1 per 12 months thereafter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical implications need to be considered when an applicant is using a reusable absorbent bed/chair pad with a pressure relieving mattress/cushion.
Disposable catheters	Subsidised in 6 monthly calendar periods Supply is the same for children and adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be supplied to a child from birth Can be supplied in combination with other types of continence aids MASS does not supply catheters to applicants with ostomies (urinary or faecal diversions) who may be eligible with the Ostomy Scheme.
Indwelling catheters	Subsidised in 12 monthly calendar periods Supply is the same for children and adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be supplied to a child from birth Can be supplied in combination with other types of continence aids.
Penile sheaths	Subsidised in 6 monthly calendar periods Supply is the same for children and adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be supplied in combination with other types of continence aids.
Night urinary drainage bags	Subsidised in 6 monthly calendar periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MASS does not supply urinary drainage bags to applicants with ostomies (urinary or faecal diversions) who may be eligible with the Ostomy Scheme MASS may consider drainage bags not available on the Ostomy Scheme.

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Continence aids	MASS subsidy levels	May be subsidised when
Leg drainage bags	Subsidised in 6 monthly calendar periods Supply is the same for children and adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes leg straps Can be supplied with night drainage bags in the same 6 month supply period.
Catheter valves	Subsidised in 6 monthly calendar periods Supply is the same for children and adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can be supplied with night drainage bags Will not be supplied with leg bags in the same 6 monthly supply period.
Combination of different types of continence aids	Reduced supply may occur depending on the type and packaging (e.g. applicants requiring a combination of disposable pads and disposable catheters will receive a reduced supply of pads and catheters)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prescriber to advise applicant of possible reduced supply.
Requested continence aids not on the MASS Standing Offer Arrangement (SOA) approved continence aids list	<p>Applicant to consider that they may receive a reduced supply in comparison to that of a similar continence aid on the SOA</p> <p>MASS will consider a combination of non SOA continence aids if it meets specific criteria including packaging and product usage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prescriber to define the clinical appropriateness of the non SOA product which includes why the comparable SOA aids are not suitable Prescriber to advise applicant of possible reduced supply in comparison to an SOA product.
Miscellaneous continence products	MASS only considers supply of containment aids, conduction aids and occlusive devices	<p>MASS does not subsidise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> disposable liners or booster pads miscellaneous items used for catheter or bowel management/treatment/evacuation products for catheter change including catheter pack and lubricant disposable gloves urinals.

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Reference Documents

Prescribers are directed to the MASS website www.health.qld.gov.au/mass for details of additional documents to support with selection of continence aids on the MASS Standing Offer Arrangement

This includes:

- SOA Approved Continence Aids List
- Continence Aids Supplier List
- Continence Product Information Sheet.

Additional Prescriber Responsibilities

Additional information	MASS subsidy	Prescriber responsibilities
Subsidy funding levels	MASS provides subsidy funding assistance for applicants and is not intended to provide for all continence needs, rather, to assist as many eligible persons as possible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescriber must advise applicants where additional continence aids can be privately purchased.
Packaging quantities	Quantities of subsidised products allocated to individual applicants will vary slightly in number due to the variety of commercial packaging quantities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescriber and applicant should consider carton quantities as indicated on the Approved Continence Aids List which will assist in ensuring maximum subsidy funding levels.
Incorrect prescription	MASS will not exchange or substitute continence aid/s once an order has been placed with the commercial supplier/s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If inappropriate continence aids have been prescribed for the applicant, MASS will refer applicant/carer back to the prescriber's agency for their consideration.