



Do You Need a Splint?

Oftentimes a splint is recommended by the hand surgeons at New England Hand Associates in order to immobilize a joint or joints. A custom-made orthoplast splint might be recommended by your physician instead of a cast, based on the type and location of your injury. A splint helps maintain bone alignment and protects the injured area, just like a cast. The difference is that the splint can be removed for hygiene purposes and possibly exercise if prescribed/instructed by the physician and/or hand therapist.

How Much Will a Splint Cost?

Insurance companies and employers can change what they will reimburse for medical treatment and services, and what you as the patient are responsible to pay. Because of this, we cannot tell you exactly what your financial responsibility may be for your splint. The following points are important and should be considered by you:

- 1) It is your responsibility to understand the insurance benefits, co-payments, co-insurance and deductible amounts in your health plan. This information is readily available by calling the member services number on your insurance card or by referring to your member services directory.
- 2) Some insurance plans require the covered individual to pay 20% or more of the cost for the orthosis while other plans do not. If it is at the beginning of the calendar year, you may not have met your annual plan deductible, which means you might be responsible for more of the cost of your splint.
- 3) If you are concerned about the cost of your splint, please discuss it with your physician. He may be able to suggest other options to protect your joint.