

Coronary stents

A coronary stent is an artificial tube placed in the coronary artery to keep the vessel open.

There are 2 types of stents:

- **Bare metal stents:** a mesh-like metal stent
- **Drug-eluting stents:** a drug-coated metal stent that slowly releases a drug which prevents thickening and scarring of the blood vessel. This reduces the risk of needing another stent to be inserted.

These stents are covered up to the Scheme Rate for the specific stent type on the LA Comprehensive, LA Core, LA Active, LA Focus and LA KeyPlus benefit options.

The Scheme's preferred suppliers for Drug-eluting stents are:

- Baroque Medical
- Biotronik
- Meril Cardiology
- Medtronic
- SA Medical Services
- Terumo South Africa
- Boston Scientific

Bare-metal stents

The preferred supplier for bare-metal stents is Biotronik.

If your doctor uses a drug-eluting stent from one of these preferred suppliers, the cost of the stent will be covered in full up to the Scheme Rate for the stent type, which we call the reference price, and you will not have a co-payment.

If your doctor does not use a preferred supplier to obtain the stent, the Scheme only pays up to the reference price for the specific stent type, and you will need to pay any shortfall from your own pocket.

Please note that certain limits, treatment guidelines and clinical criteria apply to all in-hospital treatment and care, in line with the Scheme Rules. You must preauthorise your care in hospital.