



[To use an interpreter over the telephone – Ph: 9280 1907](tel:92801907)

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Welcome

Welcome prescribers to the first 2015 edition of the SWEP prescriber newsletter.

In this edition you'll find helpful information about Australian Standards relevant to assistive technology, wheelchairs and seating systems; re-issue fantastic finds; procurement and NDIA news and lots more.

Prescriber Resources

1. As you would be aware, in accordance with overarching Department of Human Services, Victorian Aids and Equipment Program Guidelines February 2010, SWEP is only able to contribute to the cost of aids and equipment that comply with relevant Australian Standards (where applicable). Please find below useful link to the Standards compliance list which details assistive technology compliant with Australian Standards.
<http://www.novitatech.org.au/content.asp?p=277>
2. New resources for Providers of Wheelchairs and Seating Systems

In 2013 a clinical guide and a glossary of terms and definitions were published to standardise the language and measures used to describe seating.

After 8 years of International collaboration the following Standard was published by the International Standards organisation (ISO)

- ISO 16840-1 (2006): Wheelchair Seating – Vocabulary, reference axis convention and measures for body posture and postural support surfaces

Its purpose was to:-

- a. Objectively describe and measure posture of the wheelchair seated person
- b. Quantify angular orientation of seating support surfaces, and be able to relate these to the posture of the person
- c. Standardize terms and definitions for linear dimensions of seated person's body
- d. Standardize terms and definitions for linear dimensions of seating support surfaces

In 2011 a grant was awarded to fund the development of a Clinical Application Guide based on this standard.

1. A Clinical Application Guide to Standardized Wheelchair Seating Measures of the Body and Seating Support Surfaces, Revised Edition

This guide aims to translate the content of the Standard into a resource manual as standards are complex documents and expensive to purchase.

In this resource manual defining over 130 measurement terms, the authors present a complex ISO standard in a format and language that is easy to understand and practical to use. It includes the correct terminology for angular and linear measurements of the seated person's body and the seating support system. For each term the guide explains the purpose of the measure and its clinical relevance, with an accurate definition, a sample measurement procedure, and 1 to 2 illustrations helping to clarify each measure.

2. Glossary of Wheelchair Terms and Definitions, Version 1.0

This glossary includes a searchable list of 550+ defined terms related to wheelchairs, wheelchair seating, and wheelchair seated posture. The terms are organized functionally in four sections: (1) Wheeled Mobility Device Types and Related Terms, (2) Wheelchair Components and Features, (3) Seating Support System and (4) Angular and Linear Dimensions. Reference sources are included for each term and definition, and historical terms are linked to the preferred term in a comprehensive index.

This and the glossary of terms are available in PDF format, free to download, so that everyone has access to the information.

The link to download these two resources is:-

<http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/medicalschool/programs/atp/Resources/WheelchairGuide/Pages/WheelchairGuideForm.aspx>

Reissue Fantastic Finds!

Expressions of interest are invited for the following 'high end' equipment items

1. Cardinal Programmable Turning Bed



Electrically operated single bed (for adults) featuring a side to side turning function to enable weight transfer. An integrated safety cradle consists of three curved supporting straps which cradle the mattress and user. Trendelenburg 1 (forward tilt), Trendelenburg 2 (reverse tilt), height adjustment, knee break, leg raise and backrest angle adjustment are included. The bed is placed on a locking four castor base. (Asset Number P001286)

2. Pride Quantum Q6 Edge Power Wheelchair



Pride Quantum Q6 Edge, only 2 months old. Has Tilt in space seat, currently has Q logic 2 controller (which is the latest) mounted as attendant only but this can be configured to client's needs. Has custom seat and back but these are removed in most cases to allow for the fitting of another seating system. (Asset number P00111)

3. Quickie QM710



Quickie QM710, very new model. Current seat size is 430 x 500 mm, has height adjustable fold back armrests, swing away controller mount, 50 degree tilt in space seat, seat elevator 430-740 mm seat to floor, power elevating leg rests and a deep contoured backrest. (Asset Number P000967)

Please email EOI's to swepreissue@bhs.org.au
Attention: Janet Colbourne, Asset Management Team Leader OR telephone Janet on 5333 8123 for further details.

It is important to note that the Reissue data base is being updated every 2-3 days with more assets and accordingly we encourage prescribers to check the data base regularly. If you are experiencing any difficulties using the re-issue data base, please don't hesitate to contact Janet.

SWEPE is undertaking a joint project with Chemtronics and the ILC to ensure that prescribers have access to expert advice in re-issue equipment identification. By the next newsletter we are hoping that we will have a highly experienced prescriber working from Chemtronics to support SWEPE and our prescribers.

We have recently identified that a relatively small percentage of prescribers who are registered with us, regularly request re-issue equipment. While we understand that client complexity can have a bearing on re-issue suitability, we are considering an education program targeting organisations that rarely use the re-issue data base. We would welcome any feedback you may have about this concept.

Wheelchair Tie Downs

SWEP has received feedback from the Taxi Directorate, regarding the absence of tie downs on client wheelchairs. Some clients have reported that tie downs were not considered as part of their wheelchair assessment. Please note that SWEP do fund wheelchair tie downs as part of the wheelchair subsidies, and these should be included on scripts.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Up-date

In June 2014 Teagan Crosbie was appointed as Team Leader for the SWEP NDIA team. This team continues to grow, with five full time staff now managing Applications for Barwon Region NDIS participants.

In November 2014 NDIA and SWEP conducted a joint presentation for Prescribers. This session included information regarding the NDIA/SWEP relationship, assistive technology funded by NDIS, processes for prescribing AT, re-issue process, case examples etc. Due to positive feedback and demand, further sessions will be scheduled in 2015.

SWEP recently released an Expression of Interest for disposable continence products for eligible NDIS participants in the Barwon Region. It is expected that there will be significant savings as an outcome of this EOI with anticipated start date March 2015.

The interface between SWEP, the Barwon Agency, our clients and prescribers continues to evolve in this program. We welcome feedback from you about any experience you have had with provision of equipment and modifications for NDIA Barwon participants.

Clinical Advisors update

In June 2014 SWEP welcomed 8 Respiratory and Sleep Physicians onto the Clinical Advisors Panel for the Domiciliary Oxygen Program (DOP). The DOP CA Advisor list can be found [here](#).

These CA's bringing years of experience with them, have helped SWEP with development and implementation of the prescriber registration and credentialing framework for DOP.

Procurement update

We would like to thank all prescribers who attended SWEP Roadshows and Supplier Expo's in late 2014. Attendance of over 1,000 prescribers was recorded at these events. If you have any queries or feedback regarding the outcome of the Non-customised Aids and Equipment Tender, Tender Evaluation processes, benefits for clients or new application processes, please do not hesitate to contact:-

- Simone Davey, Procurement Manager on 5333 8125 or email simoned@bhs.org.au . OR
- Loretta Zeeck, Aids & Equipment Program Manager (Adults), on 5333 8165 or email lorettaz@bhs.org.au .

We would like to thank all of the prescribers and Clinical Advisors who assisted SWEP and Domiciliary Equipment Services (SA) in the product desktop and hands on evaluation phases.

We have recently undertaken a review of our waitlist and awaiting top up list to identify items that are the same or very similar to those we now have on contract. If an item is not an exact match you will be contacted to ask whether we can substitute the contracted item. The newly contracted pricing structure has meant, in many cases, that our clients will either no longer have a gap to pay or the gap is significantly reduced, if the contracted items are selected.

Remember to check the SWEP catalogue for contracted items; the website link is [here](#).

If you identify a suitable contracted item please add the relevant pick list code and item specification details on the prescription form. No quotes are required for tendered items.

If the contracted item is not suitable for your client, the process remains unchanged, however you will need to provide clinical justification as to why you require a non-contracted product as well a detailed quote.

Our list of new contracted Suppliers, and where relevant their sub-contractors, is available on our website: [here](#)

Application Audit

The Aids & Equipment Adults Program is currently undertaking an audit of older applications that have not yet been funded. You may be contacted to confirm there is no change to your original prescription before orders are placed.

New Prescription Forms

We are currently working on the next version of our prescription forms. Thank you to those prescribers who have tested the draft version for us, your feedback will be invaluable in further amendments to the scripts. We are working on release date of mid to late February.

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Compensable Clients

It is important for prescribers to ensure they are familiar with the Compensable Client Guidelines, with regard to SWEPE funding eligibility.

Section 2.4 of the 'Department of Human Services, Victorian Aids and Equipment Program Guidelines February 2010', includes the following statement:-

"The person is not eligible if: They are either already eligible to receive assistance from other government-funded aids and equipment programs, or entitled to any form of compensation relating to their disability."

The Client Eligibility Form also which includes the following statement:-

"Please note: The Victorian A&EP is not available to people who have received compensation or damages in respect of their Disability. If the prospective recipient has made, or is intending to make such a claim, the Victorian A&EP shall serve on the recipient notice of liability on the part of the recipient to pay the Victorian A&EP a sum equal to the cost of the equipment, and the Victorian A&EP will seek to arrange for those liabilities to be included in the recipient's claim for damages)."

In short, SWEPE will provide funding for eligible clients, pending settlement of legal proceedings. It is important that clients are aware of their obligations to notify SWEPE if they are pursuing Damages in order that a reimbursement schedule is provided to their legal representatives.

Daily Living Expo

In 2015, ATSA will hold two Independent Living Expos in Brisbane (Royal International Convention Centre 7th May) and in Sydney (Rosehill Racecourse 13 – 14th May).

The combined events will have over 100 exhibitors displaying a wide range of products and services for people with disability and seniors. On display will be the latest in assistive technology, mobility solutions, pressure care, employment support, accessible recreation/holiday ideas, modified motor vehicles and a lot more.

A key feature of the Expos is the FREE Clinical Education Program – run in rooms conveniently located next to the exhibition floor.

Admission is free to therapists, the general public, end users & ATSA members for both events.

For more information, go to, www.atsaindependentlivingexpo.com.au or call 1300 789 845.

SWEP Staffing and contact details

Please find up-to-date contact list of names and key portfolio responsibilities for the SWEP Management Team: [here](#)

Wendy Hubbard

Chief Allied Health Officer – SWEP