

Outbreak Incremental Cost Supplement – Business Practice Resource

Purpose

The purpose of this resource is to describe the business process, effective October 1, 2024, for the Outbreak Incremental Cost Supplement (previously outbreak incremental cost funding) for continuing care home operators.

This business process supports implementation of the Alberta Health Continuing Care Transformation Core Element 4 (Improve Quality – Invest in pandemic and outbreak preparedness, Alberta Health, 2023) and recommendation 41 of the Improving Quality of Life for Residents in Facility-Based Continuing Care (page 109, MNP, 2021).

Business Process

Applicability

This process is applicable to all publicly funded continuing care home operators providing health care services who are directed to follow practices in the Guide for Outbreak Prevention and Control for Continuing Care Homes (Guide for Outbreak Prevention and Control). This is limited to funded facility based care beds in continuing care homes including Type A (formerly long term care), Type B (formerly DSL3, DSL4, DSL4-D and personal care homes), Type C (hospice), and post-acute (e.g., restorative care, transition beds that are funded as continuing care home spaces/facilities).

Outbreak Incremental Cost Supplement

Effective October 1, 2024, the funding process for determining the Outbreak Incremental Cost Supplement (supplement) will be streamlined to reduce the administrative burden on operators as well as provide the supplement in a timely manner.

The outbreak per diem funding will be automatically calculated once the outbreak is declared over. In addition, the single per diem will cover both support services related costs (e.g., cleaning supplies) and care-related costs (e.g., PPE, additional staffing) associated with an active outbreak. Please note there will be no further reimbursement beyond the standard per diem funding. In extraordinary circumstances, operators may apply for [added care funding](#) to the respective zone if they can demonstrate that their current funding and the supplement are insufficient to cover their outbreak costs.

NOTE: All open outbreaks as of October 1, 2024, will be subject to this new process. Outbreaks open for 5 days or less will not be eligible.

Did You Know?

Resources to support infection prevention and control are located at <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/ipc/ipc.aspx>.

For more information
continuingcare@ahs.ca

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Seniors Health & Continuing Care



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Example:

- TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS CONFIRMED OUTBREAK OPEN x TOTAL NUMBER OF RESIDENT CASES (confirmed + probable + suspected) x PER DIEM of \$30.50/case day
Example: Outbreak open for 30 days. There were a total of 10 confirmed, possible and suspected cases. Funding would = $30 \times 10 \times 30.50 = \$9,150$

Qualification for the Outbreak Incremental Cost Supplement

ALL continuing care home operators will be provided the supplement for all days controlling a confirmed outbreak when the confirmed outbreak definition has been met (as per the applicable Guide for Outbreak Prevention and Control).

Outbreak status, type, resident cases, and days open will be obtained from the Communicable Disease Outbreak Management data base and validated with the respective MOH/designate information, if required.

Outbreak payments will be made automatically, no action needed by the operator. Operators are expected to maximize existing funding resources in addition to receiving the supplement.

Any questions related to the supplement (calculation, funding, accounts payable processes, recovery) should be directed to ccf@albertahealthservices.ca.

Documentation and Verification

Operators are required to keep all documentation to support their outbreak spending, including information on costs for additional staffing and invoices for non-staffing cost (e.g., personal protective equipment, supplies, etc.). Recovery of provided funds will occur if financial review determines the operator was ineligible for the supplement.

Supporting Resources

1. [Guide for Outbreak Prevention Control in Continuing Care Homes](#)
2. [Notifiable Disease & Outbreak Management](#)

Did You Know?

Resources to support outbreak prevention and management are located at <https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/cdc/Page18153.aspx>.