

We may be able to help with treatment costs for your service-related injury or illness.

Funding treatment

Assessment

To help us decide about funding a treatment, we may ask you to have a specialist assessment. We'll pay for this.

Treatment funded by other agencies

We won't usually cover costs that can be met by:

- the public health system (district health boards, ACC, PHARMAC); or
- the New Zealand Defence Force (if you're still serving).

But we may help with costs you'd otherwise have to pay yourself.

Treatment not funded by other agencies

We take a case-by-case approach to funding when:

- a treatment provider recommends a treatment not funded by other agencies; or
- you're living overseas.

Factors we may take into account include:

- What type of injury or illness is it, and how severe?
- Is the treatment the standard treatment in New Zealand?
- How qualified and experienced is the provider to give the treatment?

Private treatment

We may fund private treatment if the waiting time in the public system will be too long for you.

Specialist and long-term treatment

For specialist and long-term treatment:

- twelve months or twelve sessions (whichever's less) is the most we'll approve at a time
- further sessions may only be approved on the basis of a specialist report.

Contact your case manager before seeing a specialist, as this usually needs preapproval. But we may pay for emergency treatment without preapproval.

Alternative treatments

We may fund alternative or complementary treatments, if prescribed and monitored by a treatment provider who meets our standards.

Food substitutes

We'll fund Fortisip for terminal patients.

Treatment card

Approved treatment will be recorded on your treatment card. This tells providers what we'll pay for, and to send us the invoices.

It also covers you for routine doctors' visits and medicines, for your service-related condition.

Your Plan

Treatment we've approved will be recorded in Your Plan. This is a plan for your assessment, treatment and rehabilitation.

**For further help or to request other factsheets contact Veterans' Affairs:
Freephone 0800 483 8372 / 0800 4 VETERANS (or +64 4 495 2070 from overseas)
Email: veterans@nzdf.mil.nz
Website: www.veteransaffairs.mil.nz (factsheets available here)**