

Alberta Aids to Daily Living

Bulletin #62

Update to Respiratory Benefit Program Policy Manual and Approved Product List (APL)

The AADL Respiratory Policy and Procedure Manual and APL will be updated effective October 1, 2018 as part of the transition of authorization and claims processing to Alberta Blue Cross.

These updates were made in discussions between AADL, Alberta Health Services and Alberta Blue Cross to streamline claiming and authorization processes and to benefit clients, providers and healthcare practitioners.

The policy manual has been updated throughout to reflect the Alberta Blue Cross's role in administrative procedures.

All changes to the APL will be highlighted. The most significant changes are summarized below:

Rolling Start Date for Quantity and Frequency Limits

Quantity and frequency limits for most benefits will have a floating flexible start date, instead of following a fixed benefit year. The frequency period will start on the first date of service claimed. For example, if a client is authorized for 12 benefits per year and their first date of service is August 15, 2018, they will be eligible to receive a total of 12 total of those benefits on or before August 14, 2019. Benefit year will still be used for legacy BPAP supplies, ventilator supplies and suction catheters.

Per Diem Billing

Service and equipment fees for oxygen (ongoing) and BPAP (initiation/reinstruction and ongoing) will

be claimed on a per diem basis instead of by month. For example, a full month of service in November 1, 2018 will be claimed as per diem rate times 30 (November has 30 days).

Quantity maximums for per diem benefits will be equal to the number of days in the authorization term.

NOTE: The per diem rates were calculated by multiplying AADL's monthly flat fees by 12 months and dividing by 365 days. **Total annual compensation will not be affected.**

Increased Quantity for Oxygen Restarts

Maximum quantity for oxygen restarts (catalogue numbers R931 and R932) will increase from one to two per year.

Contact Information

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The Respiratory Policy Manual and APL will be posted [here](#) on the AADL website. **Please note these changes will not be in effect until October 1, 2018.**

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Q&A Sessions

AADL, Alberta Health Services and Alberta Blue Cross will be hosting two one-hour Q&A sessions in September to answer any questions about the transition. You may register for one of the sessions by emailing Andrea Waywanko at

andrea.waywanko@gov.ab.ca

Session dates are September 11 at 9:00am or September 14 at 1:30pm