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Electronic Aid to Daily Living (EADL) Information Sheet

What are EADLs?

EADLs (also known as environmental controls) enable people with physical and/or cognitive limitations to control a wide range of electronic devices in the home or workplace. Devices may include alarm calls, telephones, door openers, stereos, TVs, DVDs, Stereos, electronic beds, lights and appliances. EADLs range from simple off-the-shelf solutions to more complex systems which may be operated by voice or any reliable movement such as a turn of the head (or even the blink of an eye).

The EADL Equipment Pool at HHS

A recycling pool of EADL equipment was purchased through a donation from the McMaster Students Union to the Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation for clients of the ALS Clinic at McMaster University Medical Centre. EADL equipment in the pool includes speakerphones, call bells and some remote controls.

How can I get access to EADLs?

James Leslie, a rehabilitation technologist, is the technology specialist on the ALS Clinic at McMaster University Medical Centre AAC team (communication team). James can also assess your EADL needs. He is available during clinic hours, every last Friday of the month. You can book time with him to explore all your options.

How much does this service cost?

There is no fee to discuss your EADL needs at the ALS clinic. You can borrow equipment for a small fee. You will be charged a dispensing fee of \$25.00 plus \$10.00 for each item you borrow (e.g. if you borrow 2 items the total cost will be \$45.00). The dispensing fees help Independence Technologies recoup some of the cost of providing this service.

If your EADL needs are more extensive, a private EADL assessment can be arranged with Independence Technologies and is on a fee for service basis.

How come I have to pay for this service but not other services through the ALS Clinic?

Unlike other devices you receive from the ALS clinic, such as voice amplifiers and breath stacking bags, EADLs are not funded by the health care system in Ontario and that is why we need to charge a small fee. Independence Technologies operates on a cost recovery basis and the dispensing fees help recoup some of the cost of providing this service.

Who do I contact for a private EADL assessment or if I have more questions?

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