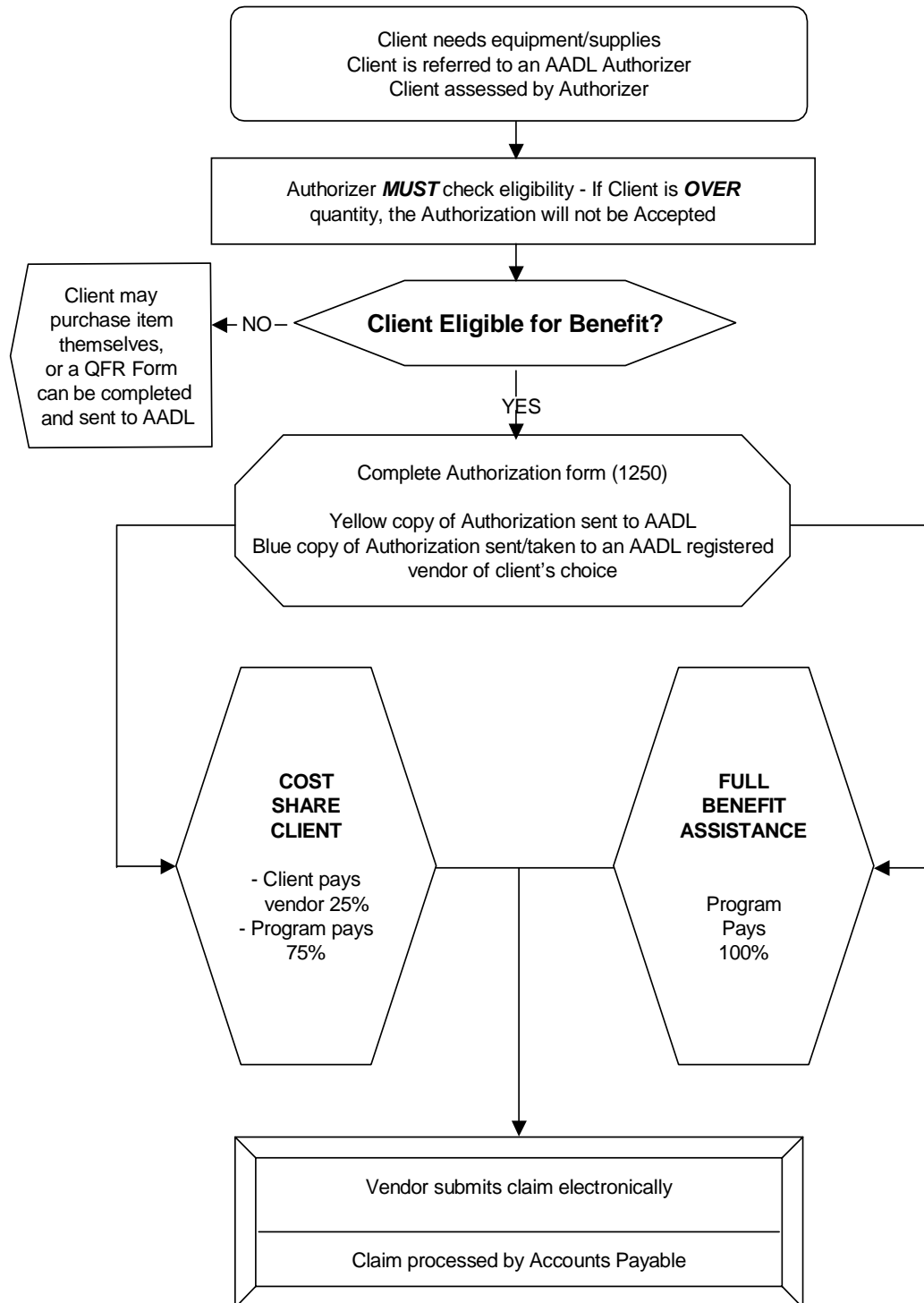


# WALKING AIDS AND ACCESSORIES

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### 1.0 PROCESS TO OBTAIN "C" BENEFITS



## WALKING AIDS AND ACCESSORIES

### 2.0 AUTHORIZER

OT, PT, or RN

### 3.0 ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS

AADL does **not** provide walking aids for:

- Short term use. Client must need to use the equipment for over six months.
- Use in acute care facilities. The equipment may be ordered as part of a discharge plan when the client is returning to the community.

Assessment should be done **in the client's home** environment whenever possible, to prevent authorization of unsuitable product. **Choose equipment carefully.** Equipment which has been purchased by AADL and is found to be inappropriate for the client's home will **not be replaced by** AADL within the specified time period.

### 4.0 QUANTITY AND FREQUENCY LIMITS

The quantity and frequency limit for walking aids is **one per four-year** period.

The Program will replace worn out equipment as necessary **after** the four-year limit **only** if an explanation is provided on the special instructions section of the 1250 form.

Some products listed in the "K" section of the manual are in the same **benefit group** as some walking benefits:

- A client **cannot have more than one item in the group.**
- A client **cannot have more than one AADL benefit for a function.**

For example:

- Walkers from the "K" section are in the same group as walkers and canes from the "C" group. A client can have one AADL walking aid.

### 5.0 INSURANCE COVERAGE

The AADL Program does not replace equipment that has been lost, stolen, abused or damaged. Clients are advised that they should purchase insurance to cover the cost of replacements.

## 6.0 AADL PRICING

Walking aid benefits are priced by the AADL pricing system.

Vendors, authorizers, and AADL staff cooperatively choose a piece of equipment which becomes the basis for the AADL price. This choice is reviewed periodically. However, the vendor may offer AADL clients any brand/model of equipment as a benefit under the AADL description providing it:

- (a) meets the generic description; and
- (b) complies with AADL standards for warranty, limitations, and liability insurance as listed below in 7.0.

### Principal Rules about AADL Pricing:

Clients must be offered a product, which meets the conditions 6(a) and (b) as described above, at or below the AADL price.

If, in exceptional circumstances, the vendor does not carry the benefit at or below the AADL price, he is obligated to inform the client that they may be able to purchase the item at or below the AADL price from another vendor.

If the shelf price of the product that the client chooses is indicated to be below the AADL price, the vendor is obligated to sell that item at the shelf price.

If the shelf price of the product that the client chooses is indicated to be above the AADL price, the client may choose to obtain it as an AADL benefit, but the client must pay the difference between the AADL price and the marked shelf price. The difference is not reported to AADL and is not considered part of the \$500 maximum client contribution.

Authorizers and clients must be aware that cost-sharing clients are responsible for cost sharing on the AADL price. The vendor **is not expected to release** the product to the client if the cost sharing and/or the upgrade amount has **not been paid**.

Authorizers and clients must be aware that the vendor **is not expected to release** product until he has received a **valid authorization** for the benefit.

## **7.0 AADL STANDARDS FOR WARRANTY, EQUIPMENT LIMITATIONS AND LIABILITY INSURANCE**

The supplier is responsible for ensuring that the listed AADL equipment standards are met by any products provided under the Walking Aids and Accessories Catalogue Listing.

### **7.1 WARRANTY**

The manufacturer must warrant that the product will be free from defects in material and workmanship for a minimum of three years from the date the equipment was purchased.

### **7.2 EQUIPMENT LIMITATIONS**

Equipment must have been in production for a minimum of one year.

### **7.3 LIABILITY INSURANCE**

Equipment provided must have a minimum two million dollars comprehensive general liability insurance provided by the manufacturer.

## **8.0 PROCESS FOR ORDERING BENEFITS**

Authorizers should follow these steps:

- assess client's equipment needs in their home environment;
- confirm client eligible including: residence and past benefit consumption;
- complete the AADL Authorization form including benefit number, and model/brand of product if necessary;
- provide special instructions including reason for replacement of equipment.

## **9.0 QUANTITY AND FREQUENCY REVIEW REQUESTS**

Must be handled separately with the AADL office prior to sending an authorization form to the vendor.

**10.0 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT WALKERS**

The C061 benefit description includes **all two and four-wheeled** walkers with brakes. Many four-wheeled walkers are available at or below the C061 AADL price. Clients who need a four-wheeled walker may have to pay extra above the AADL price depending on the product they choose.

A client can have both a walker and a wheelchair from the AADL Program if they require both pieces of equipment.



Clients who have met the AADL eligibility criteria for oxygen and are funded by AADL for **oxygen** may receive a four-wheeled walker funded at a higher amount (**C063**) if the walker is their **only** mobility aid. If the oxygen client requires both a four-wheeled walker and a wheelchair, they can be provided with a wheelchair and a C061 walker.

AADL does not pay for repairs for walking aids. Clients are responsible for repairs and maintenance of all the walking benefits.

**11.0 BENEFIT INFORMATION**

<p><b>C030 STANDARD FOLDING OR NON-FOLDING WALKER</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Height adjustable</li> <li>• V-brace, low, medium, or high crossbar</li> <li>• High cross bar will fit over toilet</li> </ul>	
<p><b>C007 STANDARD WALKER - HEAVY DUTY</b></p> <p>As C030, but supports weight of client up to approximately 600 lbs.</p>	

<p><b>C061 TWO OR FOUR-WHEELED WALKER WITH BRAKES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clients may receive a two or four-wheeled walker as a C061.</li> <li>• Pediatric sized walkers are included as a C061.</li> <li>• <b>All</b> clients may have both a walker and a wheelchair if they need both pieces of equipment.</li> <li>• Clients who have met the AADL oxygen eligibility criteria and receive the AADL oxygen benefit, and need a four-wheeled walker and a wheelchair may have a C061 walker.</li> <li>• Walkers are available in many sizes, styles and colours</li> </ul>	
<p><b>C063 FOUR WHEELED WALKER FOR OXYGEN USING CLIENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This benefit is <b>only</b> available to clients who have met the AADL <b>oxygen</b> eligibility criteria and are receiving the AADL funded oxygen benefit, and who need the walker as their <b>only</b> mobility aid.</li> <li>• Increased funding supports purchase of a stronger walker.</li> <li>• If oxygen client also needs a wheelchair, access the C061 benefit.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>C064 WHEELED WALKER WITH BRAKES FOR CLIENTS WEIGHING OVER 250 LBS.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1250 form must include client weight information.</li> <li>• Increased funding supports purchase of a stronger walker.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>C175 FOREARM ATTACHMENT FOR WALKER (EACH)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Converts walker to forearm weight-bearing style. The attachment may fit only a specific walker. Check with the vendor.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>C086 FOUR POINT CANE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjustable quad canes come in various styles, and base sizes.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>C186 ADULT FOREARM CRUTCH (PAIR)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adjustable forearm and hand heights.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>C187 CHILD FOREARM CRUTCH (PAIR)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As above, but for children.</li> <li>Listed separately due to price differential.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>C188 BARIATRIC FOREARM CRUTCH (PAIR)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Made of steel rather than aluminum</li> <li>Leg and forearm sections are adjustable</li> <li>Holds up to 500 lbs.</li> </ul> <p><b>* Prior Approval:</b> Authorizer must indicate on 1250 form: Client weight or previous history of wearing out crutches.</p>	