

## Memorandum

**To:** ADP-Registered Vendors for Home Oxygen Therapy

**From:** David Schachow, Interim Director, Assistive Devices Program

**Date:** August 17, 2020

**Subject:** **COVID-19 Pandemic – Home Oxygen Therapy**

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In April, the Assistive Devices Program (ADP) implemented several temporary changes to the policies governing funding assistance for home oxygen therapy. In order to continue supporting ADP-registered vendors, the ADP is making additional temporary changes.

- 1. The ADP will extend to August 31, 2020 any ADP-approved claim with a funding period end-date of March 12, 2020 to August 30, 2020. This includes claims that at the time of the first extension of the ADP-funding period:**
  - the application had not been submitted to the ADP; or
  - the application had not been adjudicated.

ADP-registered vendors that have applications that have not yet been sent to the ADP and where the funding period end-date would fall within the dates specified above, must submit the application to the ADP by August 31, 2020.

- 2. For claims extended to August 31, 2020, if based on the original funding period end-date, the vendor completed a renewal application, including testing to confirm eligibility, the ADP will accept the original application with original testing. New testing to confirm eligibility is not required.**

If the ADP-registered vendor has submitted the renewal application to the ADP, and the ADP has denied the application as an early renewal, the vendor is instructed to resubmit the application, with the following message recorded on the renewal application:

*Funding extended to August 31, 2020. Resubmitting the application with test dates based on the original funding period end-date.*

If the ADP-registered vendor has not submitted the renewal application, the vendor is instructed to submit the application to the ADP.

If the ADP approves the ADP-funded client's renewal application for continued funding, the end date of the next funding period will be based on the August 31, 2020 end date.

Upon receiving the renewal applications, the ADP will hold processing these applications until after August 31, 2020.

**3. The ADP has implemented temporary re-assessment periods for claims where the ADP extended the funding period end-date to August 31, 2020.**

**Initial 90-Day Funding Period:** For clients who have completed their initial 90-day funding period, including the 90-day funding period for palliative care, the testing to confirm eligibility must be completed on or prior to December 31, 2020.

**9-Month/12-Month Funding Period:** For clients who have completed their 9-month or 12-month funding period, the testing to confirm eligibility must be completed on or prior to March 31, 2021.

**Client Meets the Medical Eligibility Criteria:** For clients who demonstrate that they continue to meet the medical eligibility criteria; and the testing to confirm eligibility is completed within the temporary re-assessment period, the new funding period will begin on September 1, 2020.

If the testing to confirm eligibility is completed outside the temporary re-assessment period, there will be a gap in funding.

**Client Does Not Meet the Medical Eligibility Criteria:** For clients who demonstrate that they do not meet the medical eligibility criteria, and the testing to confirm eligibility is completed within the temporary re-assessment period, funding will be provided until the date of re-assessment.

**Example:**

<i>current funding period ends:</i>	<i>August 31, 2020</i>
<i>designated re-assessment period ends:</i>	<i>December 31, 2020</i>
<i>date of oximetry study:</i>	<i>October 14, 2020</i>
<i>client meets the medical eligibility criteria:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>funding assistance provided to the following date:</i>	<i>October 14, 2020</i>

For these clients, the ADP-registered vendor **must submit** the renewal application to receive funding to the date of re-assessment.

If the testing to confirm eligibility is completed outside the temporary re-assessment period, funding will end August 31, 2020.

- 4. For clients, whose funding period end date has been extended to August 31, 2020, exhibit exertional hypoxemia and are submitting their 3<sup>rd</sup> and final application (12-month), the ADP will accept an exercise assessment performed by the vendor, if the Vendor Exercise Assessment is completed prior to or on March 31, 2021, and is followed up by an Independent Exercise Assessment.**

For clients who have completed their 12-month funding period, the Vendor Exercise Assessment must be completed on or prior to March 31, 2021.

**Client Meets the Medical Eligibility Criteria:** For clients who demonstrate that they continue to meet the medical eligibility criteria (based on the results of the IEA) and the Vendor Exercise Assessment is completed within the temporary re-assessment period, the new funding period will begin on September 1, 2020.

If the Vendor Exercise Assessment is completed outside the temporary re-assessment period, there will be a gap in funding.

**Client Does Not Meet the Medical Eligibility Criteria:** For clients who demonstrate that they do not meet the medical eligibility criteria (based on the results of the IEA), and the Vendor Exercise Assessment is completed within the temporary re-assessment period, funding will be provided until the date of Vendor Exercise Assessment.

**Example:**

<i>current funding period ends:</i>	<i>August 31, 2020</i>
<i>designated re-assessment period ends:</i>	<i>March 31, 2021</i>
<i>date of vendor exercise assessment:</i>	<i>January 15, 2021</i>
<i>client meets the medical eligibility criteria:</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>funding assistance provided to the following date:</i>	<i>January 15, 2021</i>

For these clients, the ADP-registered vendor **must submit** the renewal application to receive funding to the date of re-assessment.

If the Vendor Exercise Assessment is completed outside the temporary re-assessment period, funding will end August 31, 2020

5. **To facilitate ADP-registered vendors continuing to provide home oxygen therapy to ADP-funded clients whose funding expires on August 31, 2020 and the client's on-going need for oxygen therapy is being re-assessed, ADP-registered vendors will continue to receive regularly scheduled payments, which will be reconciled against approved applications.**

For claims that end after the August 31, 2020 date:

- Until the end of the approved funding period, ADP-registered vendors **will continue** to invoice the ADP as per current ADP policies and procedures.
- All ADP policies and procedures governing the renewal of funding assistance continue to apply, including the designated re-assessment periods.

For claims that end on August 31, 2020:

- The ADP-registered vendor **cannot invoice** the ADP as per current ADP policies and procedures.
- The ADP will continue to provide ADP-registered vendors with regularly scheduled payments.
- **These advance payments for claims that expire on August 31, 2020, will be reconciled against approved applications after December 31, 2020 and March 31, 2021.**

The amount of the regularly scheduled payment provided by the ADP **will be the amount recommended by each ADP-registered vendor** and based on their assessment of the following:

- the number of applications scheduled to end on August 31, 2020;
- the type of funding period; and
- the length of the temporary re-assessment period.

ADP-registered vendors must provide the ADP with the recommended amount for their schedule payment by August 31, 2020.

All questions related to this memorandum should be sent to: [adpvendors@ontario.ca](mailto:adpvendors@ontario.ca).

Thank you for your continued commitment and service to Ontarians during this pandemic.

(original signed by)

David Schachow