

Community Care Fund
Brief on the Pilot Scheme on Support for Elderly Persons
Discharged from Public Hospitals after Treatment (Extended Pilot Scheme)

(For Reference for the Applicants Referred from 1 October 2021 Onwards)

I. Background and Objectives

A three-year “Pilot Scheme on Support for Elderly Persons Discharged from Public Hospitals after Treatment” (the Pilot Scheme) under the Community Care Fund (CCF) was rolled out in February 2018. The Pilot Scheme aims at supporting elderly persons just discharged from public hospitals who are in need of transitional care and support, by providing them with transitional community care and support and/or residential care services. It enables them to continue ageing-in-place in a familiar community and prevents their premature long-term institutionalisation in residential care homes for the elderly. Upon its completion at the end of January 2021, the Pilot Scheme has been extended for 32 months up to the end of September 2023. The Pilot Scheme is implemented under a new mode of operation starting from October 2021 and continues to be administered by the Social Welfare Department (SWD).

II. Eligibility Criteria

- The beneficiaries of the Extended Pilot Scheme should be:
 - (a) aged 60 or above; and
 - (b) with temporary loss of self-care ability due to illness, and assessed by medical staff of the Hospital Authority (HA) to be in need of transitional care and support (i.e. in need of temporary residential care and/or community care and support services after discharge from hospitals), and not covered under the existing “Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients” (**Note**).

III. New Mode of Operation (October 2021 to the end of September 2023)

i. Referral Procedures

- The Extended Pilot Scheme is pioneered in ten hospitals (United Christian Hospital, Tseung Kwan O Hospital, Haven of Hope Hospital, Prince of Wales Hospital, Alice Ho Miu Ling Nethersole Hospital, North District Hospital, Shatin Hospital, Tai Po Hospital, Tuen Mun Hospital and Pok Oi Hospital) under three HA hospital clusters (Kowloon East, New Territories East and New Territories West).
- Medical staff of the aforesaid hospitals will make assessment and formulate discharge plans for elderly patients in need so as to facilitate planning for appropriate nursing care, rehabilitation and care support services. Needy elderly persons will subsequently be referred to the following Transitional Care Teams of the respective hospital clusters:

HA Hospital Clusters	Transitional Care Teams
Kowloon East	Transitional Care Team operated by Haven of Hope Christian Service
New Territories East	Transitional Care Team operated by Hong Kong Children & Youth Services
New Territories West	Transitional Care Team operated by Methodist Centre

ii. Service Arrangement and Fee-charging

- The Transitional Care Teams will explain the content and details of the Extended Pilot Scheme to elderly persons and/or their family members, help elderly persons interested in the Extended Pilot Scheme process and vet their applications, and arrange transitional community care and support and/or residential care services for no more than four months in general.
- Participants of the Extended Pilot Scheme will be charged according to the service fees set out at **Annex**. The service fees may be adjusted based on the change in price levels in the future. Elderly persons are required to settle the relevant service charges in accordance with the requirements and arrangements of the Transitional Care Teams.
- The Transitional Care Teams will review and verify the service eligibility of the elderly persons on a regular basis. If an elderly beneficiary has deceased or received government-subsidised community care and support and/or residential care services for the elderly, etc., he/she no longer meets the eligibility criteria of the Extended Pilot Scheme and the Transitional Care Teams will cease provision of the services.
- Information provided by the applicants must be true and complete. In case of any change of condition/information of the elderly persons concerned, applicants must notify the Transitional Care Teams as soon as possible. Applicants must cooperate with the Transitional Care Teams by providing additional information/document(s) (if required) for verification in case their cases are selected for random check by the Transitional Care Teams in the future.

IV. Enquiries

- Community Care Fund Team, Social Welfare Department
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Telephone : 3422 3090
Fax : 3427 9890
Email : ccfenq@swd.gov.hk
Office hours : From 9 am to 6 pm (lunch break from 1 pm to 2 pm), Monday to Friday (closed on public holidays)
- Kowloon East Hospital Cluster – Transitional Care Team Operated by Haven of Hope Christian Service
Telephone : 2174 2231
Fax : 2833 6011
Email : tcteam@hohcs.org.hk
- New Territories East Hospital Cluster – Transitional Care Team Operated by Hong Kong Children & Youth Services
Telephone : 3990 1500
Fax : 3702 1071
Email : tct@hkccys.org.hk
- New Territories West Hospital Cluster – Transitional Care Team Operated by Methodist Centre
Telephone : 3565 2264
Fax : 3998 4648
Email : ntwtc@methodist-centre.com
- SWD hotline : 2343 2255
- SWD website : www.swd.gov.hk
- CCF website : www.communitycarefund.hk

Note

Note: At present, the Government, in collaboration with the HA, implements the Integrated Discharge Support Programme for Elderly Patients. The service targets are mainly elderly persons newly discharged from HA hospitals who have been assessed by HA medical staff to be at high risk of unplanned re-admission to hospital. The programme provides a range of support services (including discharge planning, transitional rehabilitation service, home care services and carer training) for these elderly persons, aiming at reducing their unplanned hospital re-admission risk.

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Service fees¹

(For reference for the applicants referred from 1 October 2021 onwards)

Service Items		Income Level of Service Users (CSSA : Comprehensive Social Security Assistance)		
		I At CSSA level or below	II Between CSSA and 1.5 times CSSA level	III Above 1.5 times CSSA level
Transitional home care services	Meal delivery service (per meal)	\$13	\$16	\$19
	Personal care service / Home making service / Elder-sitting service / Escort service (per hour)	\$5.5	\$12	\$19
	Rehabilitation exercise service / Environmental risk assessment and home modifications recommendation / Nursing care service (per hour)	\$5.5	\$12	\$19
Transitional day care services (per day)		\$41.5		
Transitional residential care services (per day)		\$62		

¹ Service fees may be adjusted based on the change in price levels in the future.