

# Alberta Aids to Daily Living Bulletin

# #169

## Policy updates: Respiratory benefits

As a result of the ongoing collaboration between Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL) and Alberta's respiratory vendors, represented by the Respiratory Homecare Association of Alberta, AADL will be making the following changes to its respiratory benefits policy to help ensure more efficient access to funding and benefits for AADL clients.

The policy changes will come into effect as of April 15, 2024. AADL will publish an updated version of [Alberta Aids to Daily Living Policy Manual Section R – Respiratory Benefits](#) to reflect the changes.

## Policy updates

### Handwritten oximetry reports

AADL will now accept handwritten oximetry reports under the following conditions:

- RH1, RE2, RH6 (new); when an ABG is submitted with the authorization
- Long-term funding authorizations: RH6 (ext), EOT (ext), RH3 (ext), ND (ext),
- Nocturnal desaturation authorizations: ND (new) – PH, ND (new) – SDB, NDS

These changes are outlined in Policy R – 08 of [Alberta Aids to Daily Living Policy Manual Section R – Respiratory Benefits](#). Details on the criteria for handwritten oximetry reports can be found in Appendix 1.

AADL will continue to accept computer-generated oximetry reports.

### Frequency of assessments for long-term funding

AADL is updating its policy to allow respiratory clients receiving long-term funding (RH6 (ext), RH3 (ext), NDS, EOT (ext), ND (ext)) to be assessed on a yearly basis, as opposed to every six months. Registered respiratory therapists may choose to perform more frequent assessments, if necessary, based on client needs.

### Support for telehealth assessments

AADL will now allow in-person, telephone or virtual respiratory assessments, as opposed to in-person only. Registered respiratory therapists have the authority to decide what type of assessment is most appropriate, based on client need and situation.

## More information

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