

### Medical-Surgical Benefits Updates

#### Upcoming Policy Updates

Here are some highlights. Policy updates will be effective November 15, 2015.

#### **Manual “D” Breast Prostheses**

- ◆ Two new manufactures have been approved by AADL:
  - ◆ Anita
  - ◆ Lisa B Originals;
- ◆ Specialty Fitters must provide AADL with a copy of their accreditation to fit breast prosthetics every three years;
- ◆ The fitting form has been updated; and
- ◆ You are now required to send in a copy of the client fitting form to AADL with the client’s signature.

Reminder:

- ◆ Check for authorizations in the system prior to creating a claim.
- ◆ Indicate when the client requires bilateral prosthetics in the electronic file.

#### **Manual “N” and “T” Compression Garments**

- ◆ **Important:** there will be updated values for the compression, ABPI 0.8-1.3, with TBPI 0.7 or greater, PPG 50MMHG Note specific criteria in policies N-03 and T-03.
- ◆ The Client may now be authorized for up to four years.
- ◆ Nurse practitioners can now write prescriptions for compression garments when a prescription is required.
- ◆ Revised classification system- CEAP. Please review the updated policies for further information. Authorizations will be accepted for CEAP 4 and 5 and Lymphedema. Continue to code clients 30, 31 or 34. Clients must continue to have hemosiderin staining to qualify for below knee compression garments.
- ◆ New lower leg assessment form has been created.

Reminder:

If you are a Certified Lymphedema Therapist (CLT) or Specialty Assessor (SA), you must indicate this on the 1250 or change form. AADL will send forms back when the authorizer has not provided their designation.



AADL will host two Q&A teleconference sessions on Monday November 9, 2015 regarding Compression Garments (for authorizers and vendors) from 9:00 am to 10:00 am and Breast Protheses (for authorizers only) from 10:30 am to 11:30 am.

Please Note:

Enrollment is restricted to 40 participants, on a first-come, first-served basis. If you wish to attend, please contact Ms. Andrea Waywanko at [andrea.waywanko@gov.ab.ca](mailto:andrea.waywanko@gov.ab.ca). You will then be sent the teleconference ID# and password one week prior to the session. Please submit any program-specific questions to Ms. Waywanko ahead of time.

To help facilitate and expedite our data entry, please follow these guidelines:

- ◆ When leaving messages; please include the clients name and PHN or authorization number.
- ◆ AADL may only extend authorizations with a client or authorizer request AND when:
  - ◆ The existing authorization is up to three months past expiration; **and**
  - ◆ The client has booked a reassessment appointment; **and**
  - ◆ The client has been using the product consistently over the past two years.
- ◆ Please continue to ensure that all of the paper work is filled out to avoid the return of authorizations and change forms. Missing or incorrect information can cause unnecessary delays to the client and create more work for authorizers, vendors and AADL.
- ◆ Visit the AADL website for information regarding benefits, vendors, authorizer requirements and a variety of other topics. <http://www.health.alberta.ca/services/aids-to-daily-living.html>

You can email our AADL Medical-Surgical Benefit Clerks at:

- ◆ [debby.baumann@gov.ab.ca](mailto:debby.baumann@gov.ab.ca)  
(Clients with the last name A-L)
- ◆ [penny.porta@gov.ab.ca](mailto:penny.porta@gov.ab.ca)  
(Clients with the last name M-Z)

Thanks so much to all of you who work for the clientele that we are all privileged to serve. Faxes can be sent to 780-422-0968. Voice messages and emails are checked daily.

## Vendors

Advise clients that:

- ◆ They are responsible for all upcharges - this includes clients on AISH or any other income support program (remind them prior to the point of sale).
- ◆ Vendors cannot contact AADL on their behalf to request an extension of their authorization; this must be done by the authorizer or the client when the client has booked an assessment.
- ◆ Authorizations expire and must be renewed as per AADL policy. It is the client's responsibility to schedule their reassessment.
- ◆ Clients must complete the "AADL Request for Advanced Quantities Of Medical Surgical Supplies" at least one month prior to leaving the country. AADL cannot extend quantities for out-of-country requests by telephone.

## Authorizers

- ◆ Contact your client's vendor to review client's past usage prior to sending a Change form or Reassessment letter to AADL.
- ◆ Clients with current authorizations who do not use product on a regular basis will require a full reassessment prior to any further funding by AADL.
- ◆ To update your contact information email Debbie Sykora at [Debbie.sykora@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Debbie.sykora@gov.ab.ca).
- ◆ A revised correction/change form is available at <https://cfr.forms.gov.ab.ca/form/aadl1713.pdf>.