CT. Statute 38A542 stipulates that a commercial health insurance policy originating in Connecticut must provide one synthetic wig in a lifetime for a woman suffering from chemotherapy induced hair loss. An oncologist must write the prescription for a “cranial prosthesis” (HCPC code is S8095), which must accompany the bill, in order for insurance to cover the item. Maximum amount of coverage is $350.

Although most working people have wig coverage, this mandate does not mean there is universal coverage:

• Medicare does not provide any wig coverage.
• Healthnet Smartchoice (the Medicare HMO) does not provide wig coverage.
• “Self-funded” employers may or may not include coverage for wigs. If you disagree with their decision, you may appeal through your plan administrator (CC: to your employer). If all appeals are exhausted, you have the right to seek legal counsel and can file suit in federal court. The US Dept. of Labor (617-565-9600) can inform you of your rights.
• If the person’s insurance originates in any state other than CT, the patient may or may not have wig coverage. The coverage is based on individual policy, not on the CT law. Decisions disagreed with may be appealed.
• Deductibles and co-pays may apply.

Some stores will bill the insurance company directly.

**THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY (1-800-ACS-2345, (203) 379-4700 AND CANCER CARE (1-800-813-HOPE, (203 854-9911) HAVE WIGS THAT CAN BE OBTAINED FREE OF CHARGE.**

Ask your social worker about the next “Look Good…Feel Better” Program, a public service program, partnered by the American Cancer Society, the Cosmetic, Fragrance and Toiletry Association, the National Cosmetology Association and co-sponsored by Yale-New Haven Hospital and Yale Cancer
Center, where wigs and other head coverings as well as skin care and make-up are discussed.

For most women, selecting a wig is a mystery. To make the right choice, get to know what’s available:

**HAIR TYPES: SYNTHETIC OR “REAL”**
Synthetic and human hair wigs are equally durable and can both be matched to your own hair color and desired cut. Many women favor synthetic wigs, since they are easier to maintain, hold their set longer, dry faster after washing, and are far less expensive than “real hair” wigs. Hair varies from tough (low-end) to almost silky (high-end). At the same time, human hair win fans for natural feel and versatility; in fact, you can reset as often as real hair and touch-up using heat appliances (i.e., curling irons, blow dryers, etc.) that would melt a synthetic wig. Grade A human hair wigs (not Grade B, which are less resilient) can even be re-dyed or permed. However, since the added work required for human can become tiresome and pricey, many women prefer to go “low maintenance” with synthetic. It’s a highly personal decision.

**CONSTRUCTION: MACHINE-, HAND- OR CUSTOM-MADE**
Quality construction is a key factor in choosing any wig. A well-crafted, machine-made synthetic wig looks like your own hair and offers comfort-minded details, like a vented cap, at a reasonable price. Such mass-produced synthetic wigs perform better than some low quality human hair wigs, so it’s important to know what you are getting. High-quality, hand-made wigs look even more natural, since strands of hair are individually tied, allowing the wig to be parted and styled with hair accessories. Top-of-the-line, custom-made wigs – fit to your precise specifications – are the closest to your own hair, but cost a great deal and take several months to produce. To find reputable wig retailers and makers, contact the American Cancer Society or your hair stylist.

**OPTIONS: WIGS OR HAIRPIECES**
In addition to wigs, there are bangs, falls, ponytails and side pieces to wear with hats and head wraps. Such hairpieces are an option if you prefer not to wear a wig – or just don’t want to wear one every day. Attached to the inside of a hat or head wrap (usually with Velcro), the hairpiece falls naturally from beneath, providing the illusion of a full head of hair.
MORE SHOPPING TIPS

• When you shop for your wig, take a friend or family member for back-up. Try on multiple styles and types to be sure you select what’s best for you. Experts suggest choosing a lighter shade than your natural color for a face-brightening effect.

• When you purchase your wig, you may also want to pick up these supplies: wig caps, wig stand, wig shampoo, wig spray, wig conditioner, hair nets, hair pins, rollers, and a wire wig brush.

NEW HAVEN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Boutique</th>
<th>Smilow Cancer Hospital</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 York St.</td>
<td>Monday-Friday 9am-5pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Haven, CT 06510</td>
<td>Saturday – by appointment only</td>
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<tr>
<td>(203) 200-2273</td>
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<tr>
<th>Beauty Plus</th>
<th>827 Chapel St.</th>
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<td>20 York St.</td>
<td>New Haven, CT 06511</td>
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<td>Monday-Saturday 9-6pm; Thursday</td>
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<td>9-7pm</td>
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<td>(203) 776-9898</td>
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<tr>
<th>Pio of Italy Hair Studio</th>
<th>1118 Whalley Avenue</th>
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<tr>
<td>New Haven, CT</td>
<td>by appointment only</td>
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<tr>
<td>(203) 397-0200</td>
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CHESHIRE

| Lucinda’s Hair                  | 650 Highland Avenue             |
|---------------------------------| Cheshire, CT                    |
| M-Sat. 10-4 Tu-Thursday 10-7pm  | (203) 272-1585                  |

| Curchief Volunteer Center       | 286 Maple Avenue                |
|---------------------------------| Cheshire, CT                    |
| Non-profit organization         | (203) 699-1488                  |
| Monday, Wednesday, and Friday   | 3pm                             |
**EAST HAVEN**

*Hair to Eternity*
204 Kimberly Avenue  
East Haven, CT  
(203) 469-3173  
Tu-Friday 9am – 9pm  Sat. 9-am-6pm  (phone for appointment with fitter)

**EAST LYME**

*Pearl’s Wig Boutique*
313 Flanders Road  
East Lyme, CT 06333  
(860) 442-5555  
Wednesday-Friday-Saturday  10-5:30

**FAIRFIELD**

*Total Look*
2193 Black Rock Turnpike  
Fairfield, CT 06825  
(203) 367-4247

**GREENWICH**

*Angelo & Anita Wig & Hair Replacement Center*
23 West Putnam Avenue  
Greenwich, CT 06830  
(203) 869-1234  
Thursday, Friday, Saturday for wigs  by appointment only

**HAMDEN**

*Richard Penna Salon*
2456 Whitney Avenue  
Hamden, CT  
(203) 281-4345  
Tu-Saturday  8:30-4:30  
Thursday – open until 7:30pm

**HARTFORD**

*FABI of Rome Hair Replacement Center*
173 Oakwood Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
(860) 571-0057

**MILFORD**

*Carolyn’s Infinity Hair*
544 Boston Post Road  
Milford, CT 06460  
(203) 874-6300
NORTH HAVEN

Wig Towne
117 Washington Avenue
North Haven, CT 06473   Tu-Sat 10-5:30    Thursday 10-7pm
(203) 239-2480

Hair Replacement Concepts
266 Quinnipiac Avenue
North Haven, CT 06473   Call for appointment
(203) 915-1271

OLD SAYBROOK

Just Wigs
341 Boston Post Road
Old Saybrook, CT 06470  Tuesday-Thursday-Friday 10-4pm
(860) 395-1051   Wednesday and Friday 10-3

ORANGE

Saxon Kent
185 Boston Post Road
Orange, CT 06477    M-F 10-5:30; Thurs. 10-7pm
(203) 795-3682    Sat 10-4pm

Paula’s Wig Boutique
501 Boston Post Road
Orange, CT 06477   Tues.-Fri. 10:30-5pm
(203) 799-8510   Sat. 10:30-4pm

SOUTHPORT

Total Look
3482 Boston Post Road
Southport, CT 06890
(203) 255-9510

STAMFORD

Gloria’s Beauty Supply Boutique
27 Main Street
Stamford, CT 06901
(203) 359-9719
**Trumbull**

**Anthony’s Wigs & Hairpieces**
Hawley Lane Mall
Trumbull, CT 06611  M-F 9:30-8:30pm  Sat. 9-5pm
(203) 377-2084  By appointment only

**Waterbury**

**Tonkins Wigs**
384 Stillson Road
Waterbury, CT 06705  Tu-Fri  10-5pm  Sat. 10-4pm
(203) 753-1355  (appointments made after hours)

**West Hartford**

**FABI of Rome Hair Replacement Center**
173 Oakwood Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06119  By appointment only
(860) 571-0057