



**VETERANS AFFAIRS CANADA (VAC)
PROGRAM OF CHOICE (POC) 14 – VISION (EYE) CARE
LOW VISION BENEFITS**

**BENEFIT GRID UPDATE – ALL PROVINCES
EFFECTIVE MAY 15TH, 2010**

May 2010

Veterans Affairs Canada (VAC) has recently completed a review of the Benefit Grid for Program of Choice (POC) 14 – Vision (Eye) Care – Low Vision Benefits. The updates include changes in pre-authorization requirements, changes in dollar limits, frequencies etc., as well as the addition of new benefit codes. All changes are **effective May 15, 2010**.

Providers will be reimbursed their usual and customary charges to a maximum of the dollar limits indicated on the benefit grid.

Should you have any questions, please contact your regional Blue Cross Provider Inquiry Line toll free at 1-888-261-4033.

Please visit the Blue Cross website at www.medavie.bluecross.ca and click on the *Health Professionals* link to view all provider bulletins, to download and print claim forms and to update your contact information including your email address.

Thank you for the ongoing care and service you provide to our Veterans.

Benefit Code	Description	New Pre-authorization Requirement	New Frequency	New Dollar Limit
605015	Watch – Low Vision / Talking / Braille	TAC (A Clients)	1 / 12 CM *	\$85
621087	Light Filters (Plain)	TAC (A Clients)	1 / 12 CM	\$85
621565	Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Colour System – Rental	TAC (A & B Clients)	4 / 4 CM	
621984	Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Colour System – Purchase	TAC (A & B Clients)		
623970	Low Vision Aids – Telescopic Aids (bioptic, full, diameter, reading, behind-the-lens)	TAC (A & B Clients)	3 / 60 CM	\$230
623980	Low Vision Aids – Magnifiers – Budget	TAC (A Clients)	5 / 12 CM	\$50
624420	Copy Reading Stand	TAC (A Clients)	1 / 60 CM	\$40
624589	Talking Aids – Talking Scales	TAC (A Clients)	1 / 60 CM	\$80
624593	Talking Aids – Talking Calendar	TAC (A Clients)	1 / 36 CM	\$50
624595	Talking Aids – Talking Clock	TAC (A Clients)	1 / 12 CM	\$30
624599	Talking Aids – Talking Calculator	TAC (A Clients)	1 / 12 CM	\$60
624720	Signature and Writing Guides		2 / 12 CM	\$15
624854	Sound Warning Devices for the Blind	TAC (A Clients)	1 / 12 CM	\$30
625990	Recording Aids – Analog or Digital Recorders / Players	TAC (A Clients)	1 / 36 CM	
625995	Guide Dog – Food, Grooming, Veterinary Care			\$1200 / 12 CM
626326	Other Essential Vision Care Benefits	TAC (A & B Clients)		
626340	Shipping and Delivery Charges	TAC (A & B Clients)		
628113	White Cane	TAC (A Clients)	2 / 12 CM	\$35

* CM = Calendar Months

NEW BENEFITS		
623974	Low Vision Aids – Large Button Telephone	Pre-authorization: TAC (A Clients) Prescriber: CI, O, OP Frequency: 1 / 24 CM Dollar Limit: \$80
623981	Low Vision Aids – Magnifiers – Optic Quality	Pre-authorization: TAC (A Clients) Prescriber: CI, O, OP Frequency: 3 / 60 CM Dollar Limit: \$300

Terminated Benefit Codes		NEW / Replacement Benefit Codes		
623990	Low Vision Aids – Large Print Aids	NEW 623975	Low Vision Aids – Large Print – Budget	Prescriber: CI, O, OP Frequency: 3 / 12 CM Dollar Limit: \$50
		NEW 623976	Low Vision Aids – Large Print – Deluxe	Pre-authorization: TAC (A & B Clients) Prescriber: CI, O, OP Frequency: 1 / 12 CM Dollar Limit: \$300
624883	Repairs and Maintenance to CNIB Benefits	600217	Repairs and Maintenance	
626345	Shipping and Delivery Charges (CNIB)	626340	Shipping and Delivery Charges	Pre-authorization: TAC (A & B Clients)
629122 629128	Watches – Braille Wrist Watch Watches – Talking Watch	605015	Watch – Low Vision / Talking / Braille	Pre-authorization: TAC (A Clients) Frequency: 1 / 12 CM Dollar Limit: \$85

The benefit codes in the following table are terminated and replaced by:	
Benefit Code:	626326 – Other Essential Vision Care Benefits
Pre-authorization:	TAC (A & B Clients)
603678	Low Vision Therapy
620945	Typewriter (Portable) with Braille Keys
621659	Automatic Viewing Table
622970	Optical Scanner (Optical Character Recognition (OCR) Device) – Purchase
622975	Optical Scanner (Optical Character Recognition (OCR) Device) – Rental
623973	Assistive Devices for the Visually Impaired
626233	Other Essential CNIP Vision Care Benefits – Purchase
627815	Portable Braille or Speech Note Taker – Purchase
628100	Recording Aids – Blank Cassette Tapes
629900	Braille Supplies – Braille Keyboard for Computer

TERMINATED CODES	
620955	Portable Braille or Speech Note Taker – Rental
626332	Other Essential CNIB Vision Care Benefits – Rental
628610	Braille Supplies – Other
628700	Braille Supplies – Braille Writers
629088	Acoustic Guide
629116	Watches – Braille Pocket Watch