



Dear Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists and professionals,

During these challenging times, the ALS Society of BC is making changes to our Equipment Loan Program. Moving forward, we will try to be more economically responsible with the program and reduce expenses of the equipment loan pool. The cost for items to be shipped out and returned have become more expensive than we have forecasted due to the rapid increase of freight fees.

Whenever possible, please use your alternative funding sources such as Veteran Affairs, Extended Health Care, Ministry Benefits and the Canadian Red Cross. Please send a request if the equipment is still needed after the short loan is complete.

The changes described below will be effective starting today.

Loan Process for Small items

Due to high freight and delivery charges, we are implementing a new system in which items under \$500 will be purchased for the client (instead of loaned) and delivered to them directly.

Under this system, the items are purchased specifically for the client, and would not be returned to the ALS Society. It is expected that this will result in large savings, as we will avoid having to pallet items out or deal with fees related to freight, delivery, return, and cleaning. In order to facilitate this process, we are going to use up the small items in stock at our warehouse in Richmond. Once our current supply of smaller equipment has been depleted, we will then start to purchase new items.

The ALS Society will try to buy from Amazon Prime, as freight fees can be included for smaller items. If the required items are not available, we will purchase from HME or through the local vendors (if out of town). These purchases will be shipped directly to your client's homes. Items that cannot be purchased through Amazon include superpoles, bed cradles, and trapeze bars.

Please send requests as normal to the ALS Equipment Loan Manager. It is helpful if the therapist can include a link to the requested equipment.

Loan Process for All items

To help with time and shipping costs, please make note of the following when making requests for equipment:

- Bunch the equipment together as much as possible
- Be accurate with your measurements and size for the equipment request
- Make sure this will be correct for the client's needs

Requests sent to the Equipment Loan Manager will be reviewed and approved, then the equipment will be ordered and shipped out.

Returning Items

The table below lists items that can be returned, and items that cannot be returned. For the items listed not to be returned, we are asking our clients to now donate certain items, recycle or dispose once done. Due to COVID-19, it is recommended to dispose items.

To return items, please complete the Equipment Loan Form. This form is available on www.alsbc.ca or www.hmebc.com.

Items NOT to be Returned	Items to be Returned
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mattress Toppers• Superpole and Superbars• 2-Wheel Walker• No Wheeled Walker• Cushions (under \$500)• Bed Rails• Bed Cradle• Overbed Tables• Swing Away Lift Tables• Perching Stool• Trapeze Bars• Levelling Pads• IV Poles• Canes• Transfer Belts• Gel Commode Overlays• Bathroom Safety Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Power Chair• Scooter• Manual Wheelchair• Manual Tilt Chair• Lift Motors• Floor Lift• Cushions above \$500• ROHO Mattress Sections• Backrests – NO IR NUMBERS• Mattress• Beds• Shower Commodes (Tilt or non-tilt)• Low Air Loss Mattress• Portable ramps

1228- 13351 Commerce Parkway, Richmond BC V6V 2X7

Email: equipmentloan@alsbc.ca

Phone: 604-809-9577

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Threshold Ramps• Rubber Ramps• Transfer Board• Bed Wedges	
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Equipment Repairs

Effective immediately for all equipment repairs, the therapist must complete the equipment loan form and send it to the ALS Society for approval. Please do not contact your local vendor as they will not proceed without an approved repair form sent by the Equipment Loan Manager.

Please download the Equipment Repair Form at www.alsbc.ca or www.hmebc.com

Thank you, for everything you do for our ALS Clients.

Billie Doyle
ALS Society of BC Equipment Loan Manager