

Ministry of Health

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 24, 2024

TO: ADP-registered Authorizers and Vendors for Hearing Devices

FROM: David Schachow

Director, Delivery and Eligibility Review Branch

RE: Making it Easier for Ontarians to receive Hearing Devices through the

Assistive Devices Program (ADP) - only one signature needed

This memo provides information about an upcoming change to the Assistive Devices Program's (ADP's) Hearing Devices Application Form.

Effective January 29, 2024, eligible Ontarians will only require one signature, from an audiologist or speech language pathologist who is registered with the ADP as an authorizer, on the ADP's hearing devices application form. A second signature from a physician or hearing instrument specialist will no longer be required.

This change aligns with government-wide initiatives to modernize processes and make it easier for people to access the services they need. Removing the need for a second signature will make the process for Ontarians accessing hearing devices faster and easier while also reducing the administrative burden on health care providers.

Audiologists and speech-language pathologists are fully qualified to provide assessments and authorize hearing devices under the *Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Act, 1991.* Audiologists and speech language pathologists are regulated health professionals under the College of Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario (CASLPO), which ensures their members provide services in an ethical and professional manner.

The revised application form and updated *Hearing Devices Policy and Administration Manual* have been attached for your reference. The updated <u>forms</u> and <u>manual</u> will also be

available on the <u>ADP website</u> on January 24, 2024. Any applications signed and authorized on or after January 29, 2024, must be submitted using the revised hearing devices application form. Current forms completed and authorized prior to January 29, 2024, will continue to be accepted by ADP.

We appreciate the contribution of all our health care partners to the health care system and your ongoing efforts to meet the needs of ADP clients. We look forward to our continued work with you to ensure that connected, convenient, high-quality patient care continues to be at the centre of our efforts.

If you have any questions related to this memo, please send them directly to the ADP at adp@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your continuing support to Ontario residents with hearing loss.

David Schachow Director, Delivery and Eligibility Review Branch

Enclosures