

SECTION:	PROPERTY/EQUIPMENT	POLICY NUMBER:	PE 05-057
SUB-SECTION:	Equipment and Resources	EFFECTIVE DATE:	2009-12-03
SUBJECT:	Personal Assistive Device	LAST REVISION DATE:	

### DEFINITIONS:

“Personal Assistive Device”: any item, piece of equipment or product system that is used to increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of persons with disabilities.

These devices are available in a variety of categories:

- “Academic Learning Aids”: electronic and non-electronic aids such as calculators, spell checkers, portable word processors and computer based software solutions.
- “Aids for Daily Living”: Self help aids for use in activities such as eating, bathing, cooking, dressing, toileting.
- “Assistive Listening Devices and Environmental Aids”: Electronic and non-electronic aids such as amplification devices, closed caption systems and environmental alert systems that assist persons who are hard of hearing or deaf with accessing information that is typically presented through an auditory modality.
- “Augmentative Communication”: Electronic and non-electronic devices and software solutions that provide a means for expressive and receptive communication for persons which limited speech and language.
- “Computer Access and Instruction”: Input and output devices, alternative access aids, modified or alternative keyboards, switches, special software, and other devices and software solutions that enable persons with disabilities to use computers.
- “Environmental Control”: Electronic and non-electronics aids such as switches, environmental control units, and adapted appliances that are used by persons to increase their independence – e.g. automatic door openers.
- “Mobility Aids”: Electronic and non-electronic aids such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, scooters that are used to increase personal mobility.
- “Seating and positioning”: Adaptive seating systems and positioning devices that provide persons with optimal positioning to enhance participation and access.

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- “Visual Aids”: Electronic and non-electronic aids which assist persons with visual impairments or blindness in accessing and producing information that is typically present in a visual (print) modality, e.g. Braille, enhanced font sizes, magnification.

**POLICY:**

1. Cornwall Community Hospital is committed to providing exceptional and accessible service for all employees, members of the professional staff, volunteers, stakeholders, contracted service staff and clients. Patient care will be provided in a manner that respects the dignity and independence to all individuals and that persons with disabilities are supported as to promote access to services and employment.
2. A person with a disability may provide their own assistive device for the purpose of obtaining, using and benefiting (e.g. employment) from Cornwall Community Hospital’s services.
3. Exceptions may occur in situations where the Hospital has determined that the assistive device may pose a risk to the health and safety of a person with a disability or the health and safety of others on the premises. In these situations and others, Cornwall Community Hospital may offer a person with a disability other reasonable measures to assist him or her in obtaining, using and benefiting from the Hospital’s services, where the Hospital has such other measures available.
4. It is the responsibility of the person with a disability to ensure that his or her assistive device(s) is operated in a safe and controlled manner at all times.
5. The Hospital is not responsible for the maintenance or security of personal assistive safety devices which are supplied directly by a person with a disability.

APPENDICES:	
REFERENCE DOCUMENTS:	<i>Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA)</i> <i>Ontarians with Disabilities Act, (ODA)</i>
REPEALED POLICIES:	
APPROVAL PROCESS:	Accessibility Committee – October 26, 2009 Senior Administration Team – December 1, 2009 Board of Directors – December 3, 2009
APPROVAL SIGNATURE:	Jeanette Despatie Chief Executive Officer

*Version française disponible sous l’objet “Appareils et accessoires fonctionnels personnels”*

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