



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

transforming
DVA

Guide to Mobility and Functional Support (MFS) and Home Modification Changes

Health Providers/Prescribers

2022

Summary of changes

- On 1 November 2021 changes were implemented to the Rehabilitation Appliance Schedule (RAP Schedule) for Mobility and Functional Support and Home Modifications items.
- These changes have been made to streamline the schedule, simplify the processes and offer more contracted items.
- All home modifications are now covered by these contract arrangements.
- This presentation provides examples of changes that have occurred.

New RAP Schedule Categories

DVA has introduced better classification of RAP items and RAP categories to ensure that clients, prescribers and suppliers understand the range of items included in each RAP category.

- Alarm System/Communication Appliances/Assistive Listening Devices
- Tinnitus Devices
- Beds
- Chairs
- Supports
- Mobility Appliances
- Lifting Devices
- Orthoses
- Footwear Not Obtained Through Medical Grade Footwear Program
- Prostheses
- Personal Hygiene
- Bathing
- Toileting
- Continence Products
- Speech Appliances
- Swallowing and Feeding Appliances
- Rehabilitation Exercise Equipment
- Treatment Machines
- Household Adaptive and Assistance Appliances
- Communication, Cognition and Memory Assistance
- Palliative Care Appliances
- Home Modifications – Non Complex
- Home Modifications – Complex
- Diabetes Products
- Low Vision Appliances
- Respiratory Home Therapy Appliances
- Assistance Dogs
- Stoma Appliances
- Labour
- Delivery and Testing

Changes to the RAP Schedule

Types of changes that have occurred and a few examples.

Simplifying the names of items on the RAP Schedule:

Item Number	Old Name	New Name	Why?
AP04	Safety Helmet -Scooters	Safety Helmet	To ensure safety helmets are available for clients with various conditions such as head injuries, epilepsy and post brain surgery, not solely for scooter riders.

Changes to the name of some RAP categories to improve the classification of items:

Item Number	Old Name	New Name	Why?
BD04	Physiotherapy Appliances	Rehabilitation Exercise Equipment	To avoid implying that only physiotherapists can prescribe these items.

Changes to the RAP Schedule

Combining RAP item numbers for items with similar features into one item number:

Old item #1	Old item #2	Old item #3	Item Number and New Description	Why?
Long Handled Comb/Brush	Long Handled Toe Wiper	Long Handled Shoe Horn	AU08 - Appliances with Long Handles	To reduce confusion and duplication, making it easier to locate the correct item on the schedule.

DVA has introduced a maintenance and repair item number for most categories.

Item Number	Name	Used for	Why?
AT14	Palliative Care Appliances - Maintenance and Repair	The maintenance and repair of all palliative care items - minus labour costs.	To simplify and standardise maintenance and repair ordering and invoicing.

Changes to the RAP schedule

DVA has introduced a consumables and accessories item number for most categories to simplify and standardise the supply of these items.

Item Number	Name	What was the change?
AP14	Mobility Appliances - Consumables and Accessories	AP14 was previously for Wheelchair Accessories. The item has been renamed to include Consumables and Accessories for ALL mobility appliances in the AP00 range.
AC11	Chair – Consumables and Accessories	New item AC11 has been created to include Consumables and Accessories for all items in the AC00 or 'Chair' category.

Updated Guidelines and New/Updated RAP Forms

To assist you when prescribing RAP items we have made a number of changes to the National Guidelines below. We have also modified and created a number of forms where procedural changes have occurred.

National Guideline	Forms
Complex home modifications including lifts	D1327 – Complex Home/Access Modifications
	D1323 – Authority to Install/ Modify – Home Modifications
	D9299 – Post Modification Report
Electric mobility aids	D9300 – Electric Mobility Aids – Part 1 – Medical Assessment (completed by GP)
	D1325 – Electric Mobility Aids – Part 2 – Assessment (completed by OT)
	D9379 – Electric Mobility Aids – Part 3 – Trial (completed by OT)
Vehicle modifications and Driving Assessments	D9381 – Authority to Install / Modify – Vehicle Modifications

Trials of Equipment

- Assessing Health Providers can arrange a **five (5) day trial** for contracted items at **no cost**. Clearly mark the completed form (D00992 Mobility and functional support (MFS) direct order form) with Trial only.
- This enables prescribers the opportunity to determine the equipment/product appropriately meets the client's needs.
- Where an item is deemed unsuitable in meeting the client's needs another can be trialled, until a suitable item is found.
- The equipment provided for trial may be either new or recycled providing it is safe and appropriate.
- For items requiring prior approval i.e. Scooters this trial arrangement does not apply. The D0992 form should accompany the D1325 Electric Mobility Aids Part 2 – assessment form before any trial proceeds.



Trials of Equipment

- **Three (3) month trial period for the following items:**

Item Number	Item Description
AP31	Knee Walker and Scooter - Trial
AV18	Stationary Exercise Bike - Trial



- DVA will pay for the trial period of these items. DVA will also purchase the item after the trial if the client continues to require it.
- The equipment provided for trial may be either new or recycled providing it is safe and appropriate.
- Complete the D9160 – Trial of Equipment Form
- If the client requires the equipment for longer than 3 months complete the D0992 form



Prescriber Role - ordering item when prior approval is not required

Process

- Conduct eligibility check
- Assessment to identify clinical need
- Prescribe/trial equipment/specify modification
- Send D00992 form and any supporting documentation to contracted supplier

DVA Gold Card holders can access clinically required healthcare treatment for **all** conditions.

White Card holders can access clinically required healthcare treatment for **specific** conditions listed on their card. Prescribers can check eligibility by calling [DVA's Health Provider Line on 1800 550 457](tel:1800550457).

The prescriber conducts the most suitable assessments of the client to determine the client's needs and the most cost-effective, safe and clinically appropriate aids/appliances/home modifications.

The prescriber identifies suitable contracted item/s in accordance with the RAP Schedule and National Guidelines. The schedule is available at:

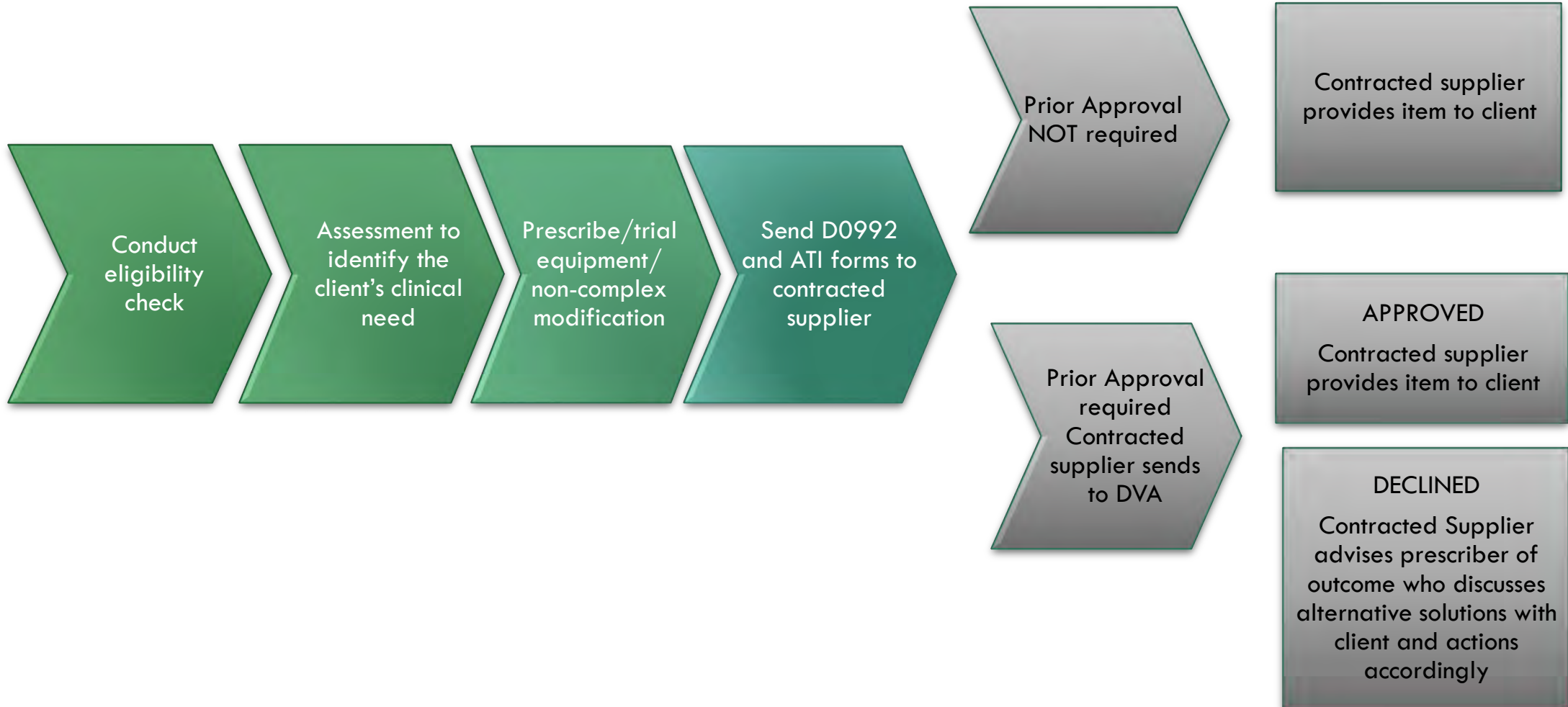
<https://www.dva.gov.au/providers/rehabilitation-appliances-program-rap/rap-schedule>

The prescriber completes the appropriate form/s and forwards to one of the DVA contracted suppliers.

For White Card holders the prescriber must outline:

- the client's specific clinical condition/s the item is required for
- the functional issue and how the prescribed item will address this issue.

Prescribing non-complex home modifications



The Difference Between Non-Complex and Complex Modifications?

Non-complex modifications

- Non-structural changes to the home that involve installing or altering fittings and fixtures.
- Ordered using the D0992 form with accompanying diagrams
- D1323 - Authority to Install (ATI) Form to your choice of contracted supplier
- These generally do not require prior financial approval from DVA.



All modifications require detailed specifications about the proposed item or modifications. This may include product name, model, size, height, length, type of material etc. and may also include references to the relevant Australian Standards.

In all instances the **simplest options** which could be an item of equipment should be considered or trialled.

The Difference Between Non-Complex and Complex Modifications?

Complex modifications

- Modifications include ramps, stairs (2 or more), lifts, installation of a bidet or a stove isolation switch, substantial changes to a bathroom or other room.
- These all require prior financial approval from DVA.
- Bathrooms and other room modifications requests are sent first with supporting documentation to DVA by email rapgeneralenquiries@dva.gov.au. This is to ensure a range of options have been considered and that the scope of work is suitable and specifications are detailed appropriately.
- Lifts, ramps, platform steps, bidets and stove isolation switches are sent directly to the nominated contracted supplier with supporting documentation D1327 and part K attachments.
- For further information please see [RAP National Guideline- Complex Home Modifications Including Lifts](#)

All modifications require detailed specifications about the proposed item or modifications. This may include product name, model, size, height, length, type of material etc. and may also include references to the relevant Australian Standards.

In all instances the **simplest options** which could be an item of equipment should be considered or trialed.



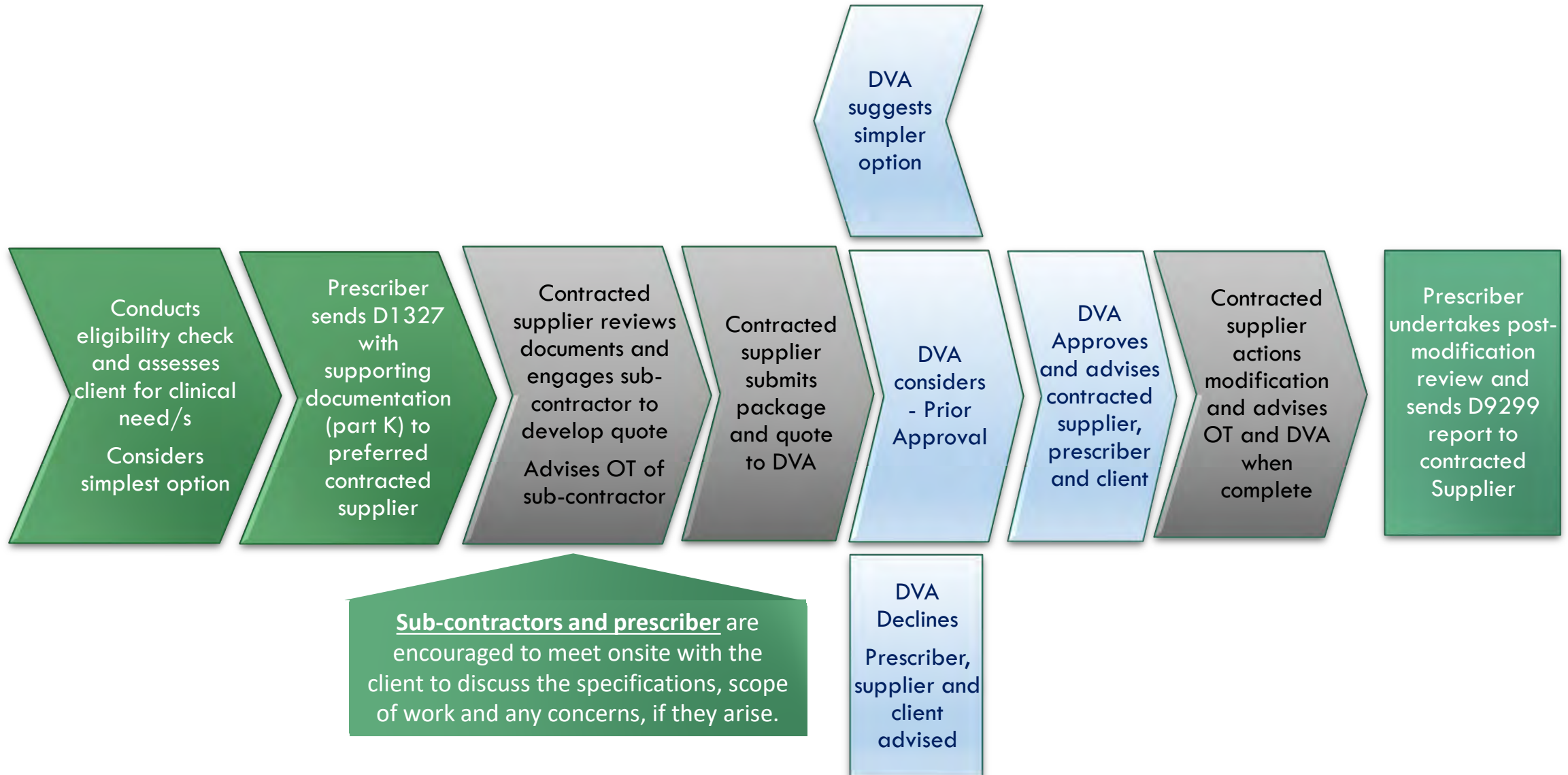
Clarification on new process

- Prescribers no longer need to obtain quotes and engage builders/tradespeople to undertake modifications.
- Contracted suppliers will now quote and complete the home modifications.
- Onsite meetings with prescribers, sub-contracted builders and clients are encouraged to finalise the scope of works, develop quotes and address any concerns.
- Post-modification reports are still required. Once completed, this form is returned to the contracted provider.
- If required, the contracted provider will arrange for remediation works to occur before forwarding the report to DVA.

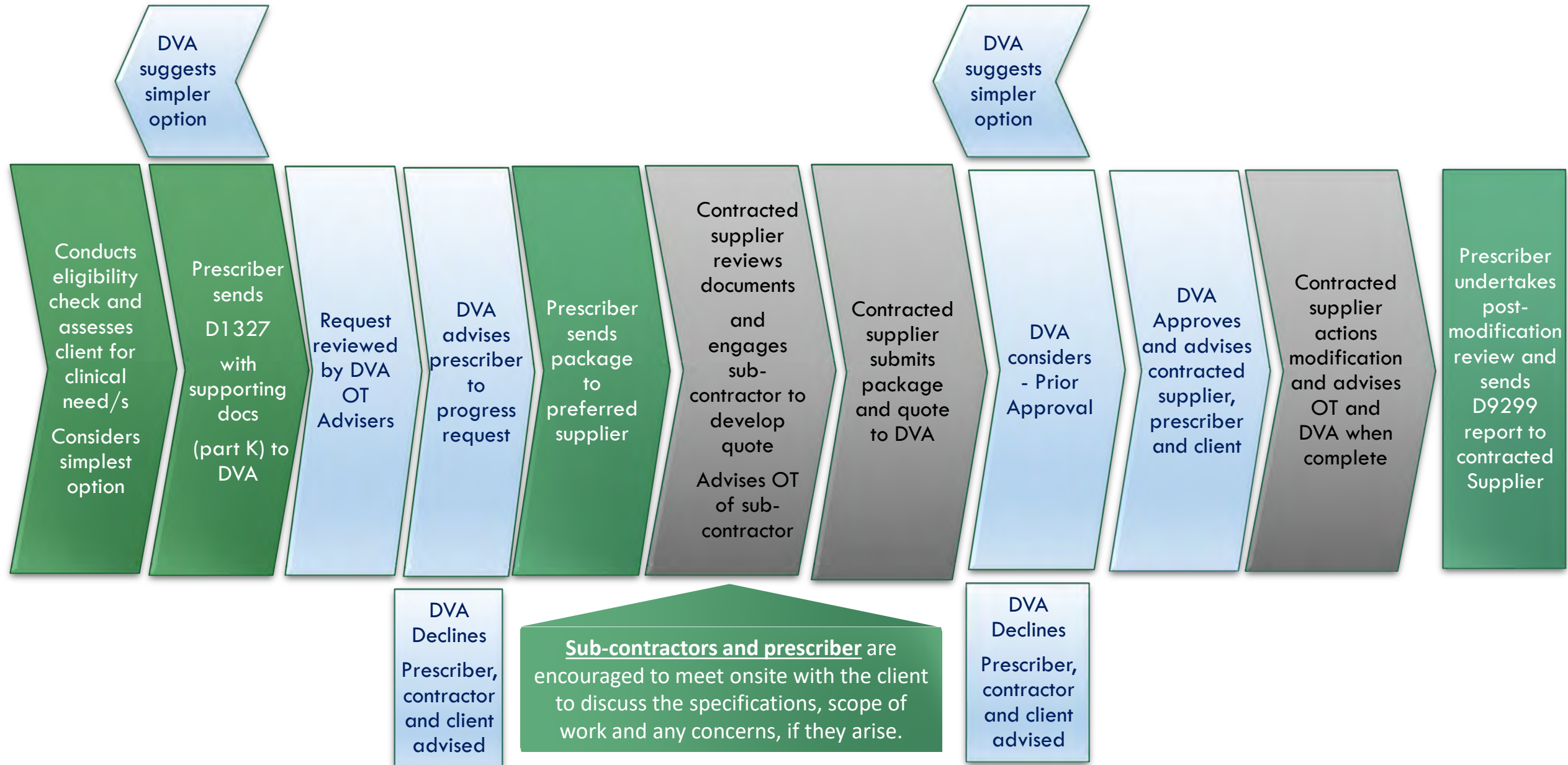
Complex Modifications

Item Number	Name	Why
AL10	Ramp – Fixed – Greater than 190mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is now considered a complex modification due to design considerations which must be addressed (e.g. gradient, surface and railing requirements).
AL14	Step Modification – two or more steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is now considered a complex modification Step(s) needs to accommodate person + walking frame at a minimum.
BE01	Bidet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bidets should only be considered for identified clinical conditions warranting their use. Alternative or simpler options need to have been considered or trialled. Only one installation per residence. Aesthetics of the installation including RPZ + powerpoint should be discussed with the client. OT considerations for electronic bidets is available on request. Once installed DVA does not fund removal of the bidet.
AL23	Stove Isolation Switch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This item is provided where a high level of safety risk has been assessed. This risk may be due to dementia or memory dysfunction.

Complex Home Modification Process (excluding Bathroom and Other Room)



Complex Home Modification Process (Bathroom and Other Room)



Information for Health Providers

- The RAP website has the current versions of RAP forms and RAP National Guidelines (for complex aids and appliances) www.dva.gov.au/providers/rehabilitation-appliances-program-rap/rap-overview
- Health Providers/ Prescribers wanting further information can call our Health Provider Line on 1800 550 457 or email rapgeneralenquiries@dva.gov.au
- Occupational Therapists can email the DVA OT Advisers directly on OT.Advisers@dva.gov.au to discuss a client's individual needs.
- Contracted suppliers wanting further information should contact their Contract Manager directly by email rap.contracts@dva.gov.au
- DVA Contracted suppliers may engage sub-contractors to carry out the building works or provide products directly to DVA clients on their behalf. Health Providers/ Prescribers wanting more information on the progress of building work can contact the Contracted supplier or sub-contracted builder directly.