



Bariatric Considerations & Equipment and Modification Services (EMS) funding

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Overview – Part 1 - Criteria

- What is 'Bariatric' and 'Bariatric Equipment'?
- EMS eligibility criteria, obesity, related health conditions and comorbidities
- Bariatric Equipment into Residential Care
- Floor Loading





Overview – Part 2 – Assessment and solutions

- Considerations for bariatric equipment
- Common Equipment Solutions
- Key points



What is 'Bariatric'?

'Bariatric' refers to someone who weighs 150kg or more, has a BMI of 40 or more or who has large physical dimensions, a lack of mobility or other conditions that make moving and handling difficult.

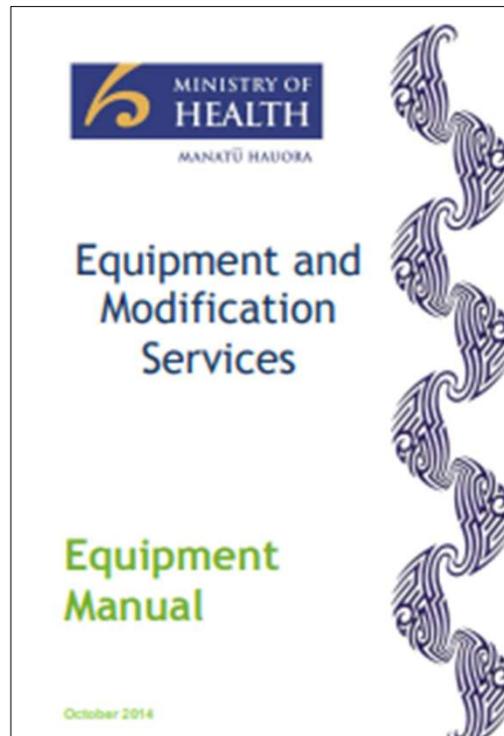
Bariatric equipment and aids are those that cater for the larger person with an increased user weight capacity, [often] wider widths and heavy-duty/reinforced components.

<https://www.acc.co.nz/assets/provider/bc9f7f9b2e/acc6075-moving-guide-bariatric.pdf>



EMS Manuals and Practice Guidelines

<https://www.disabilitysupport.govt.nz/providers/equipment-and-modification-services/manuals-and-practice-guidelines>



Disability Support Services - Definitions of 'Disability'

- **Physical** - A musculoskeletal (eg. irreversible wasting, contracture, bony or soft tissue deformity) or neurological impairment (irreversible impact on strength, ROM or limb sensation).
- **Intellectual** - An IQ score of 70 or below which has been present in their developmental years (up to the age of 18) *Note: an acquired cognitive impairment is not the same as an intellectual disability. Cognitive impairment for <65-year-olds falls under 'Personal Health'*
- **Sensory** - Hearing or vision impairment
- **Age-related** - A person who is over 65 years of age (or <65 but accepted by >65 NASC as being 'Like in Age and Interest') with multiple complex co-morbidities (disability, age and health) resulting in a long-term functional loss with a need for equipment/modification supports
- **Combination** - A combination of the above



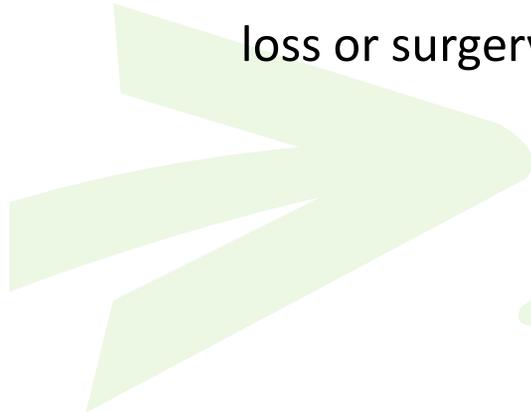
Chronic Health as the primary diagnosis

The Ministry recommends that Accessable works with the Assessor to inquire about how the person's health needs are being managed through a multidisciplinary approach, as equipment and modifications alone do not address the broader impact of ongoing health issues. Ideally, information provided should confirm the presence of a long-term weight management plan and that there are no [treatment or rehabilitation] options available that will resolve the functional issue described.



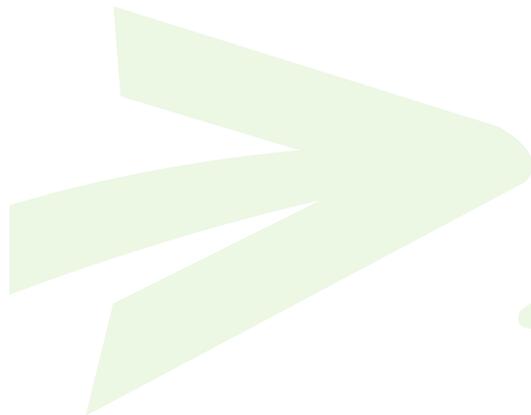
Osteoarthritis – a common comorbidity of high BMI

A person may fit eligibility criteria for EMS funding where it is established that there is a long-term functional loss associated with decreased range of movement, related to the Osteoarthritis, which cannot be treated with rehabilitation/therapy, weight loss or surgery.



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If not clear what the 'primary diagnosis' is, or how this fits with EMS funding criteria, please submit an optional EMS Advice Request



Bariatric equipment provision for residential care environments

Clients funded through an <65yr residential care contract (Sect 2.4 of the EMS Equipment Manual):

Eligible for equipment as if living in their own home but must consider availability of equipment already within the facility in the first instance.

Clients funded through an >65yr residential care contract (Sect 2.5 of the EMS Equipment Manual):

Bariatric equipment is considered 'off-the-shelf' equipment and is therefore the responsibility of the residential care provider unless the specific need/solution fits with criteria as per Sect 2.5 of the EMS Equipment Manual.



Floor Loading



Floor Loading

EMS Advice is mandatory when:

- The person has body weight greater than 140 kilograms;
and
- Requires extra-large/heavy equipment; and
- Is accessing any part of the home with timber flooring
(i.e. deck, ramp or internal floor)

*Please review the **Floor Weight Capacity Resource** communication and the previous **Floor Weight Capacity** webinar on the Accessable website.*





Part 2 – Assessment and solutions

Considerations for Bariatric Equipment

SECTION 14

Bariatric clients



Contents

- Providing care for bariatric clients
- Planning for bariatric clients
- Developing organisational capacity for bariatric care
- Specific issues related to the care of bariatric clients
- References and resources
- **Appendix:** Chart for calculation of BMI.

<https://enzwebmedia.blob.core.windows.net/enable-live/documents/considerations-around-bariatric-equipment---march-2024.pdf>

Considerations Around Bariatric Equipment

Presenters: Christa Roesler & Jolene Young
Clinical Services Advisors

Date: 20 March 2024

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NEW ZEALAND

<https://www.acc.co.nz/assets/provide-r/bc9f7f9b2e/acc6075-moving-guide-bariatric.pdf>

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Considerations for Bariatric Equipment

“Bariatric equipment is often defined by its weight capacity, and an equal distribution of load across the equipment is assumed. However, in practice, the shape of the patient and the distribution of weight are variable. This places stress on components of the equipment such as wheels, pivot points, and structural supports during movement.”

Consideration of the maximum safe working load of the equipment



The distribution of a person’s weight across the equipment



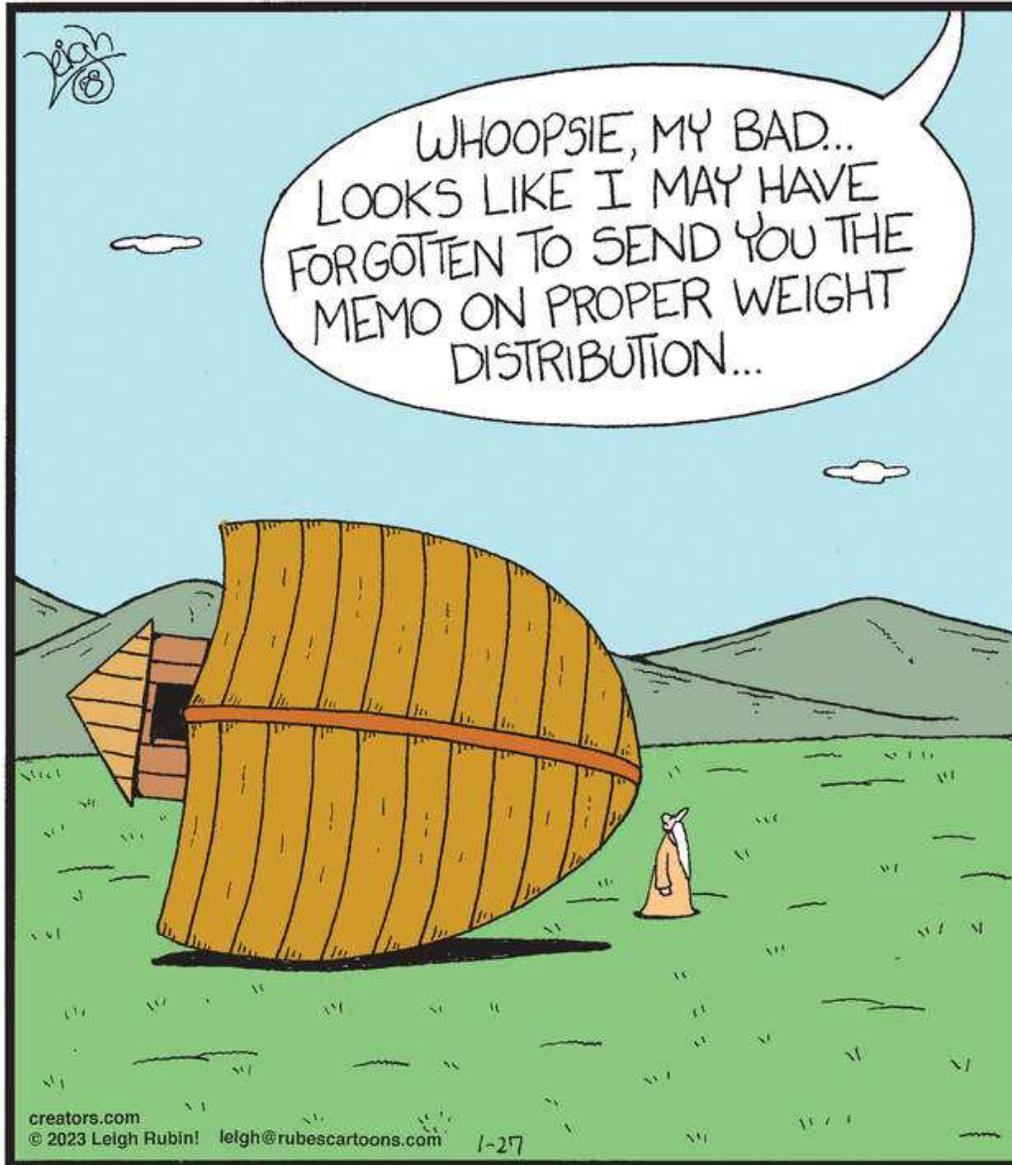
How the equipment will be functionally used



Whether bariatric-rated equipment is needed or not

<https://www.acc.co.nz/assets/provider/bc9f7f9b2e/acc6075-moving-guide-bariatric.pdf>





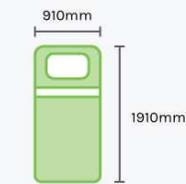
Bariatric Equipment



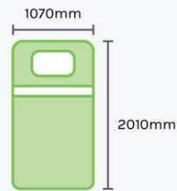
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Common Bariatric Equipment Solutions

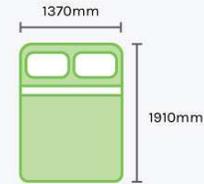
- Hospital beds



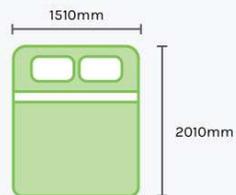
SINGLE



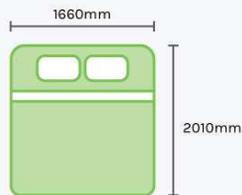
KING SINGLE



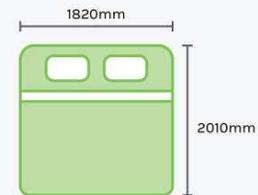
DOUBLE



QUEEN



KING



SUPER KING



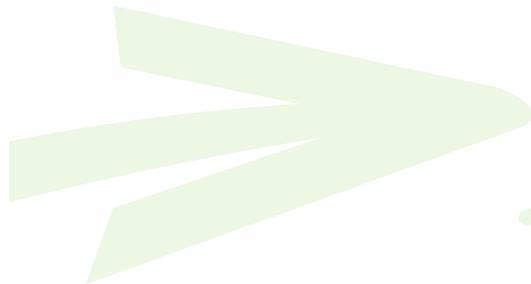
Floor Loading = weight of person + equipment + accessories + anything else that adds weight to the solution

Equipment Solutions...

- Mattresses



 DuoCore®
Integriert sitzfunktion



Equipment Solutions...

- Riser recliner chairs




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Equipment Solutions...

- Transfer aids
 - Sit to Stand hoists
 - Mobile Full Lift Sling Hoists
 - Freestanding Gantry Hoists



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Equipment Solutions...

- Wheelchairs and Seating
 - Heavy duty manual – self propelling and transit
 - Heavy duty powerchairs
 - Back supports
 - Cushions



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Equipment Solutions...

- Walking Aids
- PSCHSM
- Other



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Key Points

- It's not just about the UWL; it's also the distribution of the person's weight and how it's being used
- Resources – also utilise the expertise of the suppliers and their product knowledge
- Floor loading – be aware of the combination of equipment and personal factors
- Bariatric clients can have some very specific and individualised needs
- If you are unsure about eligibility, access criteria or the solution, submit an Advice Request or call the Professional Advisory Team



Questions/Discussion



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