

Primary Care Trust (PCT) Funding For Prosthetic Provision

It is possible to apply for funding from the NHS to pay for prosthetic treatment from an independent rehabilitation provider, such as PACE Rehabilitation. This process is known as an “Exceptional Treatment” application and is made by your Doctor (GP) to your Primary Care Trust (PCT). PCT’s are not obliged to fund all applications; therefore not all requests are successful.

If you feel that your prosthetic needs are ‘not being met’ by your current NHS provider, visit your GP to discuss the matter. It may be prudent to have a record of your appointments, details of issues/difficulties that you have experienced and what impact this has had on you and your mobility and quality of life.

Ask your GP to help you complete an “Exceptional Treatment” application on your behalf. This application can only be made by your GP, however your input is encouraged to strengthen your application.

If your GP agrees with your request, they will submit an Exceptional Funding Treatment form to your PCT. This will include your personal details, medical history, your goals/expected outcomes and most importantly, the clinical justification for the application. A supporting letter by your GP is also advisable, clearly outlining the problems, describing any ineffective prosthesis you may have had and the implications if the application is rejected.

To support your application with clinical recommendations and the costs involved in the provision, PACE Rehabilitation, or other independent providers, can provide you with an Initial Assessment report. Following an examination of you by the clinicians at our clinics, they will write a short report, in the form of a letter, containing brief history, findings, recommendations and costs. This information may be beneficial to your application. The cost for this assessment and report is £240.

Your application will be assessed by the PCT’s Exceptional Cases Panel and a decision provided to your GP after the meeting. If your application is successful, your GP can refer you for treatment. If it is rejected, the Panel will explain the reasons for their decision. In some situations the PCT panel will already have an alternative provider they will want to refer you to first. It is best to follow their regular referral route, at least initially. If you later feel that the outcome is not what you expected, your circumstances change, or new evidence is available to strengthen your application, then your GP can reapply on your behalf. An appeal process will be available if your application is refused..

Although not all applications are successful, PACE Rehabilitation does regularly receive referrals from patients who have secured PCT funding from an Exceptional Treatment application.

If you, or your GP, would benefit from discussing the matter further with us please do not hesitate to get in touch.

PACE Rehabilitation