

## Case Coordinator Service Considerations: Elimination

An assessment is to be completed to determine which aspects of their elimination a client can perform independently and safely based on the client's physical and cognitive level of functioning.

The client will be encouraged to participate in all aspects of elimination as able; self-care is promoted.

Equipment that client /family/caregiver are responsible to provide as per the care plan / assessment must be safety approved, available and in good working order as per the care plan /assessment prior to the implementation of care provision e.g. provision of towel bars in lieu of over arm toilet bars is not acceptable.

Where Home Care is assisting with bladder incontinence issues, consideration is given to implementation of a bladder training routine prior to sole reliance on incontinence products.

### **Incontinent Supplies/Equipment**

Clients who are eligible for Home Care supplies and equipment shall receive:

- The necessary supplies and equipment from the approved list to support the client's plan of care. (Refer to: Equipment CLI.5411.SG.06 and Supply CLI.5411.SG.07 Service Guidelines).
- A minimum amount and type of incontinent supplies to meet client care needs and prevent an overabundance of supplies from accumulating in the client's home.

The client/family/caregiver is responsible to provide incontinent supplies to facilitate the provision of elimination needs when:

- Client does not meet eligibility criteria for Home Care supplies e.g. client does not require assistance for management of incontinence
- Client is requesting a specific product based on personal choice that is not available through home care.

Specialized products to manage high incontinence needs are available (e.g. perineal wash foam and silicone barrier cream), but need to be used following the recommended guidelines of use, timeframes of change, amount of incontinence and assessment of skin integrity.

The following considerations should be made prior to ordering and evaluating the use and selection of incontinent products:

- The client or client situation meets the eligibility criteria.
- The use of the product supports the client's individual plan of care and the following has been considered:
  - Normal practice would be to change or at least check every 2-4 hours as per normal urination for adults. If time is extended for client's change of incontinent product and/or the client is becoming at risk for skin breakdown related to excessive moisture, then specialized products may be introduced to evaluate better results for the client. e.g. more absorbent products absorb a greater volume of fluid and generally require less frequent changes; approximately every 6-8 hours.
  - Situations that support the uninterrupted sleep patterns for both the client and care provider, may warrant consideration of a product that maintains a high volume of moisture away from the skin throughout the night.
  - Other incontinent supplies (e.g. inserts, condom catheters) are available and may be ordered to facilitate better management of incontinence.

Incontinent products are reviewed to ensure their effectiveness in meeting expected outcomes within the first six weeks of use and on an ongoing basis as clients needs change.