



Home Care Funding Guide

An Outline and Guide for Your Decision-Making



At **Stay at Home Nursing** we know that ensuring that you, or a loved one, receives the best quality home care can potentially be a financial challenge. Working collaboratively with families, we strive to provide optimal in-home care solutions and this, critically, includes the most up-to-date information on various funding options available to help cover the costs of home care services. At SAHN, this process begins with a personalized **Care Consult**: a comprehensive review that organizes and prioritizes core needs. This is a free of charge service.

Each Client is unique. Therefore, so is every **Care Consult**. A one-on-one Care Consultant engages with a client, and their family, to determine what in-home care services will be most beneficial, the necessary hours of support services required on a weekly basis, and the personal goals the client would like to achieve with the support of these services. This is an important first step that greatly aids in applying for publicly funded homecare and support, as well as determining the level of private care that may be needed.

A general overview of services provided includes:

1 Personal Care and Assistance

- Assisting with daily routines
- Personal hygiene assistance
- Creating a dignified and safe environment

2 Assistance and Support Around the Home

- Helping with chores that get more difficult as we get older
- Light housekeeping, cleaning up, kitchen, bathrooms, bedrooms
- Change and cleaning of linens
- Laundry assistance – washing, drying, folding
- Vacuuming, dusting and general tidying up

3 Meal Prep and Diet Planning

- Meal and grocery planning; pick up groceries; or accompany to store
- Meal preparation and cooking
- Snack preparation or easy to re-heat meals for days without caregivers

4 Dementia / Alzheimer's Support

- Above areas, including companionship and errands
- Medication reminders and tracking
- Transportation such as attending medical appointments

5 Nursing Care Services

- Medication administration and tracking
- Wound care assistance
- Post surgical care
- Pain and symptom management
- Infusions
- Enteral feeding

6 Respite and Relief

- Respite and relief time for family due to severity of client's condition

Home Care is often essential in the above areas of need. A **Care Consult** offers a clear outline of available services, and support in accessing appropriate funding.

For publicly funded Home Care, a key first step is to contact Ontario Health at Home (OH@H).

Ontario Health at Home offers Home Care funding, encompassing support for aging, or for managing an illness, chronic condition, or recovery from a hospitalization. If you meet the eligibility criteria, you may receive personal support with services such as nursing, homemaking, physiotherapy, or personal support. Contact details for OH@H is in the Appendix at the end of this document.

Qualifying for publicly funded Home Care is based on health status, income, and level of need:

Individuals need a valid Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) card and be a resident of Ontario

Individuals must be at least 18 years of age or older

Individuals must have healthcare needs that can be safely and comfortably met in their homes

The healthcare needs cannot be adequately provided through the community caregiving or home-based resources

The home environment should be safe for both the caregiver and the person receiving the needed care

Starting the Process for Applying for Home Care

The process of selecting extended care at home involves a multi-part assessment to determine eligibility. To access publicly funded home care in Ontario, you must first contact Ontario Health at Home via their contact number or their official website (see end of document).

Ontario Health at Home will connect you with a care coordinator who will initiate the process with a phone-consultation to determine eligibility to access home care, conducting a comprehensive assessment that factors in health status, medical history, and living situation. The consultation process might also include a home visit to further assess the level of personal or medical care services required.

A personalized care plan will be created based on needs. However, it is important to know that publicly-funded home care usually has limitations on availability and service hours. This is one of the reasons that lead people to explore other options to receive Home Care, such as supplementary private care support.

Enhancing Depth of Support and Its Personalization

If you do not qualify for publicly funded Home Care or are not entirely satisfied with the service hours and availability, you can explore private Home Care services as well.

Stay At Home Nursing specializes in Home Care and Nursing support and can cover any of the above outlined needs and services. This privately funded care and support (also known as “Family Funded”) ensures that specific services, volume of hours, and scheduling (including night or day) are in place to meet care planning and objectives.

Decisions around funding can be daunting, but a **Care Consult** can aid in exploring the different options and combinations available. For example, you might wish to combine both public and private care options. At Stay At Home Nursing, we will work with you and family members to look at various options, combinations, and how our services and support can be optimized for your specific needs.

For further guidance on this, please read through the below Appendix, that lists different Ontario / Canadian support organizations. Contact us also at [\(888\) 558-3603](tel:8885583603) or www.stayathomenuresing.com

Appendix

[Find Your Local Branch | Ontario Health @Home](#)
310-2222 (no area code required).

“Home Care & Community Care: If you require health care or personal support in your home, whether you need assistance getting back on track after a hospital stay, illness or injury, or if you have complex or chronic health conditions, we can get you the care you need, when you need it.”

[Family-Managed Home Care | Ontario Health @Home](#)
310-2222

“Through the Family-Managed Home Care program, eligible patients or their substitute decision-makers, receive funding to purchase home care services or employ care providers.”

[Home - Veterans Affairs Canada | Veterans Affairs Canada](#)
1-866-522-2122 / 1-833-921-0071

“Veterans Affairs Canada supports current or former members of the CAF or RCMP, or a family member, with targeted services and benefits to improve your well-being.”

[Assistive Devices Program | ontario.ca](#)
1-800-268-6021 / 416-327-4282 / 1-800-387-5559

The Assistive Devices Program (ADP) helps people with long-term physical disabilities pay for customized equipment, like wheelchairs and hearing aids. The ADP also helps cover the cost of specialized supplies, such as those used with ostomies. To qualify, you must:

- be an Ontario resident
- have a valid Ontario health card
- have a disability requiring a mobility aid for 6 months or longer

They do not consider your income.

[Mobility - Assistive Devices Program](#)

ADP authorized vendors which sell mobility products including power wheelchairs, manual wheelchairs, walkers, seating and scooters. Vendors can also sell non ADP funded home healthcare and home safety products and equipment. These include adjustable beds, lift chairs, stairlift, elevators, vehicle lifts and modifications in addition to patient lifts, slings, bathing and toileting equipment.

[Find your local Alzheimer Society | Alzheimer Society of Ontario](#)
416-967-5900

A network of Alzheimer Societies across Ontario offers a variety of services, including private and family counseling, support groups and day programs, educational workshops and referral services.

[MS Canada](#)
1-844-859-6789

Provides services to people living with Multiple Sclerosis and their families.

[Ontario Seniors Care at Home Tax Credit](#)

The credit provides eligible individuals up to 25% of their claimable medical expenses up to \$6,000, for a maximum credit of \$1,500. This amount will be reduced by 5% of family net income over \$35,000. If you're a low- to moderate-income senior, you may also be eligible for up to \$500 back on your property taxes.

CONTACT US

by phone or email

1 (888) 558-3603

intakes@stayathomenursing.com

or visit our website

www.stayathomenursing.com

