



# NPWT discharge funding pathway

A comprehensive guide



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## Introduction

This booklet aims to provide some guidelines in facilitating the discharge and funding application process for patients currently being treated with Negative Pressure Wound Therapy (NPWT).

Please note requirements for each healthcare facility and between third party funders may vary.

## What is NPWT?

NPWT is a therapy system that is applied to a wound and may help promote wound healing by removing fluid, including wound exudates and infectious materials. This therapy for wound management is widely used in both hospitals and at home.

Smith & Nephew offers a range of NPWT modality. Please contact your Smith & Nephew Account Executive to determine which modality is more appropriate for the patient, and when would be suitable to transition to an alternative treatment modality and/or product(s).



**RENASYS<sup>®</sup>** consists of a rechargeable NPWT pump, a canister and a wound dressing kit.



**PICO<sup>®</sup>** is a single use NPWT pump connected to an absorbent gentle adhesive dressing, all conveniently packaged together for up to seven days of therapy.

Additional wound fillers are available if required.

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## Discharge planning

In order to facilitate the progression of your patient back into the community and enabling optimum patient wellbeing, the following information may help you with discharge planning.



When discharging a patient with a Smith & Nephew RENASYS<sup>®</sup> and/or PICO<sup>®</sup> device to a community setting, the following guidelines can ensure efficient discharge or transfer.

### Recommended discharge steps

- ☑ Determine if patient is suitable to be discharge to the community with the NPWT
- ☑ Determine if domiciliary nursing is available and can manage NPWT
- ☑ Obtain correct therapy funding (where required, make application to third party for funding – see steps for arranging third party funding)
- ☑ Order devices and consumables required
- ☑ Prepare the patient/carer by running through the device and troubleshooting prior to discharge
- ☑ Discharge patient to community nurse
- ☑ Monitor NPWT therapy in community setting

## Support and resources available

In order to support you and your patients in successful discharge, please contact your local Smith & Nephew Account Executive or NPWT Customer Service for copies of the following resources:



- RENASYS Patient Guide
- PICO Patient Guide
- NPWT Quotation Order Form
- Sample referral letter for third party funders
- 24/7 NPWT Support Line:

Australia: 13 13 60      New Zealand: 0800 807 019

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## Funding NPWT in the community

Before discharging a patient to the community, you will need to establish who is funding NPWT. It can be any or a combination of the following:

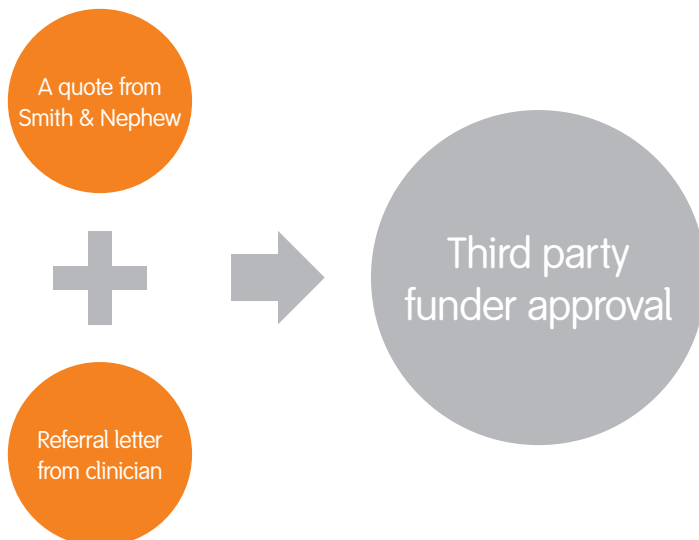


- Hospital
- Third party including the private health insurer, Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA), or WorkCover
- Self-funded
- Indirect funding (AUS) via Home Care packages (level 3 and level 4 CDC), Transitional Care, and NDIS (NDIS consumables and rental must be approved and funded by an accredited NDIS provider)

## Arranging third party funding

The following guidelines are suggested steps in aiding third party funding. Please note requirements between third party funders may vary.

### Steps to arrange third party funding



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## Steps to arrange third party funding cont.

1. Contact Smith & Nephew Customer Service for quotation. Please have available the following details available when requesting the quote:

- Patient full name, date of birth, address
- Patient's third party funders detail: fund name, membership number
- Delivery Address
- The NPWT type(s), consumable required and quantities for each  
(Contact Smith & Nephew for quotation request form)

2. Provide the third party funder with the following:

- Letter from clinician requesting approval of patient funding of NPWT  
(Contact Smith & Nephew for a sample letter)
- A quotation from Smith & Nephew for the NPWT products required

Smith & Nephew or your Domiciliary Nursing Service provider may be able to contact the Third party Funder on your behalf. Most Third Party Funder will review NPWT requests within 72 hours.

3. The third party funder will be required to supply Smith & Nephew with a letter advising that they will accept full liability for funding and indicate that they will deal directly with Smith & Nephew regarding payment. In addition, the third party funder will be required to advise what length of time of rental and/or consumables will be funded.

To avoid incurring additional costs, we recommend waiting for the written approval to be received from the third party funder prior to discharging the patient with NPWT.

In the circumstance where the third party prefers to deal with the hospital directly, Smith & Nephew will continue to invoice the hospital directly against a purchase order number. The hospital will need to negotiate the reimbursement claim against the third party.

In the case of self or indirect funding a quote should be completed by Smith & Nephew for approval before discharge.

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**Call our 24/7 NPWT Support Line**

**Australia: 13 13 60 New Zealand: 0800 807 019**

For detailed product information, concerning the indications for use, contraindications, effects, precautions and warnings, please consult the product's Instructions for Use (IFU) prior to use.

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**Customer Service**

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