**Guidelines: Provision of Temporary Equipment For Care Homes in North Tyneside.**

**Aim of the Service.**

To provide short term loan equipment that is not readily accessible within a nursing or residential home, this supports a person during end of life care or prevents an unnecessary admission to hospital.

**Provision of Equipment in Care homes**

Whilst it is understood that care homes should not accept people whose assessed need they are unable to meet there are times when a person deteriorates due to illness or trauma. With the right equipment the person can be supported on a temporary basis to improve or end their life in the place of their choice.

During these times if the ‘loan’ of specialist equipment would prevent a hospital admission, or support a person during end of life care, the equipment may then be supplied from North Tyneside Adaptations and Loan Equipment Service (known as ALES.) Provision will be different dependant on whether it is a nursing care or residential setting. For the list of available equipment see appendix 1.

Where equipment is loaned by ALES it will be for the exclusive use of the person for whom it has been prescribed, following assessment from a health or social care professional.

The equipment may be loaned for a period of up to twelve weeks a request to return the equipment will be made by ALES unless a written agreement to extend that period has been provided following a re-assessment of need by the referrer.

**Referral process.**

If the assessment is in relation to pressure relieving equipment referral should be forwarded onto the District Nursing Service in the first instance. Following assessment the prescriber can order the equipment via CEQUIP as per normal procedure. Subject to stock availability the identified equipment will be delivered within three working days.

If an Occupational Therapy assessment is required this should be requested via North Tyneside Council’s Gateway Team telephone no 0191 6432777.

**How to return the equipment.**

Arrangements for the return of equipment would need to be within the twelve week specified timescale. Please contact ALES telephone no 0191 6437050 to make suitable arrangements for collection. If the team have not heard from you they will contact you to arrange a collection date for the equipment.

**Appendix 1**

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| Cequip Catalogue reference | Item of Equipment | Who is responsible for provision within setting | | Comment |
| Nursing | Non- Nursing |
| BP001 | Foam overlay mattress (propad/Dyna Pad | NH | ALES | Up to 12 weeks then subject to reassessment. |
| AM007 or AM010 | Dynamic alternating mattress overlays. (Eclipse/Talley Quattro) | ALES | ALES | Up to 12 weeks then subject to reassessment. |
| AM001 or AM012 | Dynamic alternating pressure mattress replacement (Talley) | ALES | ALES | Up to 12 weeks then subject to reassessment. |
| PC001 | Foam low risk cushion | ALES | ALES | Up to 12 weeks then subject to reassessment. |
| AC007 | Dynamic cushion system | ALES | ALES | Up to 12 weeks then subject to reassessment |
| EB001 | Electric profiling community bed | NH | ALES | Up to 12 weeks then subject to reassessment.  Bed proforma to be completed as per community setting |

NH- Nursing Home

ALES- Adaptations & Loan Equipment Service