

COST

For eligible clients, there is no fee for some Home and Community Care services such as nursing or rehabilitation. There may be a cost for some equipment or supplies. Occasionally costs may be covered by the Insurance Corporation of BC, WorkSafe BC or other agencies.

If home support, facility placement, assisted living or other services are required, a standardized financial assessment will be done to determine if there will be a cost to you.

Services for eligible clients are delivered by teams of health care professionals in a variety of settings, and may include:

- nursing
- physiotherapy and occupational therapy
- health services for community living (HSCL)
- social work
- case management
- home support

The Home & Community Care Client Service Agreement is completed when service starts. It outlines the roles and responsibilities in the partnership between the client and care providers.

NURSING

Nurses assist individuals to manage their own care at home by providing nursing assessment, education, counseling and medical and surgical care.

Nursing services may also be provided to clients through Ambulatory Care Clinics in some communities.

Examples of Service:

- skin and wound care management
- palliative care
- medication management
- cardiac health
- pre and post surgical care
- intravenous therapy
- management of chronic conditions

AMBULATORY CARE CLINIC

Home Care Nursing clients that are able will be referred to receive prescribed treatments at the Ambulatory Care Clinic in Port Alberni, located at 4259 - 6th Avenue. The Ambulatory Care Clinic operates seven days a week on an appointment basis.

PHYSIOTHERAPY & OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists promote and help maintain independence and safety at home through assessment, treatment, consultation and education.

Examples of service include:

- home safety assessment
- pain management
- skin and wound care and wound prevention
- cardio-respiratory care
- palliative care
- functional activity re-training
- perceptual and cognitive testing
- basic splinting and seating
- pre and post surgical care
- home modification consultation
- specialized exercise programs
- energy conservation
- basic assessment of swallowing difficulties

SOCIAL WORK

Social Workers provide counseling and social work services to promote the safety and well being of clients and/or significant others. The focus is on short term health care crisis intervention.

Issues that social workers may help address include:

- adjustment to illness
- housing problems
- placement issues
- caregiver issues
- suspected abuse or neglect
- financial assistance
- palliative care/bereavement
- confusion/dementia behaviour management
- relationship issues
- conflict resolution and mediation
- advocacy

CASE MANAGEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

Case Management supports elderly clients and adults with chronic health conditions to live independently in their own home for as long as possible. Clients are assisted in moving to more supportive care when required. Through a comprehensive assessment, case management helps clients identify and address their care needs. Case Management also assists clients and families to understand their care options and link to appropriate services.

CASE MANAGEMENT IN THE HOSPITAL

Home and Community Care works with clients and families to enable a smooth transition between hospital and home or residential care settings. Case Management assists clients and families to understand their care options and link to appropriate services.

Examples of services case management provides access to:

- all Home and Community Care services
- subsidized home support
- adult day programs
- caregiver support
- subsidized Assisted Living
- subsidized Residential Care Facilities
- subsidized short stay in Residential Care Facilities for caregiver respite

SUBSIDIZED HOME SUPPORT SERVICES

Depending on a client's income level and the home support services they require, the cost of some services may be subsidized. Home and Community Care professionals arrange these subsidized services.

Home Support services are intended to supplement rather than replace clients' efforts to care for themselves, with the assistance of family, friends and community.

Community health workers provide personal assistance with things like medications, bathing, dressing and caregiver support.

The client and home care professional decide together how much and what type of help is required. The care plan will be reviewed on a regular basis. As needs change, service may be adjusted.

HEALTH SERVICES FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

Health Services for Community Living provides nursing, rehabilitation, dental and nutritional support services to adults with developmental disabilities living in the community.

Examples of services include:

- assessment of health needs and equipment requirements
- personal health planning
- health teaching
- consultation and support to caregivers, individuals and families
- liaison and referral to other resources.
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- personal health planning
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- liaison and referral to other resources.

CLIENT RECORDS AND PRIVACY

Home & Community Care Staff collect information from you in order to help provide services.

Your personal information is held in confidence and is governed by “*The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*”. It will not be given to other people without your permission, unless required by law. For more information on “*The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*” see their web site: www.qp.gov.bc.ca/statreg/stat/F/96165_01.htm

IF YOU ARE NOT CURRENTLY RECEIVING ANY OF OUR SERVICES AND THINK YOU MAY NEED THEM:

Call the **General Enquiries Line** and have your Care Card number handy.

Nanaimo Residents: **250-739-5749**
Outside Nanaimo: **1-877-734-4101**

IF you ARE currently receiving service:

Phone: 250-731-1313
Hours: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Address: 4259 – 6TH Avenue, Port Alberni

To reach us **After Hours, on a Statutory Holiday or Weekend:**

Phone Home & Community Care: 250-731-1313
Messages are checked regularly and your call will be responded to on the next business day.

Please **do not** call the office to inquire at what time the nurse will arrive, unless some emergency will take you from your home. The time of the visit varies according to the areas the nurses visit each day. You will be meeting several different nurses as Home Care provides service seven days a week.

If you have an appointment or outing on the day of the regular visit, please inform the nurse the day before or phone the office and leave a message on the voice mail on the day the visit is due. The nurse will try to visit accordingly.

**HOME & COMMUNITY CARE WEB SITE:
WWW.VIHA.CA/HCC**



HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE PORT ALBERNI

Home and Community Care provides health care and personal support services to eligible people served by VIHA.

Maximizing client wellness and their ability to care for themselves is our focus. Our services supplement, but do not replace clients' efforts to care for themselves with the assistance of their family, friends and the community.

The services that a client is eligible for are based on a standard assessment of needs. Services may be provided on a short or long term basis, and may change as the clients' needs change.

Together clients, family and home care professionals create a plan to help clients live safely and comfortably at home and prevent unnecessary hospital visits.

Home and Community Care also acts as a bridge between home and other care settings. These settings may include hospital, residential care, assisted living, a doctor's office or other primary care settings.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for Home and Community Care, clients must provide documentation that establishes they are:

- a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant OR
- have applied for permanent resident status and have been issued a Temporary Residence Permit

A client must have been a resident of BC for at least 3 months to be eligible for subsidized services with the exception of:

- case management, community nursing or rehabilitation services (no residency requirement) OR
- medical supplies and equipment through the Palliative Care Benefits Program

There are additional eligibility requirements for some of the services we provide. Please contact our office for more information. If you are not eligible for our services, we work to connect you with a service that will meet your needs.