

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.

The Scheme pays up to R10 330 per bare metal stent and up to R14 520 per drug eluting stent.

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

- Baroque Medical
- Biotronik
- Meril Cardiology
- Medtronic
- SA Medical Services
- Boston Scientific
- Vertice Healthcare

Bare-metal stents

The supplier for these stents is:

- Biotronik

If your doctor uses a drug-eluting stent from one of these preferred suppliers, the stent will be covered in full up to the specific Rand value 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 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 the Scheme applies benefit limits, Scheme rules, treatment guidelines and managed care criteria healthcare services and procedures in hospital