

Celebrating five years of the Lifetime Care and Support Authority

1 July 2011 marked the five year anniversary of the formation of the Lifetime Care and Support Authority which administers the Lifetime Care and Support Scheme. The Authority would like to thank all of our service providers for growing with the organisation and look forward to an ongoing and positive working relationship.

Participant numbers update as at 30 April 2011

Service providers may be aware that funds are collected annually from a levy on CTP green slips to cover the lifetime cost of all Scheme participants injured in each "accident year". The accident years are as follows:

- Accident year 1 was the first year of Scheme operation for children, from 1 October 2006 to 30 September 2007.
- Accident year 2, from 1 October 2007 to 30 September 2008, was the first year of Scheme operation for adults.
- Accident year 3, from 1 October 2008 to 30 September 2009, was the second year of Scheme operation for adults. This was the year where those children whose accidents occurred in accident year 1 were assessed for lifetime participation.
- Accident year 4, from 1 October 2009 to 30 September 2010, was the year where adult participants whose accidents occurred in accident year 2 were assessed for lifetime participation.
- Accident year 5, from 1 October 2010 to 30 September 2011 when adult participants whose accident occurred in year 3 will be assessed for lifetime participation.

As of 30 April 2011, there are 516 current interim and lifetime participants in the Scheme. This includes 63 participants who are under 16 years of age. The figure does not include 12 participants who have passed away, and 36 participants who have not been accepted as lifetime participants.

Of the 516 current participants in the Scheme:

- 166 are lifetime participants and 350 are interim participants;
- 366 are male and 150 are female;
- 396 participants have a brain injury, 109 have a spinal cord injury and 11 have other types of injuries (amputations and burns).

New draft LTCS Guidelines for consultation: Attendant Care and Domestic Services, Approved Attendant Care Providers

The Authority has revised the existing LTCS Guidelines, Part 8: Attendant Care and has renamed these guidelines Attendant Care and Domestic Assistance to better reflect the scope of these services. The Authority has also drafted a new Part 18: Approved Attendant Care Providers which includes the current fees for the Authority's panel of approved attendant care providers.

These draft Guidelines are available on the Authority's website as a PDF document under 'Highlights', via the following link: <http://www.lifetimecare.nsw.gov.au>. The Authority invites all interested stakeholders to provide feedback.

Submissions on the Guidelines can be sent to Suzanne Lulham, Director Service Delivery, Lifetime Care and Support Authority, Level 24, 580 George St, Sydney NSW 2000 or via email to [Suzanne Lulham](mailto:Suzanne.Lulham@lifetimecare.nsw.gov.au) by close of business on **Friday 5 August 2011**.

Eligibility criteria for amputations: update

Thank you to those who provided feedback on the Authority's Consultation Paper regarding proposed changes to the eligibility criteria for amputations. The Authority is continuing to work on the eligibility criteria for amputations and in the coming months, the Authority will issue a revised draft of Part 1 of the LTCS Guidelines (including the revised eligibility criteria for amputations) for wider stakeholder consultation.

Should you wish to provide feedback on the Consultation Paper and have not done so yet, please click here to send an email to [Suzanne Lulham](mailto:Suzanne.Lulham@lifetimecare.nsw.gov.au).

Advance notice: Home Modifications Approved Assessors

The Authority has a panel of home modifications approved assessors (occupational therapists) who were appointed to conduct home assessments and provide recommendations for major home modifications for Scheme participants. The home modification approved assessors were appointed for a three year term which ends in September 2011.

In July 2011, the Authority will be seeking applications from the existing panel of home modifications approved assessors and will be inviting applications from new occupational therapists to be appointed for a four year term as approved "Building Modification Occupational Therapists".

Occupational therapists with specialist expertise in major building modifications such as bathrooms, kitchens or other structural modifications are encouraged to apply. You will be required to conduct home and workplace assessments with the Authority's approved Building Modification Project Managers and provide recommendations for major building modifications. Information about the application process will be included in the E-News. To register your interest or to make enquiries, click here to email [David Gonzalez](#).

In-Voc Pilot Program Commencement

The Authority is pleased to announce that the In-Voc Pilot program has commenced in the 3 NSW Spinal Cord Injury Units (Royal North Shore Hospital, Moorong and Prince of Wales Hospital). Great support has been received from the in-patients, unit staff and stakeholders at each site, with all launches well attended. The In-Voc Vocational Consultants have been welcomed into the units and have started conversations with many in-patients to support and assist to plan a return to meaningful employment. The Rehabilitation Studies Unit is evaluating the In-Voc pilot program and we will provide further updates over the duration of the pilot. If you would like more information about this project, click here to email [Jacqueline Scott](#) or contact her directly on (02) 9394 1330.

O'Neil Enclosed CISC Catheters and continence prescriptions

Brightsky Australia has advised the Authority of problems with ongoing supply of the O'Neil Enclosed Clean Intermittent Self Catheterisation (CISC) catheters. The O'Neil Catheter is a pre lubricated, non touch, intermittent catheter with closed drainage bag already attached.

Due to the ongoing supply concerns, the O'Neil Catheters will not be available for LTCS participants and will be substituted with the Enclosed Catheter (Multigate). This applies for current and new orders. The O'Neil CISC will be removed from the LTCS Approved items list. An updated approved items list will be made available shortly on the LTCS website and a reminder placed in the next E-News.

When completing the Continence and Consumable Equipment Prescription and Order Form the prescriber should provide:

- Clear reasons for the prescription of the specific consumable outlining how the appliance will facilitate the functional goals for the participant
- Explanation of why the features/specifications of the recommended equipment are reasonable and necessary
- Evidence that other similar equipment has been considered and/or trialled.

You are able to request approval of a small amount of catheters for the participant to use whilst still in hospital in order to assist with the prescription of the optimum system for their needs. To discuss this in more detail, click here to email [Helen Truscott](#) or phone Lisa Viles Customer Care Consultant, Brightsky Australia on 1300 88 66 01.

WeeFIM® workshop

The Authority will be running a workshop on the WeeFIM® on **Friday 5 August** at the LTCS offices in the Sydney CBD.

If you are interested in attending the workshop, click here to email [Jane Baker](#) and provide information on the name, venue and date of the workshop that you are interested in attending along with your details. There is no cost to attend this workshop if you are currently or plan to become a LTCS service provider. The Authority will only pay for the cost of the credentialing exam for dispute assessors and approved assessors. The Authority will confirm your place and workshop details approximately 4 weeks before the scheduled date.

About the E-News

[Click here](#) to enter your details to receive future copies of this E-News. Subscribing to this newsletter is the best way of keeping up to date with the Scheme and opportunities where your organisation can have input.

[Click here to unsubscribe](#)