

Returning, Renting, and Buying Equipment

It is important to return your equipment on time, so it is available for others to use.

Returning equipment

- **Basic:** Return to original supplier
- **Advanced:** Supplier will pick up
- Equipment with a Canadian Red Cross sticker must be returned to a Canadian Red Cross location
- **Early returns:** Contact the supplier any time before the due date

Buying or renting after MEPP

If you need equipment after your 3-month MEPP rental is over, it is your responsibility to rent or buy it.

- The Canadian Red Cross does not rent or sell equipment, but other MEPP suppliers can.
- You may receive an estimate for buying or renting equipment when your equipment is delivered. This is to help you understand costs. You can choose any supplier, not just a MEPP supplier.

There are funding programs that may help cover the cost of renting and buying equipment. Visit islandhealth.ca/equipment-funding for a list of organizations.

Further Information

MEPP: islandhealth.ca/MEPP

Medical Equipment for Home Use:
islandhealth.ca/medical-equipment

Finding an Equipment Supplier:
islandhealth.ca/home-equipment-suppliers

Equipment Funding Programs:
islandhealth.ca/equipment-funding



Scan the QR code to visit the Island Health medical equipment website.

Additional Information



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Island Health

Medical Equipment Provision Program (MEPP)

Short-term equipment rentals for people with limited resources



What is the Island Health Medical Equipment Provision Program (MEPP)?

MEPP helps people who cannot access medical equipment by covering the cost of short-term rentals.

Equipment includes mobility and home safety items such as walkers, wheelchairs, toilet seats, and hospital beds. Items offered are based on availability. They may not always be a perfect fit but will keep you safe during the short-term rental.

Key points

- Maximum rental period is 3 months.
- Equipment must be returned in good condition and on time.
- Equipment is supplied by trusted suppliers, including Canadian Red Cross.
- If you need equipment after the MEPP rental is over, it is your responsibility to rent or buy it.

BC Palliative Care Benefits Program

- You can access MEPP equipment for up to 12 months if your BC Palliative Care Benefits Program registration is active.
- Your doctor or nurse practitioner must renew your registration if equipment is needed for longer.

Who Qualifies?

To qualify for MEPP you must:

- Live in BC and have Medical Services Plan (MSP) coverage
- Need equipment urgently to stay safe at home
- Be unable to pay for equipment using your own income or savings
- Have no other funding immediately available (e.g., extended health, Veterans Affairs, Ministry programs)
- Live in a private home, independent living facility, assisted living, family care home, or group home

Note: Residents of long-term care do not qualify for MEPP.

Waiting for other funding? MEPP may cover your equipment rental for up to 3 months while you wait.

Important

Please return your equipment on time as other people are waiting to use it.

For information about renting or buying equipment after your MEPP rental ends, visit: islandhealth.ca/home-equipment-suppliers

How to Access MEPP

- An Island Health healthcare professional will work with you to understand what equipment you need.
- They will explain who will provide your equipment, how long you can use it, and what to do when it's time to return it.
- You need to confirm your eligibility and agree to return the equipment by the due date.

Getting Equipment Home

Basic equipment (small items like walkers, toilet seats, and shower chairs)

- You need to pick up and return at supplier locations
- Sometimes provided in hospital if needed immediately

Advanced equipment (larger items like hospital beds and patient lifts)

- Delivered and set up by a technician
- You need to prepare your home ahead of time; technician cannot move furniture
- Supplier picks up equipment at end of rental