Policy Transmittal
Developmental Disabilities Services

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Number: APD-PT-20-105

Issue date: 10/13/2020

Updated #2

Topic: Developmental Disabilities

Transmitting (check the box that best applies):
- New policy
- Policy change
- Policy clarification
- Executive letter
- Administrative Rule
- Manual update
- Other: Temporary Policy

Due date:

Applies to (check all that apply):
- All DHS employees
- Area Agencies on Aging: {Select type}
- Aging and People with Disabilities
- Self Sufficiency Programs
- County DD program managers
- Support Service Brokerage Directors
- ODDS Children’s Residential Services
- Child Welfare Programs
- County Mental Health Directors
- Health Services
- Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS)
- ODDS Children’s Intensive In Home Services
- Stabilization and Crisis Unit (SACU)
- Other (please specify):

Policy/rule title: Purchasing personal air purifiers through OR 562
Policy/rule number(s): PT-20-105
Release number: 3 – updated to add the authorization of purchasing a single replacement filter.
Effective date: 
Expiration date: 01/01/2021
References: 
Web address: 

Discussion/interpretation: On September 8, 2020 as a result of the consequences of the wildfires on the State of Oregon it was determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services that a public health emergency exists. Many individuals have had their independence negatively impacted by the air quality resulting from these fires. Individuals whose independence in performing activities of daily living (ADL) or instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) has been reduced due to the air quality inside their home may be eligible to use department funds to purchase a personal air
purifier. Whole home air purifiers will not be authorized.

During the fire crisis of 2020, a case management entity may authorize the most cost-effective personal air purifier for an individual as a specialized medical supply (OR562) through the following process:

- Ensure that the authorization of the air purifier is included in the individual’s ISP or on a change form.
- Documentation should indicate that the air purifier is needed due to “Smoke or Air Quality”
- Documentation must outline how the individual’s ability to engage in ADL/IADLs is being negatively impacted due to smoke or air quality issues caused by the fires.
- Documentation must clarify how the item being purchased is the most cost effective to meet the need and why less expensive air purifiers will not meet the need.
- When entering the SPA in eXPRS must use a “generic” provider must add “air purifier due to wildfire” in the **Generic Provider Name** field as outlined below:

- Authorization of air purifiers:
  - Less than $1200 may be authorized by the CME with the aforementioned documentation in place.
  - More than $1200 should be requested through the exceptions process and should include the aforementioned documentation.

**Reimbursing Individuals/Families Directly:**
CMEs may reimburse individuals receiving services, or their parents/guardians as applicable, who paid out-of-pocket between September 8 and October 1, 2020 for the purchase of an individual air purifier.

CMEs should follow the same processes as above by entering authorizations and reimbursements in eXPRS.
Documentation should indicate that the air purifier was “purchased by the individual due to smoke or air quality”

- Receipt for the air purifier that includes the date of purchase and the total being reimbursed.
- Ensure that the authorization of the replacement item is included in the individual’s ISP or on a change form.

Case Management Entities may authorize a single replacement filter. Filters should be the most cost effective and be the correct filter for the previously purchased air purifier.

**Implementation/transition instructions:**

**Training/communication plan:** Program Managers/Directors should share this information with staff.

**Local/branch action required:**

**Central office action required:**

**Field/stakeholder review:** □ Yes  ☒ No

**If yes, reviewed by:**

**Filing instructions:**

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If you have any questions about this policy transmittal, contact:  Kirsten.G.Collins@state.or.us