

 Government of Saskatchewan	<b>Policy &amp; Procedure Manual</b>	<b>Status:</b>	Current
			<b>Last updated:</b>
		<b>Page:</b>	1
<b>Section:</b>	<b>Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch</b>		
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Program (SAIL) General Policies</b>		

## **INTENT**

The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Program (SAIL) of the Ministry of Health was established in 1975 to provide benefits that assist people with physical disabilities achieve a more active and independent lifestyle and to assist people in the management of certain chronic health conditions.

The SAIL program is comprised of 14 sub-programs. Several of these programs are universal benefits and offer services to people who require them while the remaining programs are considered to be special benefit programs meaning a qualified applicant must meet specific program eligibility criteria before receiving benefits.

### Universal Benefit Programs

- Prosthetics and Orthotics Program
- Special Needs Equipment Program
- Therapeutic Nutritional Products Program
- Respiratory Equipment Program
- Home Oxygen Program
- Children's Enteral Feeding Pump Program
- Compression Garment Program

### Special Benefit Programs

- Paraplegia Program
- Cystic Fibrosis Program
- Chronic End-Stage Renal Disease
- Ostomy Program
- Haemophilia Program
- Aids to the Blind
- Saskatchewan Insulin Pump Program

## **PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

- To provide people with physical disabilities and certain chronic health conditions a basic level of coverage for disability related equipment, devices, products, and supplies in a cost effective and timely manner based on assessed need or defined criteria.
- To help offset the cost of, and improve the affordability of, disability supports.
- To ensure easy access to benefits for people with disabilities by maintaining effective co-ordination with health professionals and provider agencies in the community and institutions.
- To help facilitate discharge from hospital so that people can return to their homes.
- To ensure appropriate and reasonable use of SAIL benefits.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

For all SAIL programs, clients must:

1. Be a resident of Saskatchewan\*;
2. Possess a valid Saskatchewan Health Services Number;
3. Be referred for service by an authorized health care professional;
4. Unless pre-authorized by Saskatchewan Health, the service must be obtained in Saskatchewan; and
5. Not be eligible to receive the service from any other agency of government such as Saskatchewan Government Insurance, Worker's Compensation Board, Health Canada (Non-Insured Health Benefits Program) or Veterans Affairs Canada.

\* Newcomers to the province from other parts of Canada may receive health services coverage on the first day of the third calendar month following the date of establishing residence in Saskatchewan. SAIL has no reciprocal agreements with other jurisdictions for provision of interim coverage.

Special classes of newcomers from outside Canada such as landed immigrants, student visa holders, and returning Canadian citizens or residents, may receive health services coverage from the date they establish residence. For further information, contact Saskatchewan Health Registration.

Students who are residents of another Canadian province who enter Saskatchewan to attend an educational institution are not eligible for SAIL or other health services benefits in Saskatchewan. Such persons are eligible for benefits from their home province and should maintain coverage with that province.

### **Temporary Absence from Saskatchewan**

Permanent residents may remain insured during their absence provided they spend a minimum of six (6) months each year in the province. In certain circumstances, residents may remain insured while absent for up to one year provided they intend to return to live in Saskatchewan. For further information, contact Saskatchewan Health Registration.

Saskatchewan students in full time attendance at an educational institution elsewhere and who intend to return to reside in Saskatchewan are eligible for SAIL and other health services benefits providing that their residency status is accordingly registered with Saskatchewan Health Registration.

### **Establishing Residence Elsewhere**

For the period a resident retains a valid Health Services Number after they have left the province, eligibility for most SAIL benefits will continue. SAIL has no reciprocal agreements with other jurisdictions for provision of interim coverage. For further information contact SAIL.

## **COVERAGE LIMITATIONS**

There are limits to the types of equipment available, the frequency of equipment replacement and the quantities of some supplies. See detailed information in the program descriptions.

## **BENEFIT APPEAL PROCESS**

Appeals should be made in writing and forwarded to:

Director – Client Services, Extended Benefits and Policy Unit  
Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch  
3475 Albert Street  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4S 6X6

## **EQUIPMENT LOAN POLICIES**

Selected mobility, environmental, respiratory and other specialized rehabilitation equipment may be requisitioned by designated requisitioning authorities for eligible beneficiaries on a loan basis for as long as the equipment is required. Such equipment must be returned to SAIL or the SAIL designated supplier whenever a beneficiary:

- Has equipment replaced
- No longer needs the equipment
- Moves out of Saskatchewan
- Becomes otherwise ineligible for the benefit.

### **Equipment Return**

Loan equipment may be returned to or collected by an authorized service provider. For further information please contact the Saskatchewan Abilities Council depot or respiratory equipment depot serving your area or SAIL.

### **Transferral**

Equipment is loaned on the basis of specific individual need and cannot be transferred from one beneficiary to another without the approval of SAIL or its designate.

### **Maintenance and Repair**

Maintenance and repair of loaned equipment is provided by SAIL or a SAIL designated supplier without charge to the beneficiary. The maintenance and repair of beneficiary owned equipment is not a benefit of the program.

## **BACKDATING CLAIMS**

Claims will only be honoured if received within one year of the date of service. Claims received outside of the one year will not be reimbursed.

## OUT OF PROVINCE COVERAGE

Out of province coverage for benefits received in other provinces and territories and outside of Canada is summarized below. Payments do not exceed the rates paid in Saskatchewan. The cost of drugs purchased outside of Canada is never reimbursed.

<b>Program</b>	<b>Coverage in other provinces/territories</b>	<b>Coverage outside of Canada</b>
Special Needs Equipment	No	No
Prosthetics and Orthotics	Yes – limited (see prosthetics and orthotics policy section for details)	No
Children’s Enteral Feeding Pump	Yes – with prior approval	No
Home Oxygen	Yes – with prior approval	Yes – limited (with prior approval)
Respiratory Equipment	No	No
Compression Garment	No	No
Therapeutic Nutritional Products	Yes – reimbursement	No
Paraplegia	Yes – reimbursement	No
Ostomy	Yes – reimbursement	No
Aids to the Blind	No	No
Cystic Fibrosis	Yes – reimbursement	No
Chronic End-Stage Renal	Yes – reimbursement	No
Haemophilia	Yes – reimbursement	No
Saskatchewan Insulin Pump	Yes – reimbursement	No

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Drug Plan and Extended Benefits Branch  
3475 Albert Street  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4S 6X6  
Phone: (306) 787-7121  
Toll free: 1-888-787-8996  
Fax: (306) 787-8679  
Email: [dp.sys.support@health.gov.sk.ca](mailto:dp.sys.support@health.gov.sk.ca)

# **Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Program (SAIL)**

## **General Policies**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE of CONTENTS .....	6
Aids to the Blind Program .....	7
Cystic Fibrosis Program.....	11
Children’s Enteral Feeding Pump Program .....	14
Compression Garment Program.....	16
Chronic End-Stage Renal Disease Program .....	19
Haemophilia Program .....	20
Home Oxygen Program .....	22
Ostomy Program .....	26
Paraplegia Program .....	29
Prosthetics and Orthotics .....	32
Respiratory Equipment Program.....	43
Saskatchewan Insulin Pump Program.....	50
Special Needs Equipment Program .....	53
Therapeutic Nutritional Products Program .....	59

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Special Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> June 2016</p>
<p><b>AIDS TO THE BLIND PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Aids to the Blind Program provides or subsidizes the cost of select low vision aids and assistive devices to individuals living with vision loss.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Have a vision assessment that shows their vision to be 20/150\* or worse in the better eye with corrected lenses or with visual fields no greater than 20 degrees;
2. Be referred by an optometrist, a physician specializing in ophthalmology or by a Low Vision Clinic; and
3. Require low vision aids or devices that are not exclusively for educational and/or employment purposes.

**BENEFITS**

Eligible clients can receive the following benefits:

1. Low vision eyewear;
2. The loan of brailers, white canes (identification, mobility and/or support), magnifiers and book playback machines;
3. Assistance with the purchase of talking or braille watches, talking scales, large button or talking phones, talking labellers, digital playback units and multifunctional electronic devices; and
4. Low vision rehabilitation services from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB).

*Clients are limited to one device for each functional purpose.*

*Aids provided will be the most basic device required to complete ongoing daily visual tasks.*

---

\* For low vision magnifiers only, clients must have a vision assessment that shows their vision to be 20/70 or worse.

## 1. Low Vision Eyewear

Low vision eyewear must be requisitioned by one of the Low Vision Clinics. Equipment may be supplied by any optometric or ophthalmic dispenser.

### a. Lens Mounted Telescopes

- Lens mounted telescopes must be requisitioned and procured by a Low Vision Clinic.

### b. Low Vision Eyewear

Financial Assistance is provided toward the purchase of eyeglasses that qualify as a low vision aid. Eyeglasses qualify as an eligible low vision aid only when:

- The incorporated bifocal or reading is +3.50 diopters or more above the routine distance refraction; or
- When a therapeutic tint (i.e. NoIR) is required (SAIL does not cover non-therapeutic tinting); or
- Eyewear is required for lens mounted telescope support.

Replacement of low vision eyewear is subject to the following limitations:

- Therapeutic replacement of lenses is insured whenever there is a change in the refractive correction of at least one half (0.50) dioptre or more.
- For adults, non-therapeutic replacement of eyewear due to wear, loss or breakage is insured:
  - Once within a 36 month period from the date since the last SAIL subsidized eyeglasses were provided; and
  - No more frequently than at 36 month intervals thereafter.
- For children (17 years and under), non-therapeutic replacement of eyewear due to wear, loss or breakage is insured:
  - Once within a 24 month period from the date since the last SAIL subsidized glasses were provided.
  - Requests for replacements within the 24 month period are reviewed by SAIL on an individual basis.

Repairs and replacement of eyewear frame components are covered in accordance with established fee schedules in the Supplementary Health Program Optometric and Ophthalmic Dispensing Agreements.

SAIL will consider contact lenses on a prior approval basis upon the written request of an ophthalmologist or optometrist. Approval will be considered based on the therapeutic indications for the contact lenses provided in the request.

Digital eyewear (i.e. eSight eyewear) is not covered.

## 2. Loaned Low Vision Aids and Devices

The following items are purchased, housed, maintained and distributed by the CNIB on behalf of SAIL. CNIB provides instruction on the use of these items when initially loaned. These items are loaned at no cost to the client.

- Book playback machines (CD format) \*
- Braille \* \*
- Magnifiers (including half eye reader spectacles)
- White canes (identification, mobility and/or support)

\* *Quantity limit of one of each of these items per client.*

### 3. Purchase of Low Vision Aids and Devices

A variety of low vision aids and devices are available for purchase through the CNIB. SAIL subsidizes these purchases, which are subject to a client co-payment. The aids and devices in the following table are available on a trial basis, effective April 1, 2014, according to the conditions outlined below.

Items	Payment	Frequency
Talking Scales (bathroom or kitchen models)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Client pays first \$25</li> <li>SAIL covers the remainder up to \$50</li> <li>Any balance over \$75 is client's responsibility</li> </ul>	Once every 5 years
Talking Watches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Client pays first \$25</li> <li>SAIL covers the remainder up to \$50</li> <li>Any balance over \$75 is client's responsibility</li> </ul>	Once every 2 years
Braille Watches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Client pays first \$25</li> <li>SAIL covers the remainder up to \$50</li> <li>Any balance over \$75 is client's responsibility</li> </ul>	Once every 5 years
Large Button / Talking Phones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Client pays first \$25</li> <li>SAIL covers the remainder up to \$85</li> <li>Any balance over \$110 is client's responsibility</li> </ul>	Once every 5 years
Talking Labeller	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Client pays first \$60</li> <li>SAIL covers the \$100 balance</li> <li>Client is responsible for the cost of replacement labels</li> </ul>	Once every 5 years
Digital Playback Units* (limited to devices with book reading functionality only)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Client pays first \$100</li> <li>SAIL covers the remainder up to \$300</li> <li>Any balance over \$400 is client's responsibility</li> <li>Client is responsible for the cost of internet connectivity and accessories</li> </ul>	Once every 4 years
Multifunctional Electronic Devices* (limited to tablet style devices, not mobile phones)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Client pays first \$100</li> <li>SAIL covers the remainder up to \$400</li> <li>Any balance over \$500 is client's responsibility</li> <li>Client is responsible for the cost of applications, accessories, internet connectivity and data plans</li> </ul>	Once every 4 years
* Clients are eligible for either a digital playback unit <b>or</b> a multifunctional electronic device, not both.		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Batteries are not covered by SAIL.</li> <li>Maintenance and repair costs for these items are the responsibility of the client.</li> </ul>		

#### **4. Low Vision Rehabilitation Services**

Low vision rehabilitation services are intended to assist persons with poor or failing sight to make the best functional use of their remaining vision. To that end, CNIB will carry out assessments of functional vision and, in consultation with health professionals (as required) and the client, determine goals and objectives for low vision rehabilitation. A plan to meet individual goals may include the provision of advice, training and assistive devices as deemed necessary.

#### **PROCEDURE**

##### **Application**

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) registers clients who are eligible for the Aids to the Blind Program. All beneficiary information is housed at CNIB. Referrals from optometrists, ophthalmologists or the Low Vision Clinics are sent directly to CNIB. (Registration with CNIB is voluntary.)

##### **Billing Process**

###### Lens Mounted Telescopes

Procurement of lens mounted telescopes must be handled by a Low Vision Clinic. The Low Vision Clinic will invoice SAIL for the cost of the lens mounted telescope, including any applicable brokerage or postage fees.

###### Low Vision Eyewear

The Low Vision Clinics in Regina and Saskatoon have *Supplementary Health Program Optometric / Ophthalmic Dispenser Account Forms* that are labelled "SAIL INSURED". These claim forms must be used to invoice SAIL for low vision eyewear. The client is responsible for taking the form, along with their prescription, to the dispenser of their choice. The dispenser should submit the completed form to SAIL for payment after the glasses have been dispensed. SAIL fully subsidizes the cost of low vision eyewear in accordance with the Supplementary Health / Family Health Benefits Optical Benefits Payment Schedule.

###### Low Vision Aids, Devices and Rehabilitation Services

CNIB provides low vision rehabilitation services, aids and devices to qualifying Saskatchewan residents in accordance with an agreement with the Ministry of Health. CNIB is responsible for collecting the client's payment on items that are cost shared with SAIL.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Special Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> September 2014</p>
<p><b>CYSTIC FIBROSIS PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Cystic Fibrosis Program covers the cost of all formulary and non-formulary drugs and nutritional supplements for individuals with cystic fibrosis (CF).

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Have a confirmed diagnosis of cystic fibrosis, and
2. Be referred to the Cystic Fibrosis Program by a paediatrician, respirologist or medical geneticist.

**BENEFITS**

Eligible clients receive the following benefits at no charge:

1. Formulary and non-formulary prescription drugs.
2. Select physician prescribed over the counter drugs.
3. Nutritional supplements.

**Nutritional Supplements:**

**Supplement Puddings** – smooth texture dairy or starch based food that is a source of vitamins, minerals, and energy beyond that of a dessert pudding.

*Examples: Ensure Pudding, Boost Pudding*

**Supplement Bars** – nutrition food supplement typically containing cereals and other high energy foods.

*Examples: Boost Bar, Glucerna Bar, Vector Bar, Scandibar, Larabar, Taste of Nature Bar*

**Liquid Oral Supplements** – supplemental drink providing additional energy, vitamin and minerals. Not a complete source of nutrition\*.

*Examples: Boost (Regular, Plus, Fibre), Carnation Instant Breakfast, Ensure (All), Glucerna, Nutren (All), Pediasure, Peptamen Liquid (All), Pulmocare Liquid, Resource , Vital HN*

\*clients receiving at least 90% of their nutrition through an eligible nutrition product should refer to Therapeutic Nutritional Products Program Policy.

**Supplement Shakes** – calorie-rich, dairy based drink typically served cold.

*Examples: Scandishakes, Magic Cups*

**Powders** – powdered products that can be added to foods to provide additional nutrients.

*Example: Beneprotein, Polydose, Portagen, Pregestimal, Tolerex, Vital HN Powder, Vivonex Powder*

### **Vitamin Supplements:**

Additional vitamins and minerals such as calcium, vitamin D, fat soluble vitamins, iron, and/or zinc. Pancreatic enzymes may also need to be supplemented.

*Examples: Aquasol E drops, MCT oil, Palafer, Pancrease MT Caps, Calcium*

Non-Benefit Items:

Infant formulas, food thickeners, herbs, oral swabs, Pedialyte, weight lifting or body building products or nutritionally complete products.

### **PRICING, SHIPPING AND QUANTITY LIMITS:**

Pharmacies or Medical Suppliers must invoice the Ministry for nutritional supplements based on the lesser of the manufacturer's suggested retail price (SRP) or the supplier's usual and customary charge on that day.

Shipping is not a benefit of the Cystic Fibrosis Program.

Items must be purchased based on a three month, or less, supply. Standing orders are discouraged.

### **PROCEDURE**

#### **Application**

A specialist physician must submit a *Special Benefit Programs Referral Form* on behalf of the client. The application must confirm the diagnosis of cystic fibrosis.

Qualifying beneficiaries are notified in writing of their acceptance to the program. The Drug Plan network is updated to reflect coverage on the Cystic Fibrosis Program to enable invoicing for prescription drugs.

**Billing Process**

Beneficiaries must supply a valid physician's prescription for all formulary and non-formulary drugs, approved over the counter drugs and nutritional supplements. Pharmacists adjudicate all prescriptions on the on-line pharmacy network.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Universal Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> June 2016</p>
<p><b>CHILDREN'S ENTERAL FEEDING PUMP PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

Feeding pumps are provided by SAIL on a loan basis to children who require nasogastric or gastrostomy pump feeding. Certain consumable supplies associated with pump feeding are also a benefit.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Be under 18 years of age\* and require a feeding pump; and
2. Be referred to the Children's Enteral Feeding Pump Program (CEFPP) by a dietitian in Saskatchewan and a specialist physician.

\*if a client on the CEFPP requires a pump past the age of 18, the loan and maintenance of the pump and the supplies available through the Saskatchewan Abilities Council (the Council) will continue to be covered under the CEFPP. Feeding tubes and syringes will be covered under the Paraplegia Program or Supplementary Health. If a client does not have coverage under either the Paraplegia or Supplementary Health Programs, feeding tubes and syringes will continue to be covered through CEFPP.

**BENEFITS**

Eligible clients receive the following benefits at no charge:

1. One feeding pump, IV pole, and complete carrying case (loaned through the Council)
  - Maintenance and repair of SAIL owned feeding pumps is provided without charge to the beneficiary.
2. Supplies:
  - Replacement feeding pump sets (Provided through the Council.)
    - one set per day
  - Adapter/extension sets for use with feeding tubes (Clients obtain from a supplier of their choice who invoices SAIL directly.)
    - six sets every three months\*

Feeding tubes (Clients obtain from a supplier of their choice who invoices SAIL directly.)

- three per year\*

Syringes (Clients obtain from a supplier of their choice who invoices SAIL directly.)

- limited to large syringes (i.e. 60 cc)

\* Medical professionals can request increased quantities of feeding tubes and/or adapter/extension sets by contacting SAIL by phone at (306) 787-7121, by fax at (306) 787-8679 or by email at [dp.sys.support@health.gov.sk.ca](mailto:dp.sys.support@health.gov.sk.ca). Requests for feeding tubes or adapter/extension sets in excess of approved quantities will **only** be considered when medical, physical or cognitive circumstances warrant an increase.

### **NON-BENEFITS**

The following items are not covered by this program:

- nutritional products;
- nasogastric tubes; and
- gravity feeding bags.

### **PROCEDURE**

#### **Request for Feeding Pump Loan**

On behalf of eligible clients, a dietitian completes a *Request for Feeding Pump Loan* form, has it signed by a physician and forwards it to the Saskatchewan Abilities Council (Saskatoon Special Needs Equipment Depot). The feeding pump, feeding bags and an information sheet are sent to the client. The Council notifies SAIL by fax of new beneficiaries. The individual is registered on the SAIL Supply System to allow medical suppliers to invoice for feeding tubes, adapter/extension sets and syringes.

#### **Billing Process**

Medical suppliers submit invoices on-line to SAIL in order to receive payment for feeding tubes, adapter/extension sets or syringes.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Universal Benefits</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> June 2016</p>
<p><b>COMPRESSION GARMENT PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Compression Garment Program covers the cost of compression garments for clients who have:

- serious conditions that require moderate to high pressure (20 mmHg or higher) that cannot be managed by other means such as elevation or medication and would become more severe without compression, such as: hypertrophic scarring, chronic lymphedema, paraplegia, deep vein thrombosis (DVT) or history of ulceration.

Note: conditions that are not named above, such as severe edema, require the therapist to provide information that supports that the condition is serious, that it cannot be managed by other means such as elevation or medication and the condition would become more severe without compression.

The cost of compression garments is **not** covered for:

- conditions such as varicose veins, tired legs, discomfort, mild to moderate edema, arterial insufficiency, hypertension, hypotension, phlebitis or osteoarthritis
- short-term use (such as pregnancy, exercise, travel, pre or post operative or fracture)

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Have a diagnosis that meets the criteria recorded on the requisition.
2. Have the garment requisitioned by an Occupational Therapist (OT), Physical Therapist (PT), Enterostomal Therapy Nurse (ET), Diabetes Nurse (DNS), Wound Care Nurse (IIWCC) or Complex Decongestive Therapist (LANA Certified CDT).

**BENEFITS**

1. Clients are eligible for two garments at a time plus one night-time garment. Initial orders of custom garments must be for one garment only. If that garment meets the client’s needs, an additional garment may be ordered.

2. Garments can only be reordered if the client is consistently using the garment, it is improving the condition and without continued use the condition would deteriorate. Clients are eligible for replacement day-time garments every six months and night garments once per two years. If a client requires more frequent replacements, reason(s) such as physiological change must be clearly indicated on the requisition.
3. Benefit garments include socks, hose, gloves, adjustable non-elastic garments, arm sleeves\* and bandaging/wrapping supplies used for lymphatic drainage.
4. Accessories/supplies such as gel sheets, adhesives, stocking applicators, liners, swell spots, pit pads or rubber gloves (only when used in conjunction with a compression garment).
5. Garment must be the least costly alternative that meets the client's needs.
6. Garment must be ordered by the requisitioner.

\* graduated pressure armsleeves (15-20mmHg) may be requisitioned for clients who meet **all other criteria** but can not tolerate 20mmHg or higher at the wrist.

### **NON-BENEFIT ITEMS**

- Garments for short-term use (such as pregnancy, travel, exercise, pre or post operative or fracture)
- Garments for varicose veins, tired legs, discomfort, mild to moderate edema, arterial insufficiency, hypertension, hypotension, osteoarthritis or any condition where swelling could be relieved by regular methods such as elevation
- Day garments in excess of two pairs per six months or night garments in excess of one per two years
- "Fashion hose" or any garment that is more costly for purely cosmetic reasons
- Any garment purchased directly by a client
- Dressings (including gauze)
- Bandaging/wrapping supplies used for wound care
- Tape
- Lymphoderm Lotion
- Detergents
- Any extra cost incurred to place an order on a "rush" basis

### **PROCEDURE**

#### **Application**

Client must be assessed and measured/fitted for a garment by an eligible requisitioner who must then complete a *Prosthetic and Orthotic Appliance Requisition* form. The diagnosis must be included on the form and it must be for a qualifying condition. Applications can only be completed for garments intended for long-term use.

#### **Ordering and Billing**

There are two options available for ordering compression garments.

1. The requisitioner can place the garment order directly with a supplier and have the garment delivered to either the requisitioner or the client. Payment to the supplier must be made by the requisitioner. An invoice for the acquisition cost of the garment plus shipping costs should be submitted to Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living

(SAIL) for reimbursement. The invoice must include a copy of the *Prosthetic and Orthotic Appliance Requisition* form and a copy of the invoice received from the garment supplier showing the acquisition cost.

2. Requests for compression garments can be forwarded by eligible requisitioners to SAIL for ordering. A completed *Prosthetic and Orthotic Appliance Requisition* form, garment specifics including brand and measurements, and a physician's prescription, if available, must be submitted. SAIL will review the requisition and, if approved, order the pressure garment and have it shipped to the client or requisitioner. Orders placed by SAIL take between **4 to 6 weeks** from the date the requisition is received by SAIL to the delivery date of the garment.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Special Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> July 2008</p>
<p><b>CHRONIC END-STAGE RENAL DISEASE PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Chronic End-Stage Renal Disease Program covers the cost of all formulary and non-formulary drugs for individuals with a chronic kidney condition requiring dialysis and/or kidney transplantation. Qualifying beneficiaries depend on many medications to help them deal with pain, regain lost vitamins and minerals, suppress their immune system post transplantation and other drugs associated with ongoing dialysis.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Chronic End-Stage Renal Disease Regulations, 1973 (Saskatchewan Regulation 153/73).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Have a chronic kidney condition sufficiently severe that the person requires dialysis and/or kidney transplantation.
2. Be referred to the Chronic End-Stage Renal Disease Program by a nephrologist.

**BENEFITS**

Eligible clients receive the following benefits at no charge:

4. Formulary and non-formulary prescription drugs.
5. Select physician prescribed over the counter drugs.

**PROCEDURE**

**Application**

A nephrologist must submit a *Special Benefit Programs Referral Form* on behalf of the client. The application must include the start date of dialysis and/or the date of the kidney transplantation.

Qualifying beneficiaries are notified in writing of their acceptance to the program. The Drug Plan network is updated to reflect coverage on the Chronic End-Stage Renal Disease Program.

**Billing Process**

Beneficiaries must have a valid prescription for all formulary and non-formulary drugs and over the counter drugs. Pharmacists adjudicate all prescriptions on the on-line pharmacy network.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Special Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> February 2015</p>
<p><b>HAEMOPHILIA PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Haemophilia Program covers the cost of medical supplies associated with home infusion for the treatment of haemophilia.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

3. Have a confirmed diagnosis of haemophilia.
4. Be referred to the Haemophilia Program by a Saskatchewan based haematologist from a Bleeding Disorders Program.

**BENEFITS**

Eligible clients receive items associated with home infusion at no charge (as listed below):

Alcohol Sponges/Swabs	Injectable Solutions (NaCl, Sodium Chloride)
Betadine Sticks/Swabs	Male/Female Luer Lock Dead Ender
Butterfly Scalp Vein Needles	Needles
Chlora-scrub Swabs	Opsite Bandages
CLAVE Connector (floink valve)	Platelet Infusion Sets
Emla Cream	Sharps Disposal Containers
Gauze	Sterile Plastic Drapes
Gloves	Syringes
Hepalean Solution	Tape

The SAIL Haemophilia Program does not provide the factor 8 or 9 products for injection. These products are obtained directly from the transfusion lab at the local hospital.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **Application Process**

A haematologist from a Bleeding Disorders Program must submit a written application on behalf of the client. The application must confirm the diagnosis of haemophilia and the requirement for assistance from the program.

Qualifying beneficiaries are notified in writing of their acceptance to the program. The individual is registered on the SAIL Supply System to allow medical suppliers to invoice for home infusion supplies.

### **Billing Process**

A physician's prescription is required for home infusion supplies. Medical suppliers submit invoices on-line to SAIL in order to receive payment for home infusion supplies under the Haemophilia Program.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Universal Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> January 2010</p>
<p><b>HOME OXYGEN PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Home Oxygen Program provides funding towards the cost of prescribed home oxygen therapy for clients who meet the program criteria. The program is delivered through private oxygen suppliers who are contracted by Saskatchewan Health.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) have oxygen prescribed by a physician or nurse practitioner, and
- 2) meet the medical criteria for either continuous, exertional, or nocturnal oxygen, or
- 3) be assessed by the health region and meet the criteria for end stage palliative care.

**Continuous Oxygen**

Criteria:

- In the absence of cor pulmonale or polycythemia, the patient, while at rest after being seated for 10 minutes, must have a PaO<sub>2</sub> ≤ 55 mmHg determined by arterial blood gas or an SaO<sub>2</sub> ≤ 87% determined by oximetry for a minimum of two continuous minutes.
- In the presence of cor pulmonale or polycythemia, the patient, while at rest after being seated for 10 minutes, must have a PaO<sub>2</sub> of ≤ 59 mmHg determined by arterial blood gas or an SaO<sub>2</sub> ≤ 90% determined by oximetry for a minimum of two continuous minutes.
- Testing should be completed within 48 hours prior to initiation of home oxygen therapy.

Coverage:

- Funds a concentrator, regulator and 10 portable oxygen cylinders per month.
- Initial coverage is for four months.

## **Exertional Oxygen**

### Criteria:

- Patients must not have been hospitalized for a cardiorespiratory event or had an exacerbation or change of treatment in the 30 days prior to testing.
- Clients will complete a two-part test. Part one is a maximum exercise symptom limited room air test. After being seated for 10 minutes, the patient should use a treadmill, an exercise bicycle, or walk on the level at a comfortable pace. Stop the test with the onset of symptoms. Record the symptoms, the time of onset, and the distance.
- Part two requires the patient to rest for 10 minutes while receiving 2 litres per minute of oxygen after completing part one. The patient should then repeat the test in part 1 while using oxygen. Oxygen should be adjusted as needed to maintain the saturation at 90% – 92% during exercise. Stop the test with the onset of symptoms. Record the symptoms, the time of onset, and the distance.
- Oximetry on room air must show a pulse oximetry saturation  $\leq 87\%$  continuously for a minimum of 20 seconds *and*
- There must be documentation of improvement in exercise capacity of 20% with oxygen use; that is the onset of symptoms is delayed by at least 20%.

### Coverage:

- Funds a regulator and 10 portable oxygen cylinders per month.
- Initial coverage is for six months.

## **Nocturnal Oxygen**

### Criteria:

- Patients must not have been hospitalized for a cardiorespiratory event or had an exacerbation or change of treatment in the 30 days prior to testing.
- Nocturnal funding applications should only be made for patients whose blood gas or oximetry results do not show qualification for continuous oxygen.
- Nocturnal oximetry testing shall be done both on room air and with supplemental oxygen. Both complete tests and the underlying diagnosis must be included with the application for funding.
- Patients shall demonstrate nocturnal hypoxemia through saturations  $\leq 87\%$  on overnight oximetry for a period of more than 30% of the test time. Measured saturation with the application of oxygen therapy should show evidence of significant improvement.
- Oxygen is not recommended as a single intervention for sleep apnea and may not be funded.
- Benefits may be considered on an exceptional basis when prescribed by a respirologist. Documentation of polysomnography results or other supporting evidence must be provided.
- Use of oxygen must show evidence of significant improvement.

### Coverage:

- Funds a concentrator.
- Initial coverage is for up to one year.

## **End Stage Palliative Oxygen**

### Criteria:

To be eligible for end stage palliative oxygen funding, the client must be enrolled in the Palliative Care Program through a health region and meet the criteria for end stage palliative care as follows:

- The time frame for end stage care may be measured in terms of days or weeks of active dying. Time frames are difficult to determine, however, in some cases, this end stage may be longer than a few weeks or shorter than a couple of days.
- There are typically day-to-day changes with deterioration proceeding at a dramatic pace. There is usually a sudden drop in the Palliative Performance Rating according to the Palliative Performance scale developed by the Victoria Hospice Society and the Capital Regional District Home Nursing Care in British Columbia.
- The end stage may be characterized by increasing intensity of need: increased assistance required for physical or psychological need, family exhaustion and usually a requirement for social work, pastoral care and therapies.
- There is documented clinical progression of disease which may include a combination of symptoms such as dyspnea, crescendo pain, profound weakness, being essentially bed bound, increased nausea or drowsy for extended periods.
- The terminally ill patient must be assessed a Palliative Performance rating of 30% or less according to the palliative Performance Scale developed by the Victoria Hospice Society and the Capital Regional District Home Nursing Care in British Columbia.

### Coverage:

- Funds a concentrator, regulator, 10 portable oxygen cylinders per month and consumable supplies.
- Coverage is short-term only. Funding is extended for a maximum of four months both for initial coverage and for renewals. Only a prescription is required to renew end stage palliative oxygen coverage.

## **LONG TERM OXYGEN FUNDING**

To qualify for long-term oxygen funding, clients must:

- Meet the eligibility criteria for continuous or exertional oxygen as outlined above.
- Have been on short-term oxygen under the same eligibility criteria as the long-term coverage being requested, and
- Be stable, having had no exacerbation, hospital admission or change of treatment within the previous 30 days at the time of testing.

Clients approved for long-term funding receive coverage for one year. Renewal requires a prescription only (no tests are required).

Long-term clients may apply for optional coverage through their oxygen supplier. Optional coverage allows the client to use equivalent funding towards an alternate oxygen system (such as liquid oxygen, an oxygen conserving device, a transfill system or portable concentrator) that may better suit their needs. Any additional cost related to these systems is the responsibility of the user.

## **CHOICE OF OXYGEN SUPPLIER**

- As user costs, delivery schedules and services vary among oxygen suppliers, the choice of an oxygen supplier remains solely with the oxygen user.
- Requests for a change of supplier are considered only if directed by the oxygen user.

## **NON-BENEFIT ITEMS**

- additional cylinders in excess of those approved by SAIL
- consumable supplies (unless the client has Supplementary Health coverage or meets the end stage palliative criteria)
- power costs related to running the concentrator
- additional costs related to alternate systems approved under optional coverage

## **PROCEDURE**

### **Application**

A physician or nurse practitioner must submit an *Application for Initial SAIL Oxygen Funding* form along with supporting test results on behalf of the client. For end stage palliative applications, both a health region case manager and a physician or nurse practitioner must complete a *Regional Health Authority Request for End Stage Palliative Oxygen Benefits* form, which is submitted on behalf of the client. Clients are notified in writing if their application has been approved or rejected. Approval letters outline the benefits available and dates of coverage.

### **Billing Process**

Oxygen suppliers invoice SAIL directly for eligible benefits based on approved coverage. Non-benefit items, and items in excess of covered amounts are the responsibility of the client and suppliers invoice the client directly for those items.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Special Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> October 2013</p>
<p><b>OSTOMY PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Ostomy Program provides fifty percent of the cost of ostomy management supplies for individuals with a urinary or bowel diversion.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Have some type of urinary or bowel diversion (colostomy, ileostomy, urostomy, utereterostomy, cecostomy, nephrostomy or fistula) and
2. Be referred to the Ostomy Program by an Enterostomal Therapy (ET) nurse in Saskatchewan.

**BENEFITS**

Eligible clients receive 50% of the cost of eligible ostomy management supplies.

<b>Covered Items</b>	
<b>Ostomy Product</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Accessories (tube securement, tubing, connector kit, adapter)	for urostomy and nephrostomy
Adhesive or skin protector	
Adhesive removers	e.g. Solvoplast, Remove
Catheters / tips	straight catheters for drainage of internal pouches (e.g. Medena)
Enema bags	for cecostomy irrigation only
Filters / gas vents / pouch vents	to release air build up (e.g. E-Z Vents)
Gauze	only internal pouches and mucous fistulas
Gravity feeding bags	for cecostomy irrigation only
Hernia belt	
In pouch deodorants / odour eliminators	e.g. Adapt, M9, OAD, Ostogard, Osto-Gel, Reliamed, Banish II
Irrigation kits and accessories	used to irrigate ostomy
Leg bag	urostomy only
Night drainage containers, tubing, bags	urostomy only

Ostomy appliance belt	
Pouches	1 or 2 piece, filtered or non-filtered
Pouch clip / clamp	Duolock closures, tail closures
Pouch covers	
Pouch liners	Colomajic liners
Powders – non-medicated	Convatec, Stomahesive, Premier, Hollister, Karaya, cornstarch
Skin barriers	3M no-sting spray and wipes, Skin Prep, All Kare, Adapt & Skin Gel wipes, Eakin cohesive skin barrier, Coloplast Strip Paste, Urihesive strips, Adapt paste, Adapt barrier strips, Stomahesive paste
Sterile lubricant	to dilate or examine stoma (e.g. KY jelly, Adapt)
Stoma cap	includes Mestopore
Syringes	for irrigation of internal pouches or a cecostomy (large sizes e.g. 60 cc or larger)
Tape	e.g. Hypafix
Wafer	also called a flange

<b>Non-Benefit Items</b>	
<b>Ostomy Product</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Air freshener	
Alcohol swabs	
Antiseptics	
Appliance cleaners	
Bed pads	
Briefs	
Creams, lotions or moisturizers	
Diapers	
Disinfectants	
Dressings	gauze covered for internal pouches and mucous fistulas
Enema kits	enema bags are covered for cecostomy irrigation
Isopropyl alcohol	
Medicated paste, powders, ointments	
Oral deodorant tablets	
Razors	
Rubber gloves	
Saline	
Scissors	
Skin cleansers, soaps	
Silver nitrate sticks	
Sterile water	
Stoma hole cutters	

Undergarments	
Urinary supplies	urinary catheters

**PROCEDURE**

**Application**

Clients must be referred to the program by an ET nurse practicing in a Saskatchewan Stoma Clinic. The application must confirm the type of stoma.

List of Saskatchewan Outpatient Ostomy Clinics:

Ostomy and Wound Care Centre  
 Pasqua Hospital  
 4101 Dewdney Avenue  
 Regina SK S4T 7T1  
 Telephone: (306) 766-2271

Ostomy Clinic  
 Royal University Hospital  
 Box 5, 103 Hospital Drive  
 Saskatoon SK S7N 0W8  
 Telephone: (306) 655-2138

Ambulatory Care  
 Victoria Hospital  
 1200 – 24<sup>th</sup> Street West  
 Prince Albert, SK S6V 5T4  
 Telephone: (306) 765-6263

**Billing Process**

Beneficiaries of the Ostomy Program purchase their supplies through an approved medical supplier or pharmacy. Claims will be processed through an online system. Clients will pay the supplier or pharmacy 50% of eligible expenses within quantity limits. Medical suppliers and pharmacies will be reimbursed for the remaining 50% in a biweekly pay run.

Ostomy products purchased out of province (not out of country) are eligible for reimbursement if SAIL receives a paid receipt that clearly indicates what was purchased. Reimbursement for these purchases will be made directly to the client.

Medical suppliers and pharmacies will invoice the Ministry based on the lesser of the manufacturer’s suggested retail price (SRP) or the supplier’s usual and customary charge on that day.

Shipping is not a benefit of the Ostomy Program.

**Exceptions**

To request an exception, the client must be seen by an ostomy clinic who in turn will contact SAIL to confirm the reason for the higher quantity of the product/supply.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Special Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> June 2016</p>
<p><b>PARAPLEGIA PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Paraplegia Program covers the cost of all formulary and non-formulary drugs, incontinence products, medical supplies and select specialized rehabilitation equipment for individuals who have paralysis of all or most of the lower limbs and trunk due to a lesion or disease affecting the spinal cord. SAIL also provides grants for purchases related to home access and vehicle modifications.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- Paraplegia under The Health Services Act (Saskatchewan Regulations 786/68).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Have paralysis of all or most of the lower limbs and trunk due to a lesion or disease affecting the spinal cord, and
2. Be referred to the Paraplegia Program by a physiatrist or a paediatrician (or other specialist physician) associated with the Kinsmen Children’s Centre or Wascana Rehabilitation Centre (Children’s Program).

<b>Children’s Criteria</b> (up to and including 17 years of age)	<b>Adult Criteria</b>
Cerebral Palsy with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Spastic Quadriplegia, or</li> <li>○ Spastic Diplegia</li> </ul>	Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis / ALS
Spinal Cord Criteria – examples but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Spina Bifida</li> <li>○ Caudal Regression Syndrome</li> <li>○ Transverse Myelitis</li> <li>○ Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury</li> <li>○ Guillain-Barre Syndrome</li> <li>○ Poliomyelitis</li> </ul>	Traumatic Spinal Cord Injury
	Cerebral Palsy with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Spastic Quadriplegia, or</li> <li>○ Spastic Diplegia</li> </ul>
Neuromuscular Criteria – examples but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Duchenne’s Muscular Dystrophy</li> <li>○ Spinal Muscular Atrophy</li> <li>○ Becker’s Muscular Dystrophy</li> </ul>	Multiple Sclerosis (in advanced stages)* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Relapsing–Remitting MS, or</li> <li>○ Primary Progressive MS</li> <li>○ Secondary Progressive MS</li> </ul>
	Primary Lateral Sclerosis / PLS
	* Clients may not simultaneously be on the SAIL Paraplegia Program and the MS Drug Program.

<b>Children's Criteria (continued)</b>
Degenerative Metabolic Disorders – example but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Rhett Syndrome</li> </ul>
Acquired Brain Injury resulting in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Spastic Quadriplegia, or</li> <li>○ Spastic Diplegia</li> </ul>

**BENEFITS**

Eligible clients receive the following benefits at no charge:

1. Formulary and non-formulary prescription drugs, including physician prescribed over the counter drugs.
2. Incontinence and medical supplies (including catheter supplies, ostomy supplies, cleaning supplies, rubber gloves, feeding supplies and incontinence supplies).
3. Wound management supplies (excluding negative pressure wound therapy).
4. Specialized rehabilitation equipment (with prior approval).
5. Home and vehicle modification grants.

**Home Access and Vehicle Modification Benefits**

1. Requests for home access and vehicle modification benefits must be submitted in writing by a physiatrist, occupational therapist, or physical therapist for prior approval to SAIL.
2. Home Access\* – Clients may choose from either the loan of an outdoor wheelchair lift **or** grants (subject to individual limits) totalling \$2,300 toward:
  - Outdoor wheelchair ramp limit \$700
  - Indoor lift (ceiling track, elevator, stair lift, tub lift) limit \$2,300
  - Outdoor wheelchair lift limit \$2,300

\* A home access grant or the loan of an outdoor wheelchair lift is only available to those residing in the community. Residents of Personal Care Homes or Special Care Homes are not eligible.

Clients who exceed the weight limit for standard equipment are eligible for an enhanced grant (limit \$5,000) towards the purchase of an outdoor lift or ceiling track lift.

3. Vehicle Modification – Clients may choose from the following grants (subject to individual limits) to a maximum of \$1,670:
  - Van lift limit \$1,000
  - Portable van ramp(s) limit \$700
  - Stationary van ramp(s) limit \$700
  - Vehicle hand controls limit \$400
  - Wheelchair tiedowns limit \$150
  - Vehicle spinner knob limit \$120

4. Grant Replenishment Schedule – Full grants may be replaced after 10 years from date of invoice. Requests for grants received less than 10 years after the original request will be replenished at a reduced rate.
  - Less than 3 years 0%
  - 3-5 years 40% of original eligible amount
  - 5-8 years 60% of original eligible amount
  - 8-10 years 80% of original eligible amount
  - over 10 years 100% of original eligible amount
  
5. The beneficiary has the choice of supplier when purchasing equipment through the grant option. Equipment towards which SAIL has made total or partial reimbursement under The Home Access and Vehicle Modification Grant Policy is deemed the property of the beneficiary. As such, this equipment is not eligible for SAIL coverage of maintenance and repair costs.
  
6. Outdoor wheelchair lifts for home access are available on a loan basis. The Saskatchewan Abilities Council (SAC) provides and installs these lifts. Maintenance and repair of these SAIL owned lifts are provided without charge to the beneficiary. Outdoor wheelchair lifts are only replaced if SAC assesses the equipment as being no longer economical to repair. While in possession of an outdoor lift loaned through SAC, clients may not receive any home access grants.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **Application**

A physiatrist, or a paediatrician associated with the Kinsmen Children’s Centre or Wascana Rehabilitation Centre (Children’s Program), must submit a ***Special Benefit Programs Referral Form*** on behalf of the client.

Qualifying beneficiaries are notified in writing of their acceptance to the program. The Drug Plan network is updated to reflect coverage on the Paraplegia Program to enable invoicing for prescription drugs. The individual is registered on the SAIL Supply System to allow medical suppliers to invoice for all other benefit items.

### **Billing Process**

Beneficiaries must have a valid prescription for all formulary and non-formulary drugs and over the counter products. Pharmacists adjudicate all prescriptions on the on-line pharmacy network.

A physician’s prescription is also required for all eligible incontinence and medical supplies. Medical suppliers must submit invoices on-line or on a ***Medical Supplies, Appliances and Miscellaneous Drugs Claim Form*** (or equivalent paper invoice) to SAIL in order to receive payment under the Paraplegia Program.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Universal Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> June 2016</p>
<p><b>PROSTHETICS AND ORTHOTICS</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Prosthetics and Orthotics Program provides assistance with the cost of a range of prosthetic and orthotic devices. The program also covers the cost of adaptive and specialized seating, standing frames and limited rehabilitation equipment such as rolls, wedges and therapy balls.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

Orthotics

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Have the device requisitioned by a specialist in psychiatry, orthopaedics, paediatrics, neurology (neurologist and neurosurgeon), rheumatology, plastic surgery, gerontology, hematology or vascular surgery (cardiovascular and cardiothoracic). Sports medicine specialists can requisition knee braces and ankle braces. Oncologists, nephrologists and endocrinologists can requisition ankle foot orthoses (AFOs). Oncologists can requisition back braces. Knee braces can be requisitioned by a physician, advance practice physio therapist or Multi-Disciplinary Clinic (MDC) trained physiotherapist working at a MDC within the algorithms and policies established within the hip knee pathway.
2. Require the device to carry out activities of daily living or prevent physical deterioration. These activities may vary with the ability of the client and may extend from basic walking within the community to higher impact demand of a physical labourer. Orthotic devices are not a benefit when required by the client for intermittent use such as for sports activities.
3. Receive one device at a time and replacements as required but no more frequently than once per two years (exceptions are considered for size change, growth and/or medical conditions). A new requisition for a replacement orthotic is only required if there is a significant change in medical or physical condition.
4. Only receive modifications to footwear or custom footwear if required in conjunction with the use of a brace. The footwear may be permanently attached to the brace or the brace may cause a leg length discrepancy on the opposite leg that would then require footwear modification or custom footwear.

5. Receive repairs as required. Repairs shall not exceed 75% of the cost of replacement. In cases where repair has been deemed suitable and a client requests a new device instead, the client shall be responsible for any costs above the estimated cost of repair. Replacements required as a result of obvious abuse are not a benefit.
6. Receive the device that is the least costly available alternative that will meet their basic needs and allow them to carry out activities of daily living based on professional judgement, clinical considerations and functional status of the client. Clients choosing an upgraded device (beyond the one that is determined to meet their basic needs) may pay the difference between the basic benefit and the upgraded device, provided they are advised of and agree to the differential fee in advance.
7. Receive coverage for items on the benefit list. Items not on the benefit list may be considered on a case-by-case basis upon written request by the qualifying physician who, in consultation with a certified orthotist, shall clearly describe the need for the device, the reason an eligible benefit would be unsuitable and an estimated cost of the item (excluding labour).

### Prosthetics

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Be referred by a physiatrist, orthopaedic surgeon, plastic surgeon, paediatrician associated with Wascana Rehabilitation Centre or Kinsmen Children's Centre or vascular surgeon. A team consisting of at least a therapist, physiatrist and certified prosthetist must requisition myoelectrics.
2. Receive repairs as required. Repairs shall not exceed 75% of the cost of replacement. In cases where repair has been deemed suitable and a client requests a new device instead, the client shall be responsible for any costs above the estimated cost of repair.
3. Receive the device that is the least costly available alternative that will meet their basic need and allow them to carry out activities of daily living based on professional judgement, clinical considerations and functional status of the client. Clients choosing an upgraded device (beyond the one that is determined to meet their basic needs) may pay the difference between the basic benefit and the upgraded device provided they are advised of and agree to the differential fee in advance of the service.
4. Receive coverage for items on the benefit list. Items not on the benefit list may be considered on a case-by-case basis upon written request by the qualifying physician who, in consultation with a certified prosthetist, shall clearly describe the need for the device, the reason an eligible benefit would be unsuitable and an estimated cost of the item (excluding labour).
5. Require the device to carry out the activities of daily living, assist with physical rehabilitation or prevent physical deterioration. Activities of daily living may vary with the ability of the client and may extend from basic functioning within the community such as eating or dressing oneself to higher impact demands of a physical labourer.
6. Require the device for reasons other than intermittent use, cosmetic purposes or for purposes other than physical need.
7. Receive one device at a time and replacements as required but no more frequently than once per three years (exceptions are considered for size change, growth and medical conditions). A new requisition for a replacement prosthetic is only required if

there is a significant change in medical or physical condition. Replacements required as a result of obvious abuse are not a benefit. Socket replacement required due to physical change is considered a repair not a new device.

#### Adaptive and Specialized Seating

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. For adaptive seating, be referred by an occupational therapist (OT) or physical therapist (PT).
2. For specialized seating, be referred to the specialized seating review committee in Saskatoon where the requisition will be reviewed by the committee and signed by a physiatrist. In Regina, applications are signed by a physiatrist.
3. Meet other specific criteria dependent on the item being requisitioned.

#### Adaptive and Rehabilitation Equipment

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Be referred by an occupational or physical therapist.
2. Be 17 years of age or younger.

#### Standing Frames

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Be referred by a PT or OT specialized in children's rehabilitation and knowledgeable in the area of standing frames.

#### Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) for Foot Drop

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Have FES requisitioned by a specialist in psychiatry, orthopaedics, paediatrics, neurology (neurologist and neurosurgeon), rheumatology, plastic surgery, gerontology, hematology, vascular surgery (cardiovascular and cardiothoracic), oncology, nephrology or endocrinology;
2. Have an upper motor neuron injury or disease or central nervous system involvement;
3. Have inadequate dorsiflexion during swing;
4. Have adequate stability during stance as determined by an FES-trained clinician;
5. Have adequate response to nerve stimulation as determined by an FES-trained clinician;
6. Demonstrate the ability and willingness to use an FES device;
7. Demonstrate the positive impact that use of an FES device will have on activities of daily living through a successful trial; and
8. Not have any of the following contraindications:
  - lower motor neuron deficit;
  - history of grand mal seizures;
  - severe cardiac disease or other diagnosed heart conditions;
  - a demand-type pacemaker or defibrillator;
  - fixed plantar flexion contractures;
  - currently pregnant or planning a pregnancy; or
  - a malignant tumour, lesion or open wound on affected leg.

### External Craniofacial Prosthetics

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Require the device to restore functionality in daily living. The craniofacial prosthesis must address a condition that presents an extreme visual impact that cannot be concealed in a manner that allows a client to communicate and interact daily in a functional manner; and
2. Be referred to the Institute of Reconstructive Sciences in Medicine (iRSM)\* by a specialist in plastic surgery, ophthalmology, oncology, otolaryngology or maxillofacial surgery and be assessed for appropriateness at iRSM by an anaplastologist, restorative prosthetist, prosthodontist or maxillofacial surgeon.

\* Or equivalent institution as approved on a case by case basis.

### Palatal Prosthetics

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Require the device to restore functionality in daily living for the purpose of improving independent living; and
2. Be referred to the Institute of Reconstructive Sciences in Medicine (iRSM)\* by a physician or dentist within one of the following specialties (plastic surgery, ophthalmology, oncology, otolaryngology, maxillofacial surgery) and be assessed for appropriateness at iRSM by a maxillofacial prosthodontist or speech language pathologist.

\* Or equivalent institution as approved on a case by case basis.

## **BENEFITS**

### Orthotics

Benefits include upper and lower extremity orthoses as requisitioned by the appropriate medical specialist (including AFOs, ankle braces, knee ankle orthotics, knee braces\*, splints and fracture braces) with the exception of back corsets and off the shelf wrist braces. Coverage is limited on high cost knee braces and may involve cost sharing with patients. Modifications to footwear or custom footwear are considered a benefit only when used in conjunction with a leg brace. Custom helmets are a benefit if an off-the-shelf helmet can not be used.

\*High cost knee braces are cost shared. The maximum SAIL will cover for a high cost knee brace required as the result of an injury is \$400 and for osteoarthritis is \$450. Client is responsible for the remainder of the cost.

### Prosthetics

1. Conventional Prostheses

#### Lower Extremity Prostheses

- Single or partial digits – if required for functionality (documentation of the functionality must accompany the invoice to SAIL).
- Symes
- Below the knee – includes socket, suspension, ankle, foot and any other add-ons required to constitute a prosthesis that meets the basic need of the client.

- Above the knee – includes socket, suspension, knee, ankle, foot and any other add-ons required to constitute a prosthesis that meets the basic need of the client.
- Hemipelvectomy or hip disarticulation – includes socket, suspension, hip, knee, ankle, foot and any other add-ons required to constitute a prosthesis that meets the basic need of the client.
- Foot or partial foot
- Silicone partial feet – as per the following criteria:
  - Prior approval is required for the initial placement.
  - Saskatchewan Health will consider one silicone foot per 12-month period as medically necessary.

#### Upper Extremity Prostheses

- Single or partial digits – if required for functionality (documentation of the functionality must accompany the invoice to SAIL).
- Hand or partial hand
- Below elbow – includes socket, suspension, cable, wrist, terminal device and any other add-ons required to constitute a prosthesis that meets the basic need of the client.
- Above elbow – includes socket, suspension, cable, elbow, wrist, terminal device and any other add-ons required to constitute a prosthesis that meets the basic need of the client.
- Elbow disartic, shoulder disartic, forequarter (inter-scapular thoracic), wrist disartic

#### Consumables

Clients are eligible to receive consumables as listed below based on medical need with the following limitations:

- Shrinkers 4 per 12 month period
- Stump socks 12 per 12 month period  
(If various thickness are required, maximum benefit is 24 per 12-month period.)
- Pelite liners 2-3 per 12 month period
- Gel liners 4-6 per 12 month period
- Silicone liners 4-6 per 12 month period
- Comfort liners & sleeves 4-6 per 12 month period
- Comfort liners without suspension 4-6 per 12 month period

#### 2. Myoelectric Prosthesis

- Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Prior approval for initial placements is available, if requested, from Saskatchewan Health.
- Requests shall involve assessment by an inter-disciplinary team constituting a minimum of a physiatrist, prosthetist and occupational therapist but may also include a social worker, psychologist and physical therapist. The team physiatrist signs the requisition and provides documentation that:

- the client has demonstrated the successful use of a standard prosthesis for day-to-day activities;
- the incremental improvement to lifestyle and activities with the use of a myoelectric are clearly indicated;
- the ability of the candidate to take direction and understand instructions on the use and limitations of a myoelectric has been assessed and deemed acceptable;
- the psychological impacts of a myoelectric have been assessed; and
- the history and overall well-being of the candidate supports a myoelectric.
- Documentation may be provided either with the invoice or with the prior approval request.

### 3. C-Leg (microprocessor knee)\*

- Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Requests shall involve assessment by an inter-disciplinary team constituting a minimum of a physiatrist, prosthetist and occupational therapist but may also include a social worker, psychologist and physical therapist. The team must recommend the suitability of a C-Leg for the individual client and the prosthesis will be requisitioned by the attending physiatrist.
- The team shall consider factors related to the client's ability to use a C-Leg and the impact this use will have on activities of daily living including:
  - past successful use of a standard prosthesis for day-to-day activities;
  - incremental improvement to lifestyle and activities which will result from the provision of a C-Leg;
  - level of physical activity and safety improvements which may be provided by use of a C-Leg;
  - ability of the client to take direction and understand instructions on the use and limitations of a C-Leg;
  - history and overall well-being of the client (as it pertains to use of the prosthesis, for example, medically stable).

\*C-Legs and other microprocessor knees are cost shared. The maximum SAIL will cover is \$15,000. Client is responsible for the remainder of the cost.

### Adaptive and Specialized Seating

1. Specialized seating are loan items and include: custom molded seating inserts (back, seat or both) and modular inserts.
2. Adaptive seating items include: wedge seats, adaptive backs, trays, bolsters, headrests and anything that can be added to a standard wheelchair to assist with positioning.
3. Ride seating systems are a benefit when clients meet certain criteria. Application forms for the Ride seating system are available through SAIL.

### Adaptive and Rehabilitation Equipment

SAIL covers the cost of rolls, balls, wedges, weighted vests, height adjustable tables and chairs, and therapy benches required for in home rehabilitation and therapy.

### Standing Frames

Benefits include standing frame, parts, casters and basic base.

### Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) for Foot Drop

Eligible clients receive the following benefits:

1. Funding towards the purchase of an FES device for foot drop to a maximum of \$3,500.00 once every five years; and
2. FES electrodes to a maximum cost of \$5.00 each with a frequency limit of 4 every 28 days.

The client retains ownership of the FES device and is responsible for maintenance and repair costs.

### External Craniofacial Prosthetics

Benefits include craniofacial prostheses that are required as an external substitute for a partially or totally absent facial part. Custom made nasal and orbital prostheses are funded. (Funding may be approved for auricular prostheses on a case by case basis if they are required as part of a larger facial reconstruction or if a functional requirement can be demonstrated.) Eligible clients receive the following benefits:

1. Funding towards the purchase of a nasal and/or orbital craniofacial prostheses to a maximum of \$11,000 each once every three years\*, and
2. Funding for maintenance and follow up appointments to assess the continued health of the craniofacial prosthesis as required.

\* The typical replacement period for a craniofacial prosthesis is 3 years. Exceptions will be made on the basis of size change, growth, or changes in medical condition.

### Palatal Prosthetics

Benefits include palatal prostheses that are required as an internal substitute for a partially or totally absent palate, including palatal augmentation prostheses and palatal lift prostheses. Eligible clients receive the following benefits:

1. Funding towards the purchase of a palatal prosthesis to a maximum of \$9,000 once every three years\*, and
2. Funding for maintenance and follow up appointments to assess the continued health of the palatal prosthesis as required.

\* The typical replacement period for a palatal prosthesis is 3 years. Exceptions will be made on the basis of size change, growth, or changes in medical condition.

### **NON-BENEFIT ITEMS**

The following are not a benefit:

- ocular prostheses
- breast prostheses
- ear (auricular) prostheses
- weighted items (with the exception of vests covered for children)
- compression vests

- soft back braces, cervical collars, rib belts, hernia truss, off-the-shelf wrist or hand braces, back corsets, hand or finger splints
- sit-to-stand lifts and/or standing frames
- any base for standing frames that is not basic or is intended to move the child in the stander (e.g. wheels, pivot base, etc.)
- a second prosthesis for the same facial site
- surgical costs associated with prostheses, including surgical implants and posts
- travel or accommodation costs to iRSM
- FES devices for upper extremities
- FES costs such as batteries, replacement parts (other than electrodes), trial costs, shipping costs, extended warranties and private physical therapy services.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **Prosthetics and Orthotics – Public Service Providers**

#### **Application**

A qualifying specialist physician must refer clients by completing a *Prosthetic and Orthotic Appliance Requisition* and forwarding it to Wascana Rehabilitation Centre or Saskatchewan Abilities Council.

#### **Billing**

Requests for reimbursement shall be submitted to Saskatchewan Health on a designated *Prosthetic and Orthotic Appliance Requisition* that clearly indicates:

- Client identification
- Signature of a qualifying physician or attached prescription signed by a qualifying physician
- Signature of the orthotist/prosthetist is accepted for repairs assuming there is no change to the original prescription
- Description of the orthotic or prosthetic, specifically:
  - whether it is a new device or repair of existing device;
  - a description of the appliance including major category, sub-category and any other relevant information; and
  - the eligible fee.
- Endorsement by the client or their representative that the device has been received.
  - In instances where client endorsement is not practical, an explanation is noted on the requisition (i.e. mailed, provided in hospital, etc.).

### **Prosthetics and Orthotics – Private Service Providers**

#### **Application**

A qualifying specialist physician must refer clients by either providing the client with a prescription for an appliance or by completing a *Prosthetic and Orthotic Appliance Requisition* and forwarding it to a certified private orthotist or prosthetist (Spalding Orthopaedic Design, Regina Sports Group, Saskatoon Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Center or Nelson's Sports Bracing and Orthotics).

## **Billing**

Upon provision of a prosthetic or orthotic appliance, providers must submit an invoice to SAIL for the **cost of materials only**, along with a copy of a completed *Prosthetic and Orthotic Appliance Requisition* or a prescription. Invoices must include client identification, a detailed description of the prosthetic/orthotic, and the total cost of the appliance including the client share and the SAIL payable amount. Acquisition costs must be verified for all appliances except knee braces that are cost shared with the client.

## **Prosthetics and Orthotics – Out of Province**

Full coverage will be considered if:

- the client is referred out of province for surgery or treatment or is involved in an accident out of province;
- the appliance is fitted by a certified orthotist or prosthetist;
- the appliance is a condition of discharge or cannot be supplied in province; and
- it is the first issue of the appliance.

The prescriber/certified service provider must provide:

- rationale for the client obtaining out of province service (as outlined above);
- a detailed estimate (labour and parts must be detailed); and
- a prescription – which will be subject to Saskatchewan Health prescriber limitations as established.

Obtaining a prior approval is recommended. Approvals are valid for 60 days or until the client's Saskatchewan Health coverage is cancelled, whichever comes first. The quoted rate on the detailed estimate will be approved when the conditions above are met.

Ongoing support and maintenance will not be approved at out of province rates.

Clients meeting the eligibility criteria who choose to have their device provided in a province other than Saskatchewan shall receive assistance with the cost of the device at Saskatchewan rates only when approved in advance by Saskatchewan Health and supplied by a certified orthotist or prosthetist. The cost of labour will not be reimbursed.

## **Adaptive and Specialized Seating**

The Wascana Rehabilitation Centre and Saskatchewan Abilities Council invoice SAIL directly for the costs involved with adaptive and specialized seating.

For Ride seating systems (initial and replacement), the therapist must complete an *Application for Ride Seating System* and forward it to SAIL. Therapists are notified if the Ride is approved and the supplier of the Ride seating system invoices SAIL directly once the final fitting is complete.

## **Adaptive and Rehabilitation Equipment**

For commercially produced equipment, the therapist must complete a *Special Needs Equipment Requisition* and forward it to SAIL. SAIL will order the item, have it shipped directly to the client or to the therapist as requested and pay the supplier directly.

For paediatric wooden equipment, including height adjustable tables, chairs and therapy benches, therapists must complete a *Paediatric Wooden Equipment Order Form* and forward it to the Saskatchewan Abilities Council. Equipment will be provided on a loan basis and shipped to the client or the therapist, as requested.

The Wascana Rehabilitation Centre and Saskatchewan Abilities Council invoice SAIL directly for the costs involved with building adaptive and rehabilitation equipment.

### **Standing Frames**

Therapist must complete a *Special Needs Equipment Requisition* and forward it to SAIL. SAIL will order the standing frame, have it shipped directly to the client or to the therapist as requested and pay the supplier directly. Kinsmen Children's Centre and Wascana Rehabilitation Centre also have the option of placing the standing frame order directly with a supplier, paying the supplier and invoicing SAIL for the acquisition cost.

Standing frames are purchased for the client. Clients may donate their used standing frame back to the program for reissuing when it is no longer required.

If the standing frame is being ordered by a therapist working outside of ABCDC or WRC, the therapist must check with the nearest centre to ensure a recycled frame is not available before ordering a new standing frame.

### **Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) for Foot Drop**

A specialist physician refers the client to an FES-trained clinician (orthotist or physical therapist working in either the public or private sector), completing the top portion of a *Prosthetic and Orthotic Appliance Requisition*.

The FES-trained clinician screens, assesses, fits and trains the client. This clinician assists the client with the selection of a suitable FES device (in consultation with the referring physician) and organizes a trial with that device. If the trial is successful and the patient wants to obtain an FES device, the clinician completes the bottom portion of the *Prosthetic and Orthotic Appliance Requisition*. The completed form is sent to an FES distributor.

The FES distributor submits the completed *Prosthetic and Orthotic Appliance Requisition* to SAIL for approval. Invoices for approved FES devices and electrodes are submitted online. The FES distributor is responsible for collecting the client's co-pay for the FES device and electrodes (when applicable).

### **Craniofacial or Palatal Prosthetics**

- Specialist physicians refer applicable clients to iRSM (for initial prosthesis only). The referral must include the diagnosis and medical condition of the client as well as the specialist's signature.
- Specialists at iRSM will assess the medical condition of the client and determine appropriate treatment options for the client.
- iRSM will submit (email) the following information to Covenant Health, who then submits it to SAIL:

- Treatment estimates including prosthesis fees, laboratory fees, and other fees.
- Information, including diagnosis and reason for referral, from the specialist physician.
- Client's first and last name, health services number and date of birth.
- The type of craniofacial or palatal prosthesis being requested.
- For replacement prostheses only, supporting information and justification for the replacement indicating why the client's current prosthesis is no longer usable.
- Once approval is granted by SAIL, iRSM is responsible for informing and following up with the client.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Universal Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> September 2016</p>
<p><b>RESPIRATORY EQUIPMENT PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Respiratory Equipment Program offers the loan of a selection of respiratory equipment and provides financial assistance towards the purchase of aerosol therapy compressors (nebulizers) to eligible Saskatchewan residents. The program covers the cost of consumable tracheostomy and laryngectomy supplies. The program also covers spirometers for discharge from hospital after a lung transplant. Loaned equipment includes ventilators, continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) and bi-level flow generators, tracheostomy humidification compressors, mechanical insufflation-exsufflation devices and portable and stationary suctioning equipment.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

Ventilators

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Have mechanical ventilation prescribed by a respirologist,
- 2) Require support by intermittent or continuous\* mechanical ventilation,
- 3) Not be a resident of a special-care home, hospital or health centre, and
- 4) Have mechanical ventilation supported by their home health region.

\*continuous ventilation clients are those who are unable to safely maintain spontaneous ventilation for four or more consecutive hours.

CPAP/bi-level flow generators

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Have a flow generator prescribed by a Saskatchewan based respirologist.  
Note: Prescriptions will not be accepted from respirologists practicing outside of Saskatchewan.

Auto CPAP flow generators

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Have an auto CPAP prescribed by a physician who is a sleep specialist working in a Sleep Disorders Centre in Saskatchewan,
- 2) Have a full polysomnography showing a large variation in pressures required as a result of patient position, and

- 3) Have inadequate response to conventional CPAP with an adequate response when auto CPAP is used.

#### Adaptive servo-ventilation (ASV) flow generators

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Have an ASV unit prescribed by a physician who is a sleep specialist working in a Sleep Disorders Centre in Saskatchewan, and
- 2) Have a confirmed diagnosis by polysomnography of complex apnea.

#### Tracheostomy humidification compressors

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Have the compressor prescribed by a physician or nurse practitioner.

#### Stationary suctioning equipment

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Have the equipment prescribed by a physician or nurse practitioner.

#### Portable suctioning equipment

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Have the equipment prescribed by a physician or nurse practitioner, and
- 2) Have demonstrated mobility needs.

#### Mechanical insufflation-exsufflation devices

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Have the equipment prescribed by a physician with one of the following specialties: respirology, physiatry, paediatrics, neurology (neurologist and neurosurgeon) or rheumatology;
- 2) Have a diagnosis of neuromuscular disease, post-polio, spinal cord injury or a condition with weak respiratory muscles or paralysis;
- 3) Be ventilator-assisted or at risk for developing a need for ventilator assistance;
- 4) Have documented objective evidence of a weak cough with Peak Cough Flows < 270 L/min with Lung Volume Recruitment (LVR) and/or Manually Assisted Cough (MAC); and
- 5) Not be a resident of a special-care home, hospital or health centre.

#### Aerosol therapy compressors (nebulizers)

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Have a prescription from a physician or nurse practitioner, and
- 2) Be unable to use a metered dose inhaler for one of the following reasons:
  - the required medication is not available in the metered inhaler format,
  - specific physical or intellectual challenges,
  - be under the age of six.

Note: Patient preference for a nebulizer and arguments that a drug is more effective when administered through a nebulizer do not meet the program criteria for funding.

Spirometers

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Have a prescription from a respirologist at the Lung Transplant Program, and
- 2) Have undergone a lung transplant and require the device for discharge from hospital.

Tracheostomy and laryngectomy supplies

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) Be referred to the program by a physician, nurse practitioner, respiratory therapist or speech language pathologist, and
- 2) Have a tracheostomy or laryngectomy.

**BENEFITS**

Ventilators

Intermittent Ventilation

- One ventilator with humidifier for home use\*
- Ventilator circuits
- Tracheostomy supplies
- Manual resuscitator and mask

\* Clients with a defined need (e.g. live in a community where emergency equipment cannot be accessed) may request a back-up ventilator.

Continuous Ventilation

- Two ventilators with a humidifier for home use
- Ventilator circuits
- Tracheostomy supplies
- Manual resuscitator and mask
- Speaking valve

<b>Inventory Ventilator Supplies</b> <b>(Supplied through the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot at Saskatoon City Hospital)</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Intermittent Ventilator Benefits</b>	<b>Continuous Ventilator Benefits</b>
Ventilator circuits	Yes (2 per 6 month period)	Yes (2 per 6 month period)
Large volume nebulizer for humidity with corrugated tubing and trach mask	Yes	Yes
Manual resuscitator and mask	Yes	Yes

CPAP and bi-level flow generators (including auto CPAP and ASV units)

- loan of a flow generator

Note: The client is responsible for the cost of consumable supplies including mask, headgear, tubing, humidifier and filters. With prior approval, clients who have Supplementary Health coverage may be eligible for funding of consumable supplies.

Tracheostomy humidification compressors

- loan of a compressor
- consumable supplies including trach masks, corrugated tubing and nebulizer bottles (three of each with initial loan, one of each per week thereafter)

Portable or stationary suctioning equipment

- loan of suction machine
- consumable supplies including suction canisters and suction tubes (3 of each with initial loan, one of each per week thereafter)
- 6 suction catheters or 3 Yankauer catheters are provided with initial loan. No replacements are available through SAIL.
- Carrying bag for portable suction machine.

Mechanical insufflation-exsufflation devices

- loan of a mechanical insufflation-exsufflation device

Note: The client is responsible for the cost of consumable supplies including patient circuits, interfaces and filters. With prior approval, clients who have Supplementary Health coverage may be eligible for funding of consumable supplies.

Aerosol therapy compressors (nebulizers)

- 50% reimbursement to a maximum of \$125 or, if eligible for the Supplementary Health Program or children with Family Health Benefits coverage, the full cost of a compressor to a maximum of \$160.
- Clients with Supplementary Health coverage or children covered through Family Health Benefits are eligible for two nebulizer kits and one filter per month.
- Compressor is eligible for replacement once every five years.

Spirometers

- One hand-held spirometer.

Tracheostomy and laryngectomy supplies

<b>Tracheostomy Supplies</b>	
<b>Product</b>	<b>Approved Quantity</b>
Artificial noses (HMEs)	4 per month (22 years of age and older) 16 per month (under 22 years of age)
Inner cannula	10 per month
Protective bib	3 per year
Rubber shower cover	1 per year
Speaking valves	1 per year
Suction catheters	100 per month
Tracheostomy dressings	50 per month
Tracheostomy ties	6 per month
Tracheostomy tubes	1 per month

<b>Laryngectomy Supplies</b>	
<b>Product</b>	<b>Approved Quantity</b>
Cloth covers	3 per year
Foam stoma covers	30 per month
HME cassette packs	30 per month
HME housing	20 per month
Laryngectomy ties	2 per month
Laryngectomy tubes	1 per 4 month period
Puncture dilators	1 per year
Voice prosthesis	6 per year
Waterproof shower covers	1 per year

### **NON-BENEFITS**

- Pulse oximeters.
- Reimbursement of privately purchased respiratory equipment that is available through the program on a loan basis.

### **PROCEDURE**

#### **Application Process**

##### Ventilators

- *Application for Ventilator Coverage* forms are available from the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot at Saskatoon City Hospital.
- Upon completion by both the referring respirologist and the health region case manager, the *Application for Ventilator Coverage* form must be forwarded to the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot. For continuous ventilation, the client's home Regional Health Authority must develop a comprehensive care plan, complete the SAIL Continuous Home Ventilation Care Plan Checklist and have a Vice-President in their home RHA approve the plan. Completion of forms by the health region shows commitment by the region to assume the cost of and provide home respiratory care for the client.

##### CPAP and bi-level flow generators (including auto CPAP and ASV units)

- *Application for Respiratory Equipment* forms are available from the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot at Saskatoon City Hospital.
- Upon completion, the form must be forwarded to the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot.

##### Tracheostomy humidification compressors and portable or stationary suctioning equipment

- *Application for Respiratory Equipment* forms are available from the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot at Saskatoon City Hospital.
- If the application form is for a client residing in southern Saskatchewan, the application can be forwarded to the Wascana Rehabilitation Centre, Respiratory Services, Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region. If the application is for a client residing in northern Saskatchewan, the application should be sent to the SAIL

Respiratory Benefits Depot. Requests for eligible replacement supplies can be made through the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot.

#### Mechanical insufflation-exsufflation devices

- *Application for Mechanical Insufflation-Exsufflation Device* forms are available from the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot at Saskatoon City Hospital.
- Results of peak cough flow testing demonstrating program eligibility must be documented on the form by a respiratory therapist or a physical therapist.
- Upon completion by a specialist physician and a respiratory therapist or physical therapist, the form must be forwarded to the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot.

#### Aerosol therapy compressors (nebulizers)

- Clients can present to any pharmacy, oxygen company or medical supplier with a prescription from a physician. The supplier will call SAIL for approval and issue the equipment. If SAIL is responsible for 100% of the cost, the supplier will invoice SAIL and attach the prescription. If SAIL is responsible for 50% of the cost, the client pays the supplier the full cost and submits their original receipt and a copy of the prescription to SAIL for reimbursement.
- If the nebulizer is being purchased for a client that is not under the age of six, a letter from the physician outlining the circumstances must also be presented to the supplier and sent to SAIL for prior approval.

#### Spirometers

- Before dispensing a spirometer, the transplant program should call SAIL to verify that the client has valid Saskatchewan Health coverage. The transplant program should invoice SAIL directly for the cost of the spirometer. A prescription from a physician involved with the transplant program designating that the client has had a lung transplant must accompany the invoice.

#### Tracheostomy and laryngectomy supplies

- A physician, nurse practitioner, respiratory therapist or speech language pathologist must refer eligible clients to the Ministry by calling 1-306-787-7121 in Regina or toll-free at 1-800-667-7581 and providing the client's name, health services number and confirmation of either a tracheostomy or laryngectomy.
- Following referral, clients will receive a letter from the Ministry confirming their eligibility for tracheostomy or laryngectomy benefits.
- Clients can present a copy of that letter to any pharmacy or approved medical supplier that carries the supplies.
- The supplier will issue the supplies within the approved quantity limits and invoice the Ministry of Health through the medical supplies system.

## **Provision, Repair, and Maintenance of Equipment**

- Questions or concerns regarding delivery, servicing, and technical support for loaned equipment should be directed to the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot at Saskatoon City Hospital.
- CPAP and bilevel flow generator planned maintenance is recommended at intervals of five years, depending on the particular model. The user is responsible for the cost to transport their machine to the depot. Please contact the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot prior to transporting your machine.
  - CPAP machines are not replaced during service. If possible, the maintenance will be completed on the same day. For users of bi-level flow generators with prescribed backup rates, an exception is made, and machines for loan during service are available if required.
- The cost of repairs and maintenance to aerosol therapy compressors (nebulizers) is the responsibility of the user and is not available through the SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot. Questions about repairs and maintenance should be directed to the supplier. Clients covered by Supplementary Health and children covered under the Family Health Benefits Program may be eligible for the cost of repairs and maintenance with prior approval from the program.
- Request for replacement of a spirometer must be made directly to SAIL.

## **CONTACTS**

SAIL Respiratory Benefits Depot  
Saskatoon City Hospital  
701 Queen Street  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
S7K 0M7  
Phone: (306) 655-2505  
Fax: (306) 655-7591

SAIL  
3475 Albert Street  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4S 6X6  
Phone: (306) 787-7121  
Fax: (306) 787-8679

For clients residing in the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, the teaching and loan of SAIL respiratory equipment (other than spirometers, CPAPs and bilevel flow generators) and supplies is coordinated through the Community Respiratory Outreach Program.

Community Respiratory Outreach Program  
Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region  
Wascana Rehabilitation Centre  
2180 – 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4S 0A5  
Phone: (306) 766-5973 Fax: (306) 766-5769

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Special Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> January 2014</p>
<p><b>SASKATCHEWAN INSULIN PUMP PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Saskatchewan Insulin Pump Program covers the cost of one insulin pump every five years for individuals 25 years of age or younger who have Type 1 diabetes and meet specific medical criteria. Financial assistance is also available for insulin pump supplies for qualifying individuals.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. Have Type 1 diabetes and be 25 years of age or younger;
2. Meet one or more of the following criteria:
  - Unable to consistently achieve the recommended HgbA<sub>1c</sub> target value (i.e. 9.0% or less for children under five years of age; 8.0% or less for individuals five years of age to 17 years of age and 7% or less for individuals 18 years of age or older) despite concerted efforts of the individual and/or family to achieve glycemic control through:
    - strong consistency with carbohydrate counting and matching of insulin with carbohydrate intake
    - frequent blood glucose monitoring with recording of results
    - a multiple daily injection regimen wherein insulin is administered with meals and snacks.
  - Experience frequent severe hypoglycemic events.
  - Have marked insulin sensitivity or resistance, uncharacteristic for age and stage of diabetes.
  - Have unpredictable large swings in blood glucose levels, with or without a Dawn phenomenon;
3. Be referred to the program by an endocrinologist or another specialist physician who is associated with a regional health diabetes program and who has experience with insulin pump management in individuals 25 and under; and
4. Participate in a regional health insulin pump information program, be educated by a regional health diabetes program and be evaluated through a trial period with an insulin pump.

## **BENEFITS**

Eligible clients receive the following benefits:

1. Insulin pumps (to a maximum of \$6,300) through the Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living program. Coverage is available for one pump every five years under the age of 26.
2. Insulin pump supplies (such as infusion sets, cartridges/reservoirs, insertion devices, Skin Prep and IV Prep wipes) as regular benefits under the Saskatchewan Drug Plan. For those who have Special Support coverage, the cost will be based on the family deductible and/or co-payments. These supplies will be fully covered for individuals 25 years of age and under who have coverage under the Supplementary Health Program, children under the Family Health Benefits Program or certain programs under SAIL (Paraplegia, Chronic End-Stage Renal Disease, and Cystic Fibrosis Programs). \*

\*Suppliers provide insulin pump supplies (infusion sets and cartridges/reservoirs) at no charge during the pump trial period (up to three months).

Non-benefit items include skins (covers), cases, batteries, cartridge/reservoir replacement caps, battery replacement caps and continuous glucose monitors (and associated sensors). Pump batteries, cartridge/reservoir replacement caps and battery replacement caps will be fully covered for individuals 25 years of age and under who have coverage under the Supplementary Health or are children covered under the Family Health Benefits Programs.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **Application**

After determining that a client is eligible for the program, the health region diabetes program completes an *Application for Funding Saskatchewan Insulin Pump Program* form and forwards it directly to the pump supplier selected by the applicant. Upon successful completion of a trial period (up to three months), the completed application is forwarded by the regional health diabetes program to SAIL.

Qualifying beneficiaries are notified in writing of their acceptance to the program. The individual is registered on the SAIL Supply System to allow suppliers to invoice for the insulin pump.

Eligibility for pump supplies under the Saskatchewan Drug Plan's Exception Drug Status Program is processed and approval letters are sent to applicant. This coverage is effective from the date the application is received by SAIL following the trial period to the last day of the beneficiary's 25<sup>th</sup> year of age.

Special Support coverage is processed or reassessed as required.

**Billing Process**

A copy of the acceptance letter sent to the client is forwarded to the insulin pump supplier. This letter serves as notification that the trial period is over and that SAIL can be invoiced for the cost of the insulin pump (up to \$6,300). The supplier must submit an invoice to SAIL in order to receive payment for the insulin pump.

Insulin pump supplies are adjudicated by pharmacists on the on-line pharmacy network. Pharmacists must submit a *Medical Supplies, Appliances and Miscellaneous Drugs Claim Form* (or equivalent paper invoice) to the Supplementary Health Program for pump batteries, cartridge/reservoir replacement caps and battery replacement caps for eligible Supplementary Health and Family Health Benefits recipients.

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Universal Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> June 2016</p>
<p><b>SPECIAL NEEDS EQUIPMENT PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The intent of the Special Needs Equipment Program is to provide the loan and repair of equipment to clients throughout the province. The program loans equipment such as walkers, wheelchairs and hospital beds. Saskatchewan Health contracts with the Saskatchewan Abilities Council to operate this program.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

- 1) have equipment requisitioned by a medical professional with appropriate authority.

**BENEFITS**

Dependent on health coverage and program eligibility criteria, clients have access to the loan of equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, cushions, paediatric mobility aids, bathroom accessories, hospital beds and transfer lifts. The equipment is owned by the program and clients must return the equipment to a Special Needs Equipment Depot when they no longer require it. Repairs and maintenance of loaned equipment are also a benefit of the program.

Program benefits are provided to people residing in the community. Personal Care Home and Special Care Home residents are eligible only for walkers, wheelchairs and cushions. Patients in an acute care facility are not eligible for Special Needs Equipment benefits except as part of a definitive discharge plan.

**AVAILABLE EQUIPMENT**

Type	Requisitioning Authority
<b>WHEELCHAIRS</b>	
standard wheelchair	physiatrist, Occupational Therapist (OT), Physical Therapist (PT), Home Care Nurse
standard recliner wheelchair	physiatrist, OT, PT
ultralite wheelchair	physiatrist
power wheelchair	physiatrist

tilt-in-space power wheelchair	physiatrist
tilt-in-space manual wheelchair	physiatrist (or OT, PT as part of the Regina Seating Team)
wheelchair tray	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
growth kit	physiatrist, OT, PT
anti-tippers	physiatrist, OT, PT
<b>CUSHIONS**</b>	
foam	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
T-foam	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
non-slip	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
Akton action gel	physiatrist, OT, PT, plastic surgeon, Home Care Nurse (in consultation with a PT or OT)
Jay 2	physiatrist, plastic surgeon, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse (in consultation with a PT or OT)
Jay active	physiatrist, plastic surgeon, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse (in consultation with a PT or OT)
Roho quatro high and low profile	physiatrist, plastic surgeon, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse (in consultation with a PT or OT)
Invacare matrux posture seat (PS)	physiatrist, plastic surgeon, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse (in consultation with a PT or OT)
Vicair vector	physiatrist, plastic surgeon, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse (in consultation with a PT or OT)
<b>WALKERS</b>	
folding	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
rollator	physiatrist, OT, PT
kaye postural	physiatrist, OT, PT (specializing in paediatrics)
gutter attachment	physiatrist, OT, PT
auto-stop kit	physiatrist, OT, PT
<b>CANES and CRUTCHES</b>	
adjustable ortho cane*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
four point cane*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
gutter cane*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
walkcane*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
standard adjustable axillary crutches*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
quad crutch*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
forearm adjustable crutch	physiatrist, OT, PT
gutter crutch attachment*	physiatrist, OT, PT
ice grippers*	physiatrist, OT, PT

<b>PAEDIATRIC MOBILITY AIDS</b>	
McLaren Buggy	physiatrist, OT or PT (specializing in paediatrics)
Convoid cruiser	physiatrist, OT or PT (specializing in paediatrics)
Mulholland (specialized seating approval)	physiatrist
Kid kart (specialized seating approval)	physiatrist
Snug seat (specialized seating approval)	physiatrist
<b>BATHROOM ACCESSORIES</b>	
bathtub clamp old style*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
bathtub clamp new style*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
wall bars*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
transfer tub seat	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
utility bath seat with back*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
utility bath seat without back*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
raised toilet seat*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
stationary commode	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
combination commode	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
child's commode	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
toilet arm rests*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
bathtub lifts	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
<b>TRANSFER ASSISTS</b>	
standard saskapole	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
saskapole trapeze	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
saskapole knee-board	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
versa helper trapeze	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
versa helper floor stand	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
transfer board*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
hoyer hydraulic patient lift classic	physiatrist, OT, PT
hoyer hydraulic patient lift partner	physiatrist, OT, PT
<b>HOSPITAL BEDS and ACCESSORIES</b>	
hospital bed – electric (home assessment required)	physiatrist, OT, PT
side rails	physician, OT, PT
mattress	physician, OT, PT
overbed table	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse
<b>ALTERNATING PRESSURE UNITS</b>	
alternating pressure mattress	physiatrist, plastic surgeon, OT, PT
alternating pressure pump	physiatrist, plastic surgeon, OT, PT
<b>LYMPHEDEMA CONTROL UNITS***</b>	
Jobst pressure pump (3 chamber)	physiatrist, OT, PT
Jobst pressure sleeve (3 chamber)	physiatrist, OT, PT
<b>ACCESSORIES</b>	
helping hand reacher*	physiatrist, OT, PT, Home Care Nurse

\* Loan is restricted to those clients with coverage through the Supplementary Health Program, Seniors Income Plan, or Family Health Benefits Program.

\*\*The loan of cushions is restricted to clients who have a wheelchair. Clients who do not use a wheelchair for their primary mode of mobility are only eligible for the loan of a cushion if they:

- a) are eligible for coverage through the Supplementary Health Program, Seniors Income Plan, or Family Health Benefits Program; and
- b) have a current pressure ulcer (ICD-9-CM codes 707.03, 707.04, 707.05), or past history of a pressure ulcer (707.03, 707.04, 707.05), or wound on the area of contact with the seating surface (e.g., ischial tuberosities, greater trochanters, coccyx, sacrum, or other); and
- c) have a Letter of Medical Necessity which demonstrates a valid medical rationale for the provision of the cushion may be eligible. Letter details should demonstrate that the use of the proposed cushion is reasonable and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of the client's injury (e.g., surfaces, duration of time cushion is required, Braden Scale score, grading of current pressure sore, details on current sitting tolerance, and any other relevant information related to the medical necessity of the cushion).

\*\*\* A grant option is available to clients with a diagnosis of primary lymphedema for the purchase of a multi-chambered (six or more) lymphedema pump. To be eligible, clients must have a diagnosis of primary lymphedema, require the pump long-term and at least every second day, and demonstrate the pump is effective through a successful trial of a machine. Referral is required from a specialist physician whose letter must confirm the diagnosis of primary lymphedema. A physiotherapist must specify the type of equipment and accessories that are required. If approved, the client will be notified in writing. The client is responsible for purchasing the equipment and submitting the receipt to SAIL. SAIL will reimburse the client for 2/3 of the actual cost of the pump, sleeves and accessories to a maximum of \$4000. The grant is available once every five years.

Please refer to the Special Needs Equipment Manual for more detailed information on equipment and eligibility. The manual is available on the Council website at [http://www.abilitiescouncil.sk.ca/html/life/special\\_needs\\_equipment/sne\\_loan\\_program/Equipment-Manual/index.cfm](http://www.abilitiescouncil.sk.ca/html/life/special_needs_equipment/sne_loan_program/Equipment-Manual/index.cfm).

Non-benefit items include medical alarm systems, four wheeled walkers with seats and scooters.

Neither Saskatchewan Health nor the Saskatchewan Abilities Council install or fund the installation of special needs equipment in client's residences.

Equipment will not be ordered with features that are not a benefit of the program (i.e. seats on walkers, environmental controls on wheelchairs or an elevated seat in a wheelchair). Clients cannot pay the difference in cost to have an additional feature added to a loan item.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **Application**

A health professional with authority to requisition a specific type of equipment must complete a *Special Needs Equipment Requisition Form* on behalf of the client and send it to one of the five Saskatchewan Abilities Council Special Needs Equipment depots.

Saskatoon Depot  
2310 Louise Avenue  
Saskatoon, SK S7J 2C7  
Phone: (306) 664-6646  
Fax: (306) 955-2162  
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Regina Depot  
2 – 1723 Francis Street  
Regina, SK S4N 7N2  
Phone: (306) 569-1262  
Fax: (306) 352-4282  
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Swift Current Depot  
2 – 1505 Chaplin Street West  
Swift Current, SK S9H 0H1  
Phone: (306) 773-2071  
Fax: (306) 773-7460  
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Yorkton Depot  
144 Ball Road, Box 5011  
Yorkton, SK S3N 3Z4  
Phone: (306) 786-9255  
Fax: (306) 783-1234  
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Prince Albert Depot  
1205 1<sup>st</sup> Street East  
Prince Albert, SK S6V 2A9  
Phone: (306) 922-0225  
Fax: (306) 764-8376  
Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Applications for manual tilt-in space wheelchairs are subject to the approval of the Specialized Seating Committee in Saskatoon or a Seating Team in Regina.

The *Specialized Wheelchair Application* form must be completed to apply for the loan of power, power tilt-in-space and ultralite wheelchairs. These will be reviewed and approved subject to the client meeting specific equipment criteria.

The *Special Needs Equipment – Application for Specialty Cushion* form must be completed to requisition a Jay or Roho cushion. These will be reviewed and approved subject to the client meeting specific criteria.

### **REPAIRS**

Trained technicians at each depot will repair SAIL issued equipment at no cost to the client. Appointments are required for all repairs.

### **RETURNS**

Equipment can be returned at the nearest branch of the Saskatchewan Abilities Council. If you cannot return your equipment in person, please contact the office to make shipping arrangements. Please include the client's name, address, phone number and Health Services Number (HSN) with returned equipment.

### **EQUIPMENT SALES TO THIRD PARTY AGENCIES**

Where inventory levels permit, the SAIL program may sell equipment to third party agencies listed below. There is no obligation on the part of SAIL to jeopardize its inventories or budget allocations to satisfy third party agency requests. Where inventory levels or budget constraints do not permit the sale of equipment, third party agencies must make alternate arrangements with equipment distributors to satisfy their equipment requirements.

The intent of this policy is to assist funded agencies where possible. It is not intended to generate revenue or to infringe on the private sector market. In keeping with this intent, SAIL or any agency distributing equipment funded by SAIL, will not sell such SAIL equipment to private individuals, associations, or businesses.

Total revenues generated from the sale of equipment to third party agencies are payable to the Minister of Finance.

### **Eligible Buyers**

Third party agencies that are eligible to purchase SAIL owned/funded equipment are:

- Worker's Compensation Board
- Saskatchewan Government Insurance
- Veterans Affairs Canada
- Health Canada
- Indian and Northern Affairs

 <p>Government of Saskatchewan</p> <p><b>Drug Plan &amp; Extended Benefits</b></p>	<p><b>Section:</b> <i>Universal Benefit Programs</i></p>	<p><b>Last Amended Date</b> June 2016</p>
<p><b>THERAPEUTIC NUTRITIONAL PRODUCTS PROGRAM</b></p>		

**INTENT**

The Therapeutic Nutritional Products Program provides assistance towards the cost of specialized nutritional products for people with complex medical conditions who rely on those products as their primary source of nutrition. The program assists with the incremental cost associated with using these products in place of a regular diet. These costs are shared between patients and Saskatchewan Health, with the patient’s portion varying based on a number of factors including family income.

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

The Department of Health Act (formerly under The Health Services Act)

- The Saskatchewan Aids to Independent Living Regulations, 1976 (Saskatchewan Regulation 292/76).

**ELIGIBILITY**

In addition to the eligibility criteria in the general policies section, clients must:

1. be referred by a dietitian;
2. receive at least 90% of their nutrition through an eligible nutritional product;
3. require the nutritional product for at least four consecutive months;
4. experience malabsorption, maldigestion, failure to thrive and/or swallowing difficulties;
5. not receive assistance through other programs such as Social Assistance, the Cystic Fibrosis Program or any other Saskatchewan Health or Health Region based programs such as the Metabolic Diseases or Palliative Care Programs; and
6. not reside in a Special Care Home.

**BENEFITS**

**Eligible Formulas**

Alimentum	Liquid Hope
Compleat (All)	Monogen
E028 Splash	Neocate Infant
Enfamil Enfacare A+	Neocate Junior
Glucerna 1.0 Cal	Neocate Splash (Unflavoured Only)
Glycosade*	Nepro
Isosource (All)	Novasource Renal
Jevity (All)	Nutramigen (All)
Ketocal (All)	Nutren (All)
KetoVie 4:1	NutriHep
Lipistart	Osmolite (All)

### **Eligible Formulas (continued)**

Pediasure (All)	Sandosource Peptide
Peptamen (All)	Similac Neosure
Portagen	Suplena
Pregestimil (All)	Tolerex
Promote	Two Cal HN
PurAmino A+	Vital HN
RCF	Vital Peptide 1 Cal
Resource 2.0	Vital Peptide 1.5 Cal
Resource Diabetic	Vivonex (All)
Resource Kid Essentials	

\* Glycosade can be approved as a benefit for a six month trial. If there is significant benefit after six months it will be approved indefinitely. Letters from dietitian or physician stating anticipated benefit are required to start trial. Follow up information is required for additional coverage.

### **Modular Supplements - eligible if combined with eligible formula**

Duocal (Carb and Fat)	Polycal (Carb)
LiquiProtein (Protein)	Pro-phree (Carb and Fat)
MCT Oil (Fat)	Protifar (Protein)
MCTprocal (Fat, Protein and Carb)	Resource Beneprotein (Protein)
Microlipid (Fat)	SolCarb (Carb)
Neocate Nutra	

### **Non-Benefit Items**

Boost (all)  
Ensure (all)  
Food supplements such as herbs, vitamins and gluten-free products  
Glucerna nutritional drink  
Lactose-free infant formulas  
Milk/soy-based infant or follow-up formulas  
Neocate Splash (Grape, Orange-Pineapple, Tropical Fruit)  
Pedialyte  
Real Food Blends  
Total Parenteral Nutrition (TPN) solution and supplies  
Weight-loss or body building products

### **PROCEDURE**

#### **Application Process**

Clients will be referred through their clinical dietitian. The dietitian will complete a *Nutritional Products Program Application* form and give it to the client or their family. The client or family will then include income information and send the completed form to Saskatchewan Health.

Clients who meet the criteria will be required to pay a portion of their nutritional product costs. This co-payment will be calculated using a combination of age-specific monthly food deductible, their nutritional product costs, family drug costs and family income.

Age category (years)	Monthly food deductible
0-2	\$100.00
3-12	\$125.00
13 and older	\$175.00

If, during the course of the coverage period, the family's income or drug costs change, the family can forward a written request for reassessment to SAIL for consideration. Changes in or additions to the nutritional product including increase in cost of the product must be submitted for reassessment by the dietitian by resubmitting a completed application form.

Qualifying beneficiaries are notified in writing of their acceptance to the program and their percentage co-payment. The individual is registered on the SAIL Supply System to allow invoicing for nutritional products.

#### **Billing Process**

Clients and families may purchase their nutritional products from the supplier of their choice. To receive assistance, the client must show their acceptance letter to the supplier. Clients will pay their portion at the time of purchase and the supplier will invoice the remainder to SAIL.

The maximum mark-up allowed on nutritional products is 25%.