



Mastectomy

# SCOPE OF PRACTICE

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## Foreword

The Board of Directors of the American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics Inc., (ABC) developed this Mastectomy Scope of Practice document for use by post-mastectomy professionals, consumers, members of the rehabilitation team, health care decision makers and legislative and regulatory officials.

To write this consensus document, ABC used a variety of resources including:

- The previous ABC Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthic Scope of Practice
- The ABC Practice Analysis Studies for mastectomy fitters
- Curriculum from a sampling of orthotic, prosthetic, pedorthic and fitter educational programs

This Mastectomy Scope of Practice document defines several aspects of the post-mastectomy profession including the delineation of the scope of practice and the specific responsibilities of ABC credentialed mastectomy fitters.

The practice of mastectomy fitting occurs in various settings, including independent private practices, hospitals, retail settings, rural outreach clinics and home health settings. ABC credentialed professionals play a critical role in the rehabilitation of individuals in need of post-mastectomy care.

Any scope of practice document should be revised periodically, and it is the intent of ABC to revise this document as the practice of post-mastectomy care evolves.

This publication represents the shared efforts of many dedicated individuals. ABC is grateful for the commitment of the committee members and staff that devoted their time and effort to this project.

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## ABC Credentials

The American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics, Inc. (ABC) establishes and promotes the highest standards of organizational and clinical performance in the delivery of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic care. ABC advances the competency of practitioners, promotes the quality and effectiveness of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic care and maintains the integrity of the profession.

ABC orthotist, prosthetist, pedorthist, fitter, assistant and technician certification are the designations given to those individuals who have met ABC's extensive education and clinical training requirements and who have passed specific examinations that are based on a comprehensive practice analysis of the orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic professions. The examinations measure the candidate's knowledge of orthotics, prosthetics and pedorthics, their analytical and problem solving skills as well as clinical, patient management and communication skills. ABC orthotist, prosthetist, pedorthist, assistant, fitter and technician credentials are the profession's highest standards for individuals providing patient care and technical services. ABC credentialed individuals must adhere to the ABC Scope of Practice for their credential and/or the scope of practice for any relevant related licensure they hold.

### ABC awards the following credentials:

- ABC Certified Orthotist (CO)
- ABC Certified Prosthetist (CP)
- ABC Certified Prosthetist/Orthotist (CPO)
- ABC Certified Pedorthist (C.Ped.)
- ABC Certified Fitter-Orthotics (CFo)
- ABC Certified Fitter-Mastectomy (CFm)
- ABC Certified Fitter-Therapeutic Shoes (CFts)
- ABC Certified Orthotic Assistant (COA)
- ABC Certified Prosthetic Assistant (CPA)
- ABC Certified Prosthetic-Orthotic Assistant (CPOA)
- ABC Certified Orthotic Technician (CTO)
- ABC Certified Prosthetic Technician (CTP)
- ABC Certified Prosthetic-Orthotic Technician (CTPO)

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## Delineation of Scopes of Practice

### ABC Certified Fitter-Mastectomy

An ABC certified fitter-mastectomy is a health care professional who is specifically educated and trained in the provision of breast prostheses and post-mastectomy items and services. This includes patient evaluation, formulation of a treatment plan, implementation of the treatment plan, continuation of the treatment plan and practice management.

The ABC certified fitter-mastectomy is bound by the ABC Code of Professional Responsibility which is enforced by a Professional Discipline program. The certified fitter-mastectomy is obligated to support and conform to professional responsibilities that promote and assure the overall welfare of the patient and the integrity of the profession. The time limited certification expires without compliance with the Mandatory Continuing Education program. The practice of an ABC certified mastectomy fitter includes, but is not limited to:

- 1) Evaluation of specific prescription or patient's needs for breast prostheses as it relates to or includes, but is not limited to, the evaluation of the following:
  - physical assessment
  - circulation
  - skin integrity
  - posture and balance
  - mastectomy prosthetic requirements
- 2) Formulation of a treatment plan based upon an assessment to alleviate limitations and enhance function. The mastectomy fitter's treatment includes, but is not limited to:
  - verification of prescription/documentation
  - a needs assessment based on patient and/or caregiver input
  - analysis of design requirements
  - consultation with and/or referral to other health care professionals
- 3) Implementation of the mastectomy fitter's treatment plan includes, but is not limited to:
  - acquisition of physical assessment data
  - material selection
  - diagnostic fitting
  - adjustments to accommodate individual anatomic contours
  - patient education and instruction

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- 4) Utilization of a follow-up treatment plan that ensures successful mastectomy prosthetic outcomes, patient health and quality of life which includes but is not limited to:
    - documentation of any changes in patient's condition
    - formulation of modifications to ensure successful outcomes
    - confirmation of patient education and instruction
  
  - 5) Compliance with practice management plans to develop and document policies and procedures to ensure patient well-being which includes, but is not limited to:
    - adherence to applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations
    - following patient care guidelines and procedures
    - maintaining a safe and professional environment for patient care
    - comprehension of claims development and submission
  
  - 6) Promotion of competency and enhancement of post-mastectomy professional practice to contribute to the profession's body of knowledge includes, but is not limited to, participation in:
    - continuing education
    - promotion of public awareness of the post-mastectomy profession
    - consumer organizations, governmental and non-governmental organizations

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## Definitions of Common Terms

### **ABC**

The American Board for Certification in Orthotics, Prosthetics and Pedorthics, Inc. (ABC) establishes and promotes the highest standards of organizational and clinical performance in the delivery of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic care. It is the mission of ABC to advance the competency of practitioners, promote the quality and effectiveness of orthotic, prosthetic and pedorthic care and maintain the integrity of the profession.

### **Anthropometric**

Pertaining to the measurement of the size, weight and proportion of the human body. Computer-aided design/computer-aided manufacture.

### **Custom Fabricated Device**

An orthosis, prosthesis or pedorthic device fabricated to comprehensive measurements and/or a mold or patient model for use by a patient in accordance with a prescription and which requires clinical and technical judgment in its design, fabrication and fitting.

### **Mandatory Continuing Education**

ABC credentialed individuals are required to maintain competency through mandatory continuing education by earning professional continuing education credits.

### **Mastectomy Fitter**

A health care professional who is specifically educated and trained in the provision of breast prostheses and post-mastectomy services. This includes patient evaluation, formulation of a treatment plan, implementation of the treatment plan, continuation of the treatment plan and practice management.

### **Prefabricated Device**

A prefabricated device is one which is manufactured in quantity without a specific patient in mind. The device may be supplied as separate prefabricated components that may require some assembly and/or fitting and adjustment. These devices may require some trimming, bending, molding (with or without heat), or modification for use by a specific patient.

### **Supervision and Privileging of a Credentialed Caregiver**

Privileging of credentialed individuals to provide services beyond their defined scope of practice must ensure appropriate, effective, ethical and safe delivery of patient care. The credentialed caregiver may be privileged, under Indirect Supervision, to provide patient care beyond the scope of their credential based on Written Objective Criteria.



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### **Privileging of a credentialed caregiver is limited to the following:**

Prosthetists, Orthotists, Prosthetic Assistants, Orthotic Assistants and Orthotic Fitters who are credentialed by a nationally recognized Orthotic, Prosthetic and Pedorthic certifying board or are licensed, if applicable, may be privileged based on Written Objective Criteria to provide post-mastectomy care.

The post-mastectomy patient care services provided by the privileged credentialed caregiver which are beyond their scope of practice must not exceed ABC's defined scope of practice for Mastectomy Fitters. The Supervisor must review the results of care and the documentation of the services rendered by the supervised individual and is responsible for countersigning within 15 days all entries by the caregiver in the patient's clinical record. The Supervisor is responsible for all services that the caregiver is being privileged to provide.

### **Supervision and Privileging of a Non-Credentialed Caregiver**

Supervision and privileging of a non-credentialed caregiver must ensure appropriate, effective, ethical and safe delivery of patient care. The non-credentialed caregiver may be privileged to assist in the provision of patient care based on Written Objective Criteria. In situations where custom fabricated post-mastectomy items are being provided, the initial patient evaluation, formulation of the treatment plan and the final fitting and delivery must be done under Direct Supervision (see Supervision Matrix below). For all other levels of care, the non-credentialed caregiver may be privileged under Indirect Supervision, where the Supervisor must be available for consultation throughout the patient care process.

The post-mastectomy patient care services provided by the non-credentialed caregiver must not exceed ABC's defined scope of practice for Mastectomy Fitters.

The Supervisor must review the results of care and the documentation of the services rendered by the non-credentialed caregiver and is responsible for countersigning within 15 days all entries by the caregiver in the patient's clinical record. The supervisor is responsible for all acts performed by the privileged individual.

### **Supervision Matrix for Custom Fabricated Post-Mastectomy Care**

<b>Domain</b>	<b>Non-Credentialed Caregiver</b>
Patient Evaluation	Direct
Formulation of Treatment Plan	Direct
Implementation of Treatment Plan	Indirect
Final Fitting and Delivery	Direct
Follow-up Care	Indirect

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## Supervision

### Direct Supervision

Requires the supervising credentialed Mastectomy Fitter to be available in real time for consultation throughout the patient care process and to be able to assess the care being provided by visual means (i.e., physically present, live video, web cam, or by other means of live visual technology). The supervisor must review the results of care and the documentation of the services rendered by the supervised individual and is responsible for countersigning within 15 days all entries by the caregiver in the patient's clinical record.

### Indirect Supervision

Does not require the supervising credentialed Mastectomy Fitter to be on site however they must be available for consultation throughout the patient care process. The supervisor must review the results of care and the documentation of the services rendered by the supervised individual and is responsible for countersigning within 15 days all entries in the patient's clinical record.

## Supervisor

The supervisor is the designated credentialed Mastectomy Fitter who oversees and is solely responsible for the delivery of appropriate, effective, ethical and safe post-mastectomy patient care. The supervisor may oversee patient care services only within their ABC defined scope of practice.

## Written Objective Criteria

Written objective criteria is the documentation describing how a privileged caregiver's ability to provide a specific patient care service has been assessed and verified. How the caregiver has gained the necessary knowledge and skills to be able to provide a specific patient care service must be clear and related to the diagnosis involved and the orthosis, prosthesis or pedorthic device being provided.

This documentation may take different forms including, but not limited to:

- Proof of completion of continuing education courses related to a particular diagnosis or device
- Documented in-house training/in-services that are specific to the patient care service that the caregiver is being privileged to provide
- Documented specific work experience participating in supervised patient care activities



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