

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NO. 2474

9 September 2022

HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT, 1974 (ACT NO.56 OF 1974)

REGULATIONS DEFINING THE SCOPE OF THE PROFESSION OF MEDICAL ORTHOTICS
AND PROSTHETICS

The Minister of Health intends, in terms of section 33(1) of the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974), and on the recommendation of the Health Professions Council of South Africa and the Professional Board for Occupational Therapy, Medical Orthotist / Prosthetist, to make the regulations in the Schedule.

Interested persons are invited to submit any substantiated comments or representations on the proposed regulations to the Director-General of Health, Private Bag X828, Pretoria, 0001 (for attention of the Director: Public Entities Governance; mihloti.mushwana@health.gov.za and paul.tsebe@health.gov.za), within three month of the date of publication of this Notice.


DR MJ PHAAHLA, MP
MINISTER OF HEALTH

DATE: 15/08/2022

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In these regulations any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall bear such meaning, and unless the context indicates otherwise –

“**the Act**” means the Health Professions Act, 1974 (Act No. 56 of 1974),

Acts pertaining to profession of medical orthotics and prosthetics

2. The following are, in term of section 33 of the Act, deemed to be acts pertaining to the profession of medical orthotics and prosthetics:
 - (a) assessment of patients requiring orthotic or prosthetic care, including, but not limited, to patients with impairment of human movement, musculoskeletal abnormalities or any pathology;
 - (b) formulation and implementation of an orthotic or prosthetic treatment plan based on a comprehensive assessment to design an intervention to alleviate limitations, enhance function, and for cosmetic purposes;
 - (c) deciding on the type of orthotic or prosthetic device required to alleviate limitations, to enhance function, and for cosmetic purposes;
 - (d) issuing of “off-the-shelf” orthotic or prosthetic devices which includes:
 - (i) measuring the specific orthotic or prosthetic devices;
 - (ii) fitting the orthotic or prosthetic device;
 - (iii) adjusting and modifying the orthotic or prosthetic device according to the required specifications;
 - (iv) testing the patient’s use of orthotic or prosthetic device through functional exercises;
 - (v) providing gait training with the orthotic and prosthetic device where applicable;
 - (vi) providing functional training (both self-care and work related) with the orthotic or prosthetic device;
 - (vii) providing patient education and instruction regarding the orthotic or prosthetic device;
 - (c) custom manufacturing process for orthotic or prosthetic devices which includes:
 - (i) measuring and casting for orthoses or prostheses;

- (ii) modification and rectification of the orthoses or prostheses;
- (iii) material selection to use for the orthoses or prostheses;
- (iv) fabrication of orthoses and prostheses using specialized techniques such as molding, laminating, aligning and assembling within an orthopaedic laboratory;
- (d) the treatment planning for the provision of custom made orthotic or prosthetic devices which includes:
 - (i) diagnostic fitting of the orthotic or prosthetic device;
 - (ii) adjusting and modifying orthotic or prosthetic device to accommodate the individual requirements;
 - (iii) functional exercises to test the orthotic or prosthetic device;
 - (iv) gait training with the orthotic and prosthetic device where applicable;
 - (v) functional training (both self-care and work-related) with the orthotic or prosthetic device;
 - (vi) educating and instructing the patient about the orthotic or prosthetic device; and
- (e) determining a follow-up treatment plan that ensures successful orthotic or prosthetic outcomes over a short and long-term plan.

Short title

3. These Regulations are called Regulations Defining the Scope of the Profession of Medical Orthotics and Prosthetics, 2022.