

## Part 15: Prostheses

This Part of the Lifetime Care and Support Guidelines is made under sections 11A, 11AA, 23, 28 and 58 of the *Motor Accidents (Lifetime Care and Support) Act 2006* (the Act).

This version of Part 15 of the Lifetime Care and Support Guidelines (the Guidelines) takes effect on the date of gazettal in the NSW Government Gazette and, on and from that date, applies to all participants in the Scheme, whether interim or lifetime, and whether accepted into the Scheme before or after the date of gazettal.

The Lifetime Care and Support Authority (Lifetime Care) may waive observance of any part or parts of this Guideline. Waiving observance of all or part of this Guideline in any particular circumstances is not an indication that Lifetime Care will waive observance of this part or any other parts of the Guidelines in other circumstances.

### 1 Definitions

1.1 In this Part of the Guidelines, these words and phrases have the following meanings:

**Prosthesis** is an artificial substitute for a missing part of the body used for functional or cosmetic reasons, or both. Any reference to a prosthesis in this Guideline includes any associated componentry. Any reference to a prosthesis in this Guideline relates to an external prosthesis or orthosis and does not include a surgically implanted prosthesis.

**Provider** refers to an accredited medical prescriber, an amputee clinic or a limb manufacturer, as relevant or applicable.

### 2 Prostheses

2.1 Lifetime Care considers a prosthesis to be reasonable and necessary where:

- a) the need has arisen because of the motor accident injury;
- b) the prosthesis promotes functional independence, self-management or cosmetic improvement; and
- c) any provider is, and the prescription, clinic services and manufacturing services are provided by, a person or persons that are suitably qualified and experienced and, where relevant, meet the criteria in the Guidelines for Prescribers – Assistive Technology. This can be accessed on Lifetime Care's website at [www.icare.nsw.gov.au](http://www.icare.nsw.gov.au).

2.2 Lifetime Care considers maintenance and repairs to prostheses to be reasonable and necessary where the need arises due to:

- a) normal wear and tear; and
- b) routine maintenance as recommended by the manufacturer, to meet warranty conditions or to meet industry standards.

2.3 Lifetime Care considers the repair or replacement of a prosthesis is not reasonable and necessary if its repair or replacement is required due to neglect or misuse.

2.4 Lifetime Care may regard a prosthesis for a recreational activity to be reasonable and necessary, in addition to a primary prosthesis, where the participant is likely to engage in the activity on a regular and ongoing basis.

2.5 Lifetime Care will not consider an expense connected with a prosthesis to be a reasonable expense if the prosthesis does not comply with Australian Standards (if applicable), or if it is not registered with the Therapeutic Goods Administration (if applicable).