

## Accessing Enemas and Suppositories in the Community

Your eligibility for funding schemes following your Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) will determine the options available to you for accessing enemas in the community. Please refer to the respective funding guidelines below for more information, or contact your funding package co-ordinator:

### National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS):

- Enemas/suppositories are considered a medication by the NDIS and are therefore **not funded through NDIS plans**
- If you purchase them using your NDIS continence account, you may be asked to repay the cost price if you are audited by the NDIS
- You will need to purchase these items from a continence supplies company or at a pharmacy
- You may be eligible for a price reduction by getting a prescription from your Doctor (see following information) and then purchasing them through a pharmacy.

### National Injury Insurance Scheme (NIISQ) or Similar State Schemes (e.g., iCare):

- NIISQ may fund the cost of your enemas/suppositories as part of your rehabilitation plan
- They can be added to your continence product list, with a bulk supply for 3 months provided at a time, or alternatively, you can obtain them through your NIISQ funded pharmacy account
- If you are eligible for a price reduction by getting a prescription from your Doctor, this will also decrease the cost to NIISQ (i.e., prescription through GP for supply at pharmacy – see following information)

### My Aged Care (MAC):

- No specific funding provided – you will need to purchase your enemas/suppositories either at your pharmacy or via a continence supplies company.
- You may be eligible for a price reduction by getting a prescription from your Doctor (see following information) and then purchasing them through a pharmacy.

### Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA):

- Prescriptions may be available from your Doctor under the Repatriation Benefit Scheme for enemas/suppositories depending on your individual circumstances.  
[Concessional Medicines under the RPBS](#)

### Self-Funded:

- You may be eligible for a price reduction by getting a prescription from your Doctor (see following information) and then purchasing them through a pharmacy.

## Enema Prescription

Most of the types of enemas/suppositories used in Spinal Cord Injury bowel management are **not scheduled medications** – this means that a script is not required for purchase and they can be bought “over the counter”.

The pathway for people with Spinal Cord Injury to access cheaper enemas or suppositories requires a visit to your GP to obtain a prescription subsidized by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) as a Restricted Benefit.

- The current brand of enema available through the PBS for prescription are **MICOLETTE enemas**, which are the equivalent of Microlax enemas that you may be



#### SPINAL INJURIES UNIT

Ph: 3176 2215

Fax: 3176 7462

#### OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT

Ph: 3176 2641

Fax: 3176 5644

#### Postal and Location

Princess Alexandra Hospital  
Ipswich Rd  
Woolloongabba QLD 4102  
AUSTRALIA

#### TRANSITIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Ph: 3176 9508

Fax: 3176 9514

#### Email

[trp@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:trp@health.qld.gov.au)

#### Postal

PO Box 6053

Buranda, QLD, 4102

#### Location

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Buranda Village  
Cnr Cornwall St & Ipswich Rd  
Buranda, QLD, 4102  
AUSTRALIA

#### SPINAL OUTREACH TEAM

Ph: 3176 9507

Free call 1800 624 832  
(for regional clients)

Fax : 3176 9514

#### Email

[spot@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:spot@health.qld.gov.au)

#### Postal

PO Box 6053

Buranda, Q, 4102

#### Location

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Buranda Village  
Cnr Cornwall St & Ipswich Rd  
Buranda, QLD, 4102  
AUSTRALIA

more familiar with or that are more readily available on pharmacy shelves.

- Prescriptions for Bisalax enemas and suppositories are also available
- The prescription will reduce the price to standard PBS medication prices – this is a significant saving if you hold a **Pension Card or Health Care Card**.  
[Services Australia Payment and Service Finder](#)
- If you do not hold a Pension/Health Care Card the prescription may not reduce the price of the enemas significantly – although it will contribute towards your PBS Safety Net [Information on the PBS Safety Net](#)

## Information for GP Scripting:

To access General PBS subsidized enemas/suppositories, please prescribe:

### **Micolette Enemas**

CITRIC ACID + LAURYL SULFOACETATE SODIUM + SORBITOL

Sodium citrate dihydrate 450mg/5ml + lauryl sulfoacetate sodium 45mg/5ml + sorbitol 3.123g/5ml enema, 12 x 5ml, Maximum 2 boxes, 2 repeats

### **Restricted Benefit – 2091C**

Clinical Criteria: paraplegic or quadriplegic or have severe neurogenic impairment of bowel function

### **Bisalax Enemas**

BISACODYL

Bisacodyl 10mg/5ml enema, 25 x 5ml, 1 box, 2 repeats

### **Restricted Benefit – 1263L**

Clinical Criteria: paraplegic or quadriplegic or have severe neurogenic impairment of bowel function

### **Petrus Bisacodyl Suppositories**

BISACODYL

Bisacodyl 10mg suppository, 12, maximum 3 packs, 4 repeats

### **Restricted Benefit – 1258F**

Clinical Criteria: paraplegic or quadriplegic or have severe neurogenic impairment of bowel function

The information contained within this guide was correct at time of publication and provided for general education purposes only. It does not replace the need to seek appropriate professional assistance for specific individual cases or consultation with applicable funding authorities.

**Composed March 2022  
Review Due March 2024**



#### SPINAL INJURIES UNIT

Ph: 3176 2215

Fax: 3176 7462

#### OUTPATIENT DEPARTMENT

Ph: 3176 2641

Fax: 3176 5644

#### Postal and Location

Princess Alexandra Hospital  
Ipswich Rd  
Woolloongabba QLD 4102  
AUSTRALIA

#### TRANSITIONAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Ph: 3176 9508

Fax: 3176 9514

#### Email

[trp@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:trp@health.qld.gov.au)

#### Postal

PO Box 6053

Buranda, QLD, 4102

#### Location

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Buranda Village  
Cnr Cornwall St & Ipswich Rd  
Buranda, QLD, 4102  
AUSTRALIA

#### SPINAL OUTREACH TEAM

Ph: 3176 9507

Free call 1800 624 832  
(for regional clients)

Fax : 3176 9514

#### Email

[spot@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:spot@health.qld.gov.au)

#### Postal

PO Box 6053

Buranda, Q, 4102

#### Location

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Buranda Village  
Cnr Cornwall St & Ipswich Rd  
Buranda, QLD, 4102  
AUSTRALIA