

Plagiocephaly Helmet Coverage

Has your baby been diagnosed with plagiocephaly, brachecephaly or craniosynostosis? If so, PharmaCare may help to cover the cost of a helmet for your baby.

About the coverage available

If your family is covered by PharmaCare, the program may be able to help your family with the cost of a helmet for plagiocephaly, brachecephaly and craniosynostosis.

The actual reimbursement you receive for the cost of the helmet, including assessment and follow-up, depends on the rules of your family's (or baby's) PharmaCare plan.

Your plan	Amount PharmaCare covers
Fair PharmaCare	Depends on your annual deductible and family maximum and how close you are to meeting those amounts*
B.C. Income Assistance (Plan C)	100% of the cost
At Home Program (Plan F)	100% of the cost

* HIBC can let you know how close you are to meeting your annual deductible and family maximum.

See contact information on page 2.

How do I get PharmaCare coverage for my baby's helmet?

- 1 Make sure you have PharmaCare coverage**—If you are not receiving BC Income Assistance and your baby is not covered through the At Home Program, be sure to register for Fair PharmaCare. You can register 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at online at www.gov.bc.ca/fairpharmacareregistration or register by calling Health Insurance BC (HIBC). See page 2 for contact information.
- 2 Find out if you need pre-approval**—In some cases, you can order the helmet without getting PharmaCare approval beforehand. In other cases, you will have to get PharmaCare approval before you order the helmet. If your baby meets the requirements listed on the next page, you do not need PharmaCare's approval before ordering the helmet. Instead, your orthotist will complete a *PharmaCare Orthotic Benefit—Plagiocephaly Helmet* form for you to sign, confirming that your baby meets the requirements.

If a baby has	PharmaCare pre-approval is not needed if your baby...
plagiocephaly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is between the ages of 5 months and one year at the start of helmet treatment, and • has a written referral for the helmet from a recognized plagiocephaly clinic, and • has a cranial vault asymmetry index (CVAI) equal to or greater than 6.25%.*
brachycephaly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is between the ages of 5 months and one year at the start of helmet treatment, and • has a written referral for the helmet from a recognized plagiocephaly clinic, and • has a cranial index (CI) equal to or greater than 95%.*
plagiocephaly with brachycephaly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is between the ages of 5 months and one year at the start of helmet treatment, and • has a written referral for the helmet from a recognized plagiocephaly clinic, and • has a cranial vault asymmetry index (CVAI) equal to or greater than 6.25% and a cranial index (CI) equal to or greater than 90%.*
craniosynostosis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • is between the ages of 4 months and one year at the start of helmet treatment, and • has had surgery for the condition, and • has a written referral or prescription for the helmet from a pediatric neurosurgeon, and • has had a post-operative helmet cast or scan.

* These measurements must be made by a certified orthotist.

If your baby does not meet the requirements listed above, you will need PharmaCare approval for coverage before you order the helmet—Your orthotist will send PharmaCare an [application form](#), along with other supporting documents, explaining why your baby needs the helmet. If the application is approved, PharmaCare will send your orthotist a copy of the approved form.

- 3 **Pay for the helmet**—Normally your orthotist will submit the claim and payment can be made once PharmaCare reimbursement comes through.

Submitting the claim yourself? Submit it by March 31 of the year following the year in which you received the helmet.

Questions?

Health Insurance BC can answer your questions about the program.

- From Vancouver, call 604 683-7151.
- From the rest of B.C., call toll-free 1 800 663-7100

Agents are available

- Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (except statutory holidays)
- Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (except statutory holidays)