

Bulletin



Bulletin Number	Date	Direct inquiries to
4426	July 19, 2005	Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Processing Office
Distribution		(address below)
Physicians, Hospitals, Labs and Clinics		

SUBJECT: ASSISTIVE DEVICES PROGRAM HOSPITAL REPLACEMENT PROGRAM SHORT TERM OXYGEN USE

The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care's Home Oxygen Program is introducing the Hospital Replacement Program (HRP). The HRP is a pilot project to determine if providing funding assistance for the short-term use of home oxygen will facilitate an early discharge from the hospital or avoid hospitalization entirely. The program is for individuals with an acute respiratory condition where the prescribing physician feels that home oxygen therapy and other support services will allow the individual to be at home or at the Long Term Care Home Convalescent Care Program. The pilot project is time limited to fiscal years 2005-06 and 2006-07.

Who can apply?

Applicants with an acute respiratory condition but not restricted to:

- Acute exacerbation of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- Pneumonia
- Pulmonary Edema
- Pulmonary Emboli
- Post-operative Lung Surgery

Office locations

Barrie 34 Simcoe St. Suite 102 L4N 6T4	Etobicoke 3300 Bloor St. W., Unit 142 M8X 2W8	Hamilton 119 King St. W 10th fl. P.O. Box 2280, Stn. A L8P 4Y7	Kenora 220-808 Robertson St. P9N 1X9	Kingston 1055 Princess St. P.O. Box 9000 K7L 5A9	Kitchener 1400 Weber St. E. Unit B2 N2A 3Z8	London 217 York St., 5th Floor Station A N6A 5P9
Mississauga 201 City Centre Dr. P.O. Box 7020, Stn. A L5B 2T4	Newmarket 465 Davis Dr. Unit 108 L3Y 8T2	North Bay 101-447 McKeown Ave. P1B 9S9	North York 4400 Dufferin St N Unit A4-A5 M3H 6A8	Oakville Oakville Town Centre II 220 North Service Rd. W. L6M 2Y3	Oshawa Exec. Tower, Oshawa Centre. 419 King St. W. P.O. Box 635 L1J 7J2	Ottawa Fuller Building 75 Albert Street K1P 5Y9
Owen Sound 1400 1st Ave. W Suite # 2. N4K 6Z9	Peterborough 550 Lansdowne St. W. K9J 8J8	St. Catharines 301 St. Paul St. Mezzanine Level L2R 3M8	Sarnia 452 Christina St. N. N7T 5W4	Sault Ste. Marie Roberta Bondar Place 70 Foster Dr., Ste. 100 P6A 6V4	Scarborough 2063 Lawrence Ave. E. M1R 2Z4	Sudbury 199 Larch St., Suite 801 P3E 5R1
Thunder Bay 435 James St. S., Suite 113 P7E 6T1	Timmins 38 Pine St. N., Suite 110 P4N 6K6	Toronto 47 Sheppard Ave. E. Suite 417 M2N 7E7	Toronto-Downtown 777 Bay St. Suite M212 M5G 2C8	Windsor 1427 Ouellette Ave. N8X 1K1	Head Office P.O. Box 48 Kingston, ON K7L 5J3	

Does my patient have to meet medical eligibility criteria?

Yes. Your patient must be hypoxic at rest. For the HRP, hypoxemia at rest is defined as a PaO₂ of less than or equal to 60mmHg.

Who will determine if a person is eligible to apply for short-term oxygen use?

There are several methods of accessing the HRP for short-term oxygen use:

- Community Care Access Centre Case Managers located in hospitals and Emergency Departments or Discharge Planners who have identified patients with an acute respiratory condition, who could potentially be discharged from the hospital either home or to the Convalescent Care Program.
- Emergency Room physicians who have diagnosed their client with an acute respiratory condition and have determined that the use of short-term oxygen therapy, along with the appropriate medical treatment, will result in an early discharge from the hospital.
- Physicians who have assessed hospital in-patients admitted with an acute respiratory condition and have determined that the use of short term oxygen therapy, along with appropriate medical treatment, will result in an earlier discharge from the hospital either to home or the Convalescent Care Program.
- Family physicians who have diagnosed their clients with an acute respiratory condition and have determined that the use of short-term oxygen therapy, along with the appropriate medical treatment, will prevent their client from being admitted to the hospital.

How long is funding available for short-term oxygen use?

On receipt of a fully completed application form your patient can receive up to 60 days of funding assistance.

Clients requiring long term oxygen for longer than 60 days must apply to the Home Oxygen Program and meet the programs medical eligibility criteria for long term funding assistance. The criteria are as follows:

- PaO₂ less than or equal to 55mmHg or a SaO₂ less than or equal to 88%,
- PaO₂ between 56 - 60mmHg along with cor pulmonale, pulmonary hypertension or persistent erthrocytosis,
- PaO₂ between 56 - 60mHg along with exercise or nocturnal hypoxemia.

How does my patient apply?

An application for the Home Oxygen Program's Short Term Oxygen Use must be completed.

The application will be available in the following areas:

- Emergency Departments,
- CCAC Case Managers and Discharge Planners,
- Family Physician offices
- Nursing units
- Home Oxygen vendors

Applications are also available through the Ministry's InfoLine at (416) 314-5518 or 1-800-268-1154.

Where can I get more information?

For more information regarding the Hospital Replacement Program, contact the Senior Program Coordinator at (416) 327-7368 or toll free at 1-800-268-6021.