

27 July 2026

Provision of Bracing Services for Pectus Deformities

No.	Question	Response Format
1	Does your Trust/Health Board currently have an orthotics service?	Yes. Belfast Health and Social Care Trust has an orthotics service; however, it does not currently provide chest bracing or vacuum bell therapy for the treatment of pectus deformities
2	Does your Trust/Health Board provide bracing (chest brace and/or vacuum bell) for Pectus deformities?	No
3	If you answered Yes to Question 2: Does your service provide bracing for Pectus Carinatum, Pectus Excavatum, or both?	Not applicable
4	If you answered Yes to Question 2: Is the orthotics service responsible for the provision of the brace and/or vacuum bell?	Not applicable
5	If you answered No to Question 4: Which service is responsible for the provision of the brace and/or vacuum bell?	Belfast Health and Social Care Trust does not currently provide chest bracing or vacuum bell therapy for pectus deformities. Patients requiring consideration of these interventions are assessed by the Cardiothoracic Service and, where clinically appropriate, are referred to a specialist centre in Glasgow via the Extra Contractual Referral (ECR) process.
6	If you answered No to Question 2: Are there any plans for your Trust/Health Board to begin providing this service?	The Trust is considering options for the future development of a local pectus bracing service
7	Over the last 3 years, have you seen an increase in the number of referrals for bracing of Pectus conditions?	No increase has been identified from available records