

Alberta Aids to Daily Living

Bulletin #81

Additional Alberta Aids to Daily Living (AADL) respiratory benefits criteria adjustments

AADL Funding Criteria Changes

As the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic unfolds, AADL has adjusted funding criteria for new oxygen starts and for reauthorizations.

These changes were shared with our Specialty Suppliers on Tuesday, March 17, 2020. Specific instructions were sent to them so they can process funding requests. As workload may change at Alberta Health Services (AHS) Acute Care and Community sites, AADL does not want to add to the burden of testing for Respiratory Benefits.

If Arterial Blood Gases are unavailable, oximetry showing hypoxemia will be accepted.

Pulmonary Function Tests, Spirometry, and Polysomnography (PSGs) will not be required for funding, at this time.

We have reviewed Exertional Oxygen requirements and are making the following funding exceptions:

- Client is not hypoxic at rest (no change from current policy)
- Funding is given for 3 months:
 - o If client desaturates to <80% on exertion
 - Desaturation is not due to artifact
 - o If client is being discharged from hospital or Respiriologist clinic

We will give exceptional funding for a period of time. These funding periods will be reassessed continually and will be adjusted accordingly, based on Medical Health Officer and AHS recommendations and facility availability.