

Notice of AADL updates effective October 1, 2016

Wheeled Commodes and Bathlifts

Wheeled commodes, shower commodes and bathlifts are changing to a benchmark model effective October 1, 2016 and will be updated and posted on the AADL website under Manual G - Large Bathing and Toileting Benefits.

In response to numerous Director Appeals related to wheeled commodes and shower commodes, AADL is changing these benefits to a benchmark model. Benefit catalogue numbers and generic descriptions have been developed to meet a broad range of toileting and bathing needs, opening up choices for clients, authorizers and vendors.

AADL will no longer order this large equipment; instead, authorizers will forward the vendor copy of the authorization directly to the vendor who will provide the equipment once confirmed on E-business.

Please refer to the updated list of AADL Approved Vendors for Large Bathing and Toileting Benefits.

These vendors are able to complete small repairs to this equipment on their premises and agreed to carry common replacement parts. Common parts that typically require replacement before the equipment quantity and frequency limit have been added as separate benefit codes. Clients will be responsible for regular maintenance and repairs outside these common parts.

Thank you to all the stakeholders who provided feedback and consultation on this change.



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Mobility/Large Equipment

Approved Product Lists - Wheelchairs and Lifters

AADL completed the annual product evaluation on Wheelchairs and Lifters. The Approved Product Lists W-APL and L-APL will be updated October 1, 2016 to reflect pricing increases, and discontinued and new products.

Two new products have been added to the W-APL: the Ottobock Smart 5 Pediatric Wheelchair and the My Life Health Avenger Tilt Adult Wheelchair. Both these products were trialed and evaluated in-house by AADL and by therapists in the field with positive feedback. The Smart 5 provides another choice for Category A pediatric clients who may not be self-propelling, while the Avenger Tilt provides another choice in tilt wheelchairs with lower or no upgrade costs associated with other tilts on the program.

AADL has discontinued the Ranger line of Power Wheelchairs, however, these may still be available from the Recycle program.

Contact Rick Fakeley at AADL if you are interested in finding out if there is one that meets your client's needs in recycle. Ranger informed AADL they will be providing training to AADL vendors in the near future so vendor technicians can provide service and parts for Ranger Wheelchairs already in use. Sunrise is discontinuing the Quickie GT manual wheelchair, effective January 1, 2017.



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We appreciate your feedback:

Let us know what you would like us to address in The Newsletter.

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AADL reviewed the Lifters on the L-APL and continues to work with the manufacturers to resolve outstanding issues. Effective October 1, 2016, the Overhead Lifters will include the Humancare Altair, the Rise Porto, and the Arjo Voyageur. The Arjo Voyageur with a client upcharge has been put back on the program. Prism's Waverly Glen P440 was redesigned and has to be re-evaluated before being considered for the next Approved Product List update, however, these may still be available in the recycle pool. Contact AADL to find out if one is available that meets your client's needs.

The Pediatric Approved Product List was included in the annual product evaluations and is anticipated to be ready for updates January 1, 2017. Summer months tend to be quiet for pediatric therapists and AADL is committed to ensuring pediatric authorizers in a variety of settings have an opportunity to trial the products being considered.

AADL will be holding two Q&A sessions for authorizers and vendors to discuss the changes to the Mobility and Large Equipment Approved Product Listing and the benchmark model. If you have questions or need clarification please register for one of the sessions on September 15th at 1pm or September 21st at 9 am. Contact Andrea to register at andrea.waywanko@gov.ab.ca.

Save a tree: we encourage you to bookmark and use the online version of the AADL Program Manual at www.health.alberta.ca/services/AADL-program-manual.html.

Seating

Seating Approved Product List (APL) Updates



AADL has been working with Alberta Health Services seating experts to develop the new Seating Benefits policy manual, Approved Product List and supporting forms. These changes will come into effect on October 1, 2016.

The documents are available by request for you to review prior to the implementation. Please email Terri Gaunt at terri.gaunt@gov.ab.ca to request the documentation.

Wheelchair Accessories (V) and Seating Benefits (X) are being combined into one manual. The new APL will utilize generic catalogue numbers with benchmark prices. Equipment approved using the generic catalogue numbers must meet the minimum standards and be provided from an approved manufacturer

Seating Benefits Changes

As of October 1, 2016, AADL is combining Wheelchair Accessories (V) and Seating Benefits (X), into one benefit area. There will be a new Approved Product List (APL) and Program Manual.

As part of the changes, AADL is restructuring the APL. All catalogue numbers are now categorized based on a "level" of seating. Each level corresponds to the level of clinical need. Clients with more complex seating needs will be eligible for more complex seating benefits. Clients who have more basic needs will be eligible for basic seating equipment.

The three Seating Needs Levels are:

- Level A – Basic Seating
- Level B – Specialized Seating
- Level C – Complex Seating

The new APL is a benchmark model. This means all catalogue numbers have a generic description with a price maximum. A client is eligible to receive up to the maximum amount for the benefits within their level. Clients may choose to upgrade equipment if the cost exceeds the maximum listed in the APL. However, all clients should be able to receive appropriate equipment to meet their basic needs, without an upgrade.

Are any benefits being added or removed from the approved product list?

No. All current AADL wheelchair accessory and seating benefits will remain on the APL. The new APL has been designed to match the client's level of need with an appropriate level of seating equipment. Clients with basic needs will have access to equipment designed to meet basic seating needs. Clients with complex needs will have access to complex equipment designed to meet complex seating needs.

The categories will be different from the existing AADL benefit lists. For instance, wheelchair cushions designed to meet specialized or complex needs are not available at the basic level. However, head supports designed to meet basic needs are available at the basic level. Previously all head supports were restricted to seating clinics. There are many other examples of this type of restructuring in the APL. You can review the APL to learn which types of products are available within each level.

What happens to the old catalogue numbers after October 1?

For authorizations with assessment dates PRIOR to October 1, you will continue to use the previous catalogue numbers. Contact AADL if there are any issues creating authorizations or claims.

For authorizations with assessment dates on or after October 1, you will use the new catalogue numbers.