

# Gender-Affirming Prosthetic Devices at OKC VAHCS

- **Surgical Compression Vests:** A surgical compression vest is used post-operatively to reduce post-surgical complications and to aid in the healing of nipple grafts. These devices are superior to “ace bandages” which can restrict breathing. For veterans who have had chest reconstruction surgery, Prosthetics and Sensory Aids Service (PSAS) may provide 3 surgical compression vests.
- **Breast Forms:** A breast form is a breast prosthesis that is held in place with a bra. Breast forms may be found medically necessary to alleviate ongoing gender dysphoria.
- **Dilators:** A vaginal dilator is a tube-shaped device that is used post-operatively to maintain the integrity and depth of the neovagina. The Veteran’s surgeon will suggest the appropriate dilators for postsurgical healing.
- **Gaffs:** A gaff is a device that is commonly used by transgender women, gender non-conforming individuals, and non-binary individuals to provide a flat genital contour. Veterans generally require 7 gaffs to be dispensed at one time. With typical use, Veterans generally require up to 14 gaffs annually.
- **Packers, STPs and Harnesses:** A packer is a penile prosthesis. Packers are held in place by specialized packing harnesses. A Stand-toPee (STP) device is an apparatus to allow transgender men, gender non-conforming individuals and non-binary individuals to urinate while standing. Veterans generally require 2 packers and 2 STP devices. All packers and STPs should be 100% silicone.
- **Chest Binders:** A chest binder is commonly used by transgender men, gender nonconforming individuals, and non-binary individuals to provide a flat chest contour. Veterans are eligible for 3 chest binders. A maximum of 6 can be provided annually, with a 6-month evaluation and new consultation.
- **Wigs:** For transgender women, if the Veteran has significant hair loss and her medical provider documents the medical necessity of a female style wig to support her identity and treatment plan, PSAS can provide a wig.

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