

Information Bulletin

August 9, 2023

Attention: Durable Medical Equipment Providers
**Subject: New Fee Code for Chronic Wound Care Pre-
authorizations, Updated Durable Medical
Supplies Fee Schedule, and Clarification RE
Durable Medical Equipment vs. Home
Modifications**

New Fee Code – Chronic Wound Care Pre-authorization

We would like to bring to your attention a new process for pre-authorized equipment from our Chronic Wound Care provider (currently Access Community Therapists).

Upon receiving a request from a Chronic Wound Care clinician for a wound-care related equipment item that is less than \$500, you may invoice WorkSafeBC directly without submitting a quote or receiving pre-approval from WorkSafeBC.

A new fee code has been created and is available for your use in these scenarios:

- **1274880** - Durable Medical Supplies - Chronic Wound Care Pre-Authorized Equipment

The process for these pre-authorized wound care equipment requests is as follows:

1. The Chronic Wound Care clinician: will complete a Chronic Wound Care Durable Medical Equipment Confirmation form (83D513) and send to a Durable Medical Supplies Provider (“you”), including the quantity and description of the item(s) being requested.
2. You: confirm that the item(s) is available and add the cost to “Cost (CAD)” column within the 83D513 form and send it back to the Chronic Wound Care clinician.

Note: the maximum pre-authorized amount for this process is \$500, including all related expenses (shipping, etc.)

3. The Chronic Wound Care clinician: submits the 83D513 form to WorkSafeBC.
4. You: invoice for the item using the designated fee code: **1274880** (\$500 maximum).

A copy of form 83D513 can be found here for reference: [Chronic Wound Care Durable Medical Supply Confirmation \(83D513\) | WorkSafeBC](#)

*Note: this process is similar to time sensitive equipment pre-authorization by Occupational Therapists (OTs), for which OTs use the Time Sensitive Occupational Therapy Durable Medical Supply Pre-authorization form (83D357) and for which you shall bill fee codes 1204485 - Time Sensitive Purchases and 1204486 - Time Sensitive Rentals (\$1,000 maximum for each). Please reference our bulletin dated November 2, 2021, for more information.

Updated Durable Medical Supplies Fee Schedule

We have updated the Fee Schedule for Durable Medical Supplies to include the new fee code above, which can be found on our Medical Supplies Services page at the following link: [Durable Medical Supplies Fee Schedule | WorkSafeBC](#)

Clarification Regarding Durable Medical Equipment versus Home Modifications

Further to our bulletin dated July 8, 2021, there continues to be some confusion between Durable Medical Supplies and Home Modifications for which we would like to provide the following clarification and reminders:

When an OT identifies the need for **minor home modifications**, the OT can engage a Durable Medical Supplies provider/MSA contractor ("you") to deliver and install the following MSA items, with WorkSafeBC officer approval and if you are able to do so:

- Grab bars
- Metal hand rails (i.e., modular pre-fabricated indoor/outdoor railings, such as those by Promenaïd: [Aluminum Handrails - Finished, Easy to Install | Promenaïd Handrails](#))
- Ceiling track lifts
- Super poles
- Handheld showers
- Threshold ramps (purchase/rental)

For any project wherein it is expected that the modifications will involve construction materials such as wood and concrete, or work that is suggestive of construction and/or renovations (i.e., larger projects), the WorkSafeBC officer will route **all of the requested home modification work** to WorkSafeBC's network of Home Modification contractors and managed by a WorkSafeBC project manager. If you receive any requests for this type of work, you should not proceed and rather inform the WorkSafeBC officer that it is outside of the scope of Durable Medical Supplies.

*Reminder: the product price is inclusive of installation costs for the MSA items listed above, per the MSA – Schedule A sections: 1(d), 38, 39, 42 and 60 and Schedule B sections 12 and 13, except for grab bars, for which labour may be billed to WorkSafeBC using fee code 1251072 - Durable Medical Supplies – Grab Bar Installation (2 hours maximum).

MSA contractors are also authorized to supply/install the following non-MSA items, using a qualified technician and with WorkSafeBC officer approval:

- Modular Access ramps (purchase/rental)
- Removal/re-installation of shower doors (e.g., when installing a bath bench)

*Labour for installation (or removal) of non-MSA items such as those listed above may be billed to WorkSafeBC using fee code 1248768 - Durable Medical Supplies – Labour (non-MSA items) as applicable. Please see the Durable Medical Supplies Fee Schedule for more information and business rules for this fee code.

Some of you may hold a contract for both the MSA and WorkSafeBC's Home Modifications program, and if so, it is your responsibility to ensure that you are providing the necessary equipment and services within the terms and conditions of the applicable Agreement and billing the associated fee codes.

Contact us

Email: medicalsupplies@worksafebc.com

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