

Information regarding Alberta Aids to Daily Living Amplification Benefits

Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL) is in the process of transferring the administration of authorizations and claims of AADL amplification benefits to Alberta Blue Cross. Amplification benefits include hearing aids, bone anchored hearing devices and cochlear implants.

Alberta Blue Cross is Alberta's largest benefit provider and provides health and dental benefits to more than 1.6 million Albertans. As an Alberta-based, not-for-profit organization, Alberta Blue Cross has a unique legislative mandate to promote and support the health and wellness of Albertans. Since 1970, Alberta Blue Cross has worked closely with the Government of Alberta to administer their health benefit programs and develop a number of customized processes that represent many of the best practices in health benefit administration today.

What is changing?

- ◆ Alberta Blue Cross will be processing authorizations and claims for AADL amplification benefits.
- ◆ Service delivery will be improved by using Alberta Blue Cross technology to streamline the authorization of benefits.
- ◆ A new web-based submission system will be developed for Assessors, Specialty Suppliers and distributors.
- ◆ Once the transition is complete, the Alberta Blue Cross Provider Call Centre will be the first point of contact for all questions pertaining to AADL amplification benefits.
- ◆ Specialty Suppliers who currently have agreements with AADL will be invited to sign new agreements with Alberta Blue Cross.

What is staying the same?

- ◆ AADL amplification benefit eligibility and program policy will not be impacted by this change.
- ◆ AADL will continue to provide leadership for the amplification benefits.
- ◆ AADL will continue to have sole responsibility for all aspects of policy direction and governance for amplification benefits.
- ◆ AADL will maintain a process for appeals and reviews of quantity and frequency limits.

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Next steps

- ◆ In the coming months AADL will be working closely with Alberta Blue Cross to design the new web portal.
- ◆ AADL will be hosting a teleconference Q&A session for current Specialty Suppliers of AADL **hearing aid benefits** on Tuesday March 20, 2018 at 9:00 am. Please contact Andrea at andrea.waywanko@gov.ab.ca with your Specialty Supplier number to register. Dial in information will be provided prior to the session.
- ◆ AADL will be reaching out to clinicians, Specialty Suppliers and distributors to gather feedback throughout the process. AADL will also be contacting stakeholders connected with Cochlear Implants and Bone Anchored Hearing Devices.