



Aug 2015

## Prescriber Communique

### Breezy Basix 2 Update

SWEP has received a number of recent prescriptions where the Breezy Basix 2 manual wheelchair has been prescribed with modifications outside of the standard options as per the SWEP catalogue.

As part of the selection process for wheelchairs for the recent SWEP equipment tender, the Breezy Basix 2 MWC was identified as being appropriate for infrequent use only. Sunrise (the product manufacturer) describes the Breezy Basix 2 as a lightweight wheelchair suitable for 'fleet management'; i.e. visits to medical appointments, shopping and not intended for prolonged use. The Sunrise website also has a 'help me choose a product' feature and the Breezy Basix is not listed as an option under the adult manual wheelchair search but is found in the geriatric product section.

The SWEP Wheelchair Clinical Advisors have noted that the chair is not suitable for modification, as application of additional elements will most likely threaten the integrity of the frame and footplates, with subsequent potential breakage and safety and concerns for clients. It should be noted that the Advisors have selected as part of the tender process other more durable manual wheelchairs which are suited to modification.

Therefore please note that SWEP is unable to process applications for the Breezy Basix 2 which include modifications. Should such an application be made, the prescriber will be contacted and advised to consider other suitable options, such as the sturdier wheelchairs available on contract intended for frequent / everyday use. Many of these alternative wheelchairs are within subsidy, therefore not incurring gap payments towards the wheelchair frame/base. The modification subsidy is still available for any further modification in addition to the base subsidy.

For any concerns or advice required in relation to this, please contact Wendy Hubbard at [wendyh@bhs.org.au](mailto:wendyh@bhs.org.au)