

Alberta Aids to Daily Living

Bulletin #114

Exceptional COVID oxygen funding and Philips recall of Positive Airway Pressure (PAP) devices and ventilators

Exceptional COVID oxygen funding

Effective August 9, 2021, exceptional oxygen funding due to COVID will be discontinued. Oxygen funding criteria are published in the Respiratory Benefits Program Manual located here: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/aadl-program-manual-r>

Exceptional oxygen funding was introduced because of COVID restrictions. Because these restrictions have now been lifted and out-patient clinics have reopened, the need for exceptional funding due to COVID is no longer required.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation during the past 16 months as conditions changed and the need to adapt quickly was needed.

Please contact Elizabeth French, Respiratory Program Manager, for more information:

Elizabeth.French@gov.ab.ca, fax 780-422-0968 or 780-424-0432.

Philips recall of PAP devices and ventilators

The Canadian Thoracic Society recently published a position statement to help guide therapy for clients who have affected devices. The statement is located here: https://cts-sct.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/CTS_CSS_CSRT-Phillips-Recall-Statement_final-07_09_21.pdf

Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL), in collaboration with its stakeholders, is monitoring the recall process to determine next steps. We are waiting for further information from Philips.

While oxygen therapy is not an alternative to Bilevel Positive Airway Pressure (BPAP) therapy and does not replace PAP therapy, AADL may consider an exceptional funding request for oxygen from a respirologist. If a respirologist determines the risk of continued BPAP therapy (on a Philips device) outweighs the benefit of continued use on a Philips BPAP machine, a funding request can be submitted. This request will only be considered when an alternative brand of BPAP is unavailable.

<https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-aids-to-daily-living.aspx>

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