



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

Community Nursing

DVA Community Nursing Provider

March 2017

Community Nursing Update No. 6

Additional Nursing Consumables item numbers are available through the Schedule of Fees.

Community Nursing have conducted a review of wound consumables and general nursing consumables. As an outcome of this review, Community Nursing has:

- renamed Wound Consumables to Nursing Consumables (consumables) to incorporate general nursing consumables;
- removed two items from the Nurse's toolbox – BGL strips and Urinalysis test strips and changed the term Scissors to Non-sterile scissors; and
- added a further 21 consumable item numbers to the Schedule of Fees that now range from \$10 to \$500* per entitled person in a 28-day claim period.

With the introduction of the new consumable item numbers, Community nursing providers (CN providers):

- no longer need to invoice the Department for non-wound consumables under \$300, all items can be claimed through the Schedule of Fees;
- will continue to access consumables through the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme on an authority prescription from a doctor (preferred by DVA where long term use is required): and
- will continue to access all supplies of aids for continence, stoma care, palliative care and diabetes care through the Rehabilitation Appliances Program (RAP) Schedule.

**Note: Items that are part of the 'nurse's toolbox' cannot be claimed. Please see the Notes for Community Nursing Providers (the Notes): Attachment D – Wound Management Consumables – Sections 1.5 and 1.6.*

Consumables over \$500*

All reimbursements for entitled person's whose consumables total cost exceeds \$500* (exclusive of GST) in a 28-day claim period will now be claimed via the Exceptional Case Unit (ECU) by completing the following form:

[Exceptional Case Unit Request for Funding of Nursing Consumables over \\$500 \(D9297\)](#)

Substantiation of consumables used, number supplied and cost in the 28-day claim period for each entitled person must accompany the ECU form. For further information on consumables please refer to the *Notes for Community Nursing Providers Attachment D and Attachment A section 3.3.*

The completed form and associated information must be emailed via secure to the ECU at AMBECU@dva.gov.au. The ECU will confirm the approved \$ amount to be claimed via return email.

If the ECU identifies the community nursing services being delivered to an entitled person do not meet industry recognised evidence based best practice, the approval will include recommended changes to these services. CN providers must implement the ECU's recommendations.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

CN providers must not include any GST component when calculating which consumables item number to claim. The GST component is automatically added prior to payments being made.

Grandfathering Period

A grandfathering period applies until 1 July 2017, for CN providers to have their software and internal processing updated.

(A grandfather clause, or grandfather policy, is a provision in which an old rule continues to apply to some existing situations while a new rule will apply to all future cases. Those exempt from the new rule are said to have grandfather rights or acquired rights).

Wound Identification and Dressing Selection Chart

The updated wound identification and dressing selection chart can be downloaded from:

www.dva.gov.au/providers/provider-programs/wound-care/wound-identification-and-dressing-selection-chart.

If you have any changes to the email contact for your organisation's receipt of CN Bulletins, please email the DVA Community Nursing Contract Mailbox: NMBCN@dva.gov.au.

Please ensure that all relevant staff in your organisation are made aware of the information contained in this Bulletin.