

## **Reimbursement arrangement for Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) machines**

Under the existing policy, unless the attending Hospital Authority (HA) doctor has certified that a specific or a more sophisticated model of CPAP machines is required, only the costs of the basic model of CPAP machines will be reimbursable. We have been advised by HA that the basic models of CPAP machines will cater for the medical needs of the vast majority of Obstructive Sleep Apnoea patients. Taking account of the prices of various basic models of CPAP machines available in the market, reimbursement of the basic model of a CPAP machine will be subject to a maximum rate of \$5,800. The rate will be reviewed regularly, any updated rate will be promulgated by circular memorandum or memo to bureaux and departments for general information. The maximum rate is **NOT** applicable to a case where the attending HA doctor has certified that a specific or a more sophisticated model of CPAP machine is required by the eligible person on medical grounds. In other words, reimbursement of the relevant expenses under such cases will not be subject to the maximum rate.

2. We note from information provided by suppliers that CPAP machines generally have an estimated life cycle of around four years. On this basis, we consider it appropriate and reasonable to adopt a four-year replacement cycle as a reference in processing reimbursement applications. Eligible persons are advised to take this into account in selecting CPAP machines and to exercise care in the daily use of the machine to minimise the chance of premature wear and tear. The reference replacement cycle of four years does **NOT** prohibit replacement of CPAP machines within four years if the attending HA doctor has certified that the replacement is necessary for medical treatment.

3. CPAP consumables that are certified by the attending HA doctor to be required on medical grounds will continue to be reimbursable. Unless the attending doctor has certified that a specific or a more sophisticated model of CPAP machines is required, only the costs of the consumables used for the basic model of CPAP machines will be considered for reimbursement.