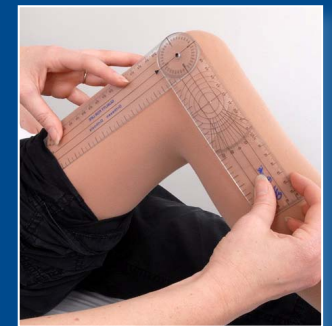


# What is an Orthotist?

Orthotists are registered healthcare professionals who specialise in the assessment of the whole body for biomechanical problems and if appropriate may prescribe, measure, fit, or review, an orthosis.

## What is an orthosis?

An orthosis is an externally applied device. It may also be called a 'brace', 'splint' or 'orthotic'. The purpose and design of an orthosis may change over time along with the changing needs of the patient. An orthosis can: improve function, reduce pain, prevent deformity.



If you want to find out more:

- NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (NHS QIS) - <http://www.nhshealthquality.org/nhsqis/2642.html>
- Education: National Centre for Prosthetics and Orthotics (University of Strathclyde) - <http://www.strath.ac.uk/prosthetics/>
- Education: University of Salford - <http://www.healthcare.salford.ac.uk/prosthetics/bschonsprostheticsorthotics>
- The British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists (BAPO) (Professional body) - <http://www.bapo.com/site/>
- The International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (ISPO) (International society) - <http://www.ispo.ws/>
- Health Professions Council (HPC) (Professional registration) - <http://www.hpc-uk.org/>

