

Frequently Asked Questions

Post Intervention Therapy (PIT) Funding

What is PIT funding?

Post Intervention Therapy is a brokerage fund available for additional physiotherapy services for children with Cerebral Palsy following orthopaedic surgery. PIT funding is top-up funding to allow therapists to work more closely with the child to assist in achieving the goals of the surgery in the post-acute period. The goals should be decided in collaboration with the surgeon, physiotherapist, the family and the child. PIT should *not* be used for ongoing management and monitoring, only for direct therapy related to intervention.

Who can receive PIT funding?

PIT funding is available to children who:

- are patients of a public hospital in Victoria, discharged in the past 30 days
- are aged 0-18 years and are residents of Victoria
- have a diagnosis of Cerebral Palsy (or a CP-like condition)
- have had orthopaedic surgery (soft tissue or bony).

Post-acute physiotherapy services for children following Botox, intrathecal baclofen pump and SDR are managed by the Victorian Paediatric Rehabilitation Service

How much funding is provided?

Funding is allocated based on a number of factors – including the intervention performed, the child's age, their functional abilities and the goals of the surgery. As all children are very different the amount of funding can be variable. Ensure you include all information on the application form and if you are unsure of how much to apply for contact the PIT Coordinator.

PIT is funded at a rate of \$120 per hour. PIT does not pay for therapists to travel for sessions; PIT is funding for direct patient contact. Some community physiotherapists will charge at a different rate or see a child for more or less than one hour at a time. Make sure you discuss with the family how the funding will be used and what this means regarding the number of sessions a child will receive. (For example, will you charge a gap, or will the child receive fewer or greater number of sessions).

How is PIT funding organised?

The child's regular community therapist will apply for funding following orthopaedic surgery. This will be reviewed and an amount approved by the PIT coordinator. If this therapist is unable to provide the therapy service they must source another private physiotherapist to refer the child to. If the therapist identifies that there are remaining goals directly related to the orthopaedic surgery, they should discuss with the PIT Co-ordinator if further funding is available. At the completion of the post-acute therapy services, regardless of whether all funding has been used, an Exit Summary should be sent to RCH@Home so the child can be discharged from the PIT service.

Does the application need to be sent before/after surgery?

Applications may be sent prior to surgery however the funding amount will not be assessed until after the surgery has occurred as the plans often do change. The PIT coordinator will place them in a pending folder and approve them as the

surgeries are done. Following the child's surgery the physiotherapist involved will contact the community therapist to provide a discharge summary and at this time PIT hours can be further discussed and the approval completed.

Can you leave sections blank? - e.g amount of additional hours.

The number of hours requested can be left blank. However, as each child's circumstance are always different it is helpful to provide as much information as possible and an approximate number of funding hours required to be able to make an accurate assessment of the PIT funding available. If the community therapist is unsure they should contact the PIT coordinator and discuss the child so that the appropriate hours are provided.

Other sections cannot be left blank. These details are essential for the form to be processed. The funding application will not be assessed if all information is not provided.

Where can queries be directed to?

Questions regarding the amount of funding and applications should be directed to the PIT Co-ordinator, Physiotherapy department (p. 9345 5411)

Questions regarding invoices, service agreements and exit summaries should be directed to the Administration Manager, RCH @ Home (p.9345 6562)