

Renting a Hospital-Grade Breast Pump

Tips for new mothers

This handout gives helpful information if you need to rent a hospital-grade breast pump.

We strongly recommend using a hospital-grade breast pump for establishing and maintaining a milk supply. This is important when infants are born preterm or cannot breastfeed well, either because they are hospitalized or there are other feeding issues.

- UWMC rents breast pumps from local companies. There is no breast pump rental in the hospital.
 - Local rental stores that deliver are **Apria** (425.881.8500) or **Nurturing Expressions** (206.763.2733).
 - If you are a military family, you must pick up your breast pump at the **Baby Boutique** in Tacoma (253.403.6081).
- **When you rent a breast pump, you will also need to return it.** The rental store will tell you where and when to return your pump. You may owe an extra fee if the breast pump is not returned on time.
- When the breast pump is delivered to the hospital, you will need your **ID** and **health insurance card** (and maybe a credit card). To make the delivery go smoothly, please keep these items with you when you go to the NICU to see your baby. That way the delivery service can deliver the pump directly to you in the NICU.
- Insurance coverage for hospital-grade breast pump rentals varies among insurance companies.
 - If you know before birth that your baby will be hospitalized, call your health insurance company to make sure you know what breast pump rental benefits are covered.



We strongly recommend using a hospital-grade breast pump if you have a baby who was born preterm, is hospitalized, or has other feeding issues.

- Most insurance companies cover hospital-grade breast pump rental costs only when there is a medical need. Call your insurance's customer service for specific information about your plan.
 - If your insurance does **not** cover the pump, you may choose to pay out of pocket. The cost ranges from \$55 to \$75 a month, or \$3 a day, to rent a hospital-grade breast pump.
 - If you need to use a breast pump **because of a medical condition** and:
 - **You are a patient staying at UWMC**, Lactation Services will provide a written prescription for your breast pump. We will order the pump and arrange for it to be delivered before you leave the hospital.
 - **You are not a patient staying at UWMC**, your primary care clinic will provide you with a prescription.
 - Call the pump rental company directly if you have billing questions or any problems with how the pump is working.
 - Please remember to take all the pumping supplies and equipment with you when you leave the hospital to go home. This includes tubing and the caps of the breast pump that are in your room. You will need these pieces for your rental pump. If you forget these things, you can buy them from the pump rental vendors.
 - WIC clients can borrow breast pumps:
 - When there is a medical need to use one
 - OR
 - If you return to work or school
- Please call your WIC office for more information.

Questions?

Your questions are important. Call your doctor or healthcare provider if you have questions or concerns. UWMC clinic staff are also available to help.

Lactation Services:
206.598.4628

Weekdays: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Weekends and holidays:
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.