Product News, Masks

Pilairo™ nasal pillows are new from Fisher & Paykel – a very light interface, weighing only 1.83 ounces. The Pilairo features a self-inflating AirPillow™ Seal and minimal headgear for more freedom of movement. One size fits all. For use with bilevel and CPAP units up to 25 cm H₂O pressure. www.fphcare.com/products/pilairo-nasal-pillows-mask/

Eson™ nasal mask also from Fisher & Paykel features unique RollFit seal, ErgoFit headgear and low profile for a clear line of vision. Small, medium and large sizes. For use with bilevel and CPAP units up to 25 cm H₂O pressure. www.fphcare.com/products/eson-nasal-mask/

Consumer Health Information

Now that everyone seems to be using the Internet to obtain medical information, it’s important to know which websites to trust for accurate, up-to-date and reliable information. The Medical Library Association has compiled a list of consumer health sites that it considers most useful and trustworthy. These include websites for major diseases such as cancer, diabetes and heart disease. www.mlanet.org/resources/userguide.html

Other reliable websites include:

MedlinePlus, sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, for disease definitions, explanations and symptoms, and medications. www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, for vaccination recommendations, traveler’s health, epidemiological data and disease outbreaks. www.cdc.gov

Competitive Bidding Update

For background, go to www.ventusers.org/edu/valnews/val_26-5oct12pAll.pdf

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) competitive bidding program to cut costs for durable medical equipment, prosthetics, orthotics and supplies (DMEPOS) is about to enter Round 2 on July 1, 2013, covering 91 additional geographical areas.

The CMS Ombudsman office handles inquiries and complaints about how the program is working for consumers and suppliers in the Round 1 areas. People who use bilevel units and their home health companies may be affected. If you have a complaint, please call 800-633-4227 or email Competitive Acquisition Ombudsman at cms.hhs.gov. However, CMS records only the complaints that are passed to a higher level. If the complaints to the tollfree number are resolved, they are not considered a complaint. Please let IVUN know about your complaints and how they were handled; email info@ventusers.org.

A market pricing alternative to competitive bidding, H.R. 6490, was introduced in Congress last year, and if passed, would take effect in July 2013. www.ventusers.org/edu/valnews/val_26-3jun12p2-6.pdf

Send product news to Judith R. Fischer, MSLS, IVUN Information Specialist, info@ventusers.org

International Ventilator Users Network’s mission is to enhance the lives and independence of home mechanical ventilator users and polio survivors through education, advocacy, research and networking.

How to contact IVUN

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To be sure you receive email updates from PHI and IVUN, set your spam filters to allow messages from info@post-polio.org and info@ventusers.org.

Moving? Change of address?

Notify IVUN before you move by calling 314-534-0475 or email info@ventusers.org, and tell us your old and new addresses.

Away temporarily?

Send us your second address and dates you will be there and we’ll do our best to send your newsletter.