



The Pioneer Generation Disability Assistance Scheme

By Agency for Integrated Care

IN MARCH, the Singapore Government announced plans to roll out a Pioneer Generation Package to honour our elderly pioneers and help them lead active and fulfilling lives in the community. Included in the package is the Pioneer Generation Disability Assistance Scheme.

What is the Pioneer Generation Disability Assistance Scheme?

There are about 450,000 Pioneer Generation members in Singapore, and about 27,000 of them are expected to have at least moderate disabilities. The Scheme provides cash assistance of \$100 per month to those from the pioneer generation who have moderate or severe functional disabilities, which are defined as requiring assistance with at least three out of six common Activities of Daily Living (ADLs).

The Scheme, which will start in September 2014, aims to help these pioneers with the cost of long term care required for their disabilities. The cash assistance can be used to pay for any expenses, such as home care or nursing home services, medical bills, or household expenses, at the beneficiaries' discretion.

Who can qualify for the Pioneer Generation Disability Assistance Scheme?

An eligible pioneer: is 65 years old or older in 2014; was a Singapore citizen as at 31 December 1986; and requires help with at least three ADLs as assessed by a Singapore-registered doctor. The ADLs are:

- Showering or bathing
- Dressing
- Feeding
- Toileting
- Transferring from bed to an upright chair/wheelchair, or vice versa
- Mobility

Functional assessment for ADLs

To apply for the Scheme, pioneers need to visit a doctor who is registered under Singapore Medical Council (SMC) for a functional assessment to be done using the Functional Assessment Report (Figure 1). The report can be picked up at community centres or clubs, hospitals and polyclinics, or downloaded from the Singapore Silver Pages (SSP) at <http://www.silverpages.sg>.

Figure 1

ASSESSOR		
FUNCTIONAL ASSESSMENT		
(if no patient's sticky label) Name of Person : _____		Patient's Sticky Label (where applicable)
Assessed NRIC/BC : _____		
Section 1: Functional Assessment*	Yes	No
a. Activities of Daily Living (ADLs)	Requires help/supervision most of the time	No help is required
i	Washing or Bathing	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii	Dressing	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii	Feeding	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv	Toileting	<input type="checkbox"/>
v	Transferring	<input type="checkbox"/>
vi	Mobility	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 2: Comments by Assessor		
b. Are the disabilities permanent*?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
d. Date of onset of impairment	(estimated g/d/mm/yyyy)	
Additional comments (if any)		
I confirm that the assessment done for the above applicant is true and correct to my best knowledge. I am aware that the assessment for this application will serve as reference only. The Scheme Administrator reserves the right to make the final decision on the application outcome and reject any application if the information is found to be inaccurate, or if any relevant information has been withheld by the applicant.		
Name and Signature of Assessor	Stamp of Clinic / Hospital	Date
Tel / Fax Nos.		

Important Note:
Assessor must sign against any amendment made and affix the official stamp of the clinic / hospital. If not, the report will be deemed to be incomplete.

*Form is correct at the time of printing.

GPs can expect public requests for functional assessment as early as this month. However, the majority of walk-in patients will only start doing so from June 2014, when application opens to the public.

Not all eligible pioneers require an assessment. They include those who are:

- Already on ElderShield, Interim Disability Assistance Programme for the Elderly, or are receiving the Foreign Domestic Worker (FDW) Grant. They will be informed of their eligibility by the administrators of these schemes before June 2014.
- Bedridden. These patients' application only requires a doctor's note.

While all SMC-registered doctors can conduct the functional assessment, a list will be published in the Agency of Integrated Care (AIC) and Ministry of Health's websites by 30 May 2014 for patients' reference. If you would like to be a functional assessment report assessor, email AIC at gp@aic.gov.sg with your name and clinic details. ■

Did you know that all SMC-registered doctors can conduct the assessments for the following schemes using the same Functional Assessment Report (Figure 1)?

- Pioneer Generation Disability Assistance Scheme
- FDW Levy Concession for Persons with Disabilities
- FDW Grant
- Special Needs Savings Scheme
- Enhancement for Active Seniors
- Public Transport Concession for Persons with Disabilities

For more information, please visit this microsite: <http://www.primarycarepages.sg/microsite/FAR> or call AIC's hotline at 6593 3930.