

IHCP *bulletin*

INDIANA HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAMS BT201022 JULY 6, 2010



Side-by-side comparison

Attendant care services, respite home health aide services, and Medicaid prior authorization for home health aide services

In collaboration with the Indiana Association for Home & Hospice Care, the purpose of the side-by-side comparison beginning on the next page is to assist case managers and providers in determining the appropriate services needed for waiver clients. The chart outlines allowed activities for waiver services, including attendant, respite home health aide, and home health aide services through the Medicaid prior authorization process. At the end of the document, you will find the source documents that were used to develop the chart.

As you can see, there appears to be duplication between the allowable activities of the attendant care and home health aide services. If you are a case manager deciding whether to use attendant care through waiver services or home health aide services through the Medicaid prior authorization process, we recommend that you ask yourself the following questions:

- Is the client's health condition medically complex?
- Is the client's health condition medically unstable?
- Would the client benefit from having the nurse oversight function as required by Medicaid prior authorization for home health aide personnel?
- Does the client require a total bed bath?
- Does the client's health condition require the reading of and recording of the temperature, pulse, and respiration?

Continue

Side-by-side comparison

- Does the client require assistance with specialized feeding, such as an individual who has difficulty swallowing, refusing to eat, or does not eat enough?
- Is this service needed so that the client's primary caregiver can work, attend school, or sleep?

If you answer "yes" to any of these questions, the needs of the client would appear to be greater than what is allowed through the attendant care service definition. Therefore, we advise you to request approval for home health aide or nursing services utilizing the appropriate funding source.

Communication between the client's case manager and the service delivery providers is vital to ensure that the needs of the client are met. It is our hope that the chart below assists in determining the most appropriate service while assuring the health, safety, and welfare of our waiver clients.

Thank you for your continued hard work and dedication.

Side-by-side comparison – attendant care/home health aide – March 25, 2009

Activity	Attendant care	Respite home health aide	Medicaid PA home health aide
Bathing			
Assistance with bathing; partial bathing; sponge bathing; tub or shower	X	X	X
Oral hygiene	X	X	X
Hair care, including clipping hair and shampoo	X	X	X
Shaving	X	X	X
Hand/foot/nail/intact skin care	X	X	X
Application of cosmetics	X	X	X
Dressing or undressing	X	X	X
Communication/documentation/observation			
Communication includes: ability to read, write, and communicate in a clear and accurate manner that is easily understood	X	X	X
Documentation includes: name of worker (including professional title); date, time, location of service delivered; amount and type of services delivered; description of services rendered; and any identified issues or concerns noted.	X	X	X
Observation includes: recognizes emergencies and knowledge of emergency procedures; services are delivered in accordance to the approved plan of care	X	X	X

Continue

Activity	Attendant care	Respite home health aide	Medicaid PA home health aide
Escorting			
Escorts individuals to community activities that are therapeutic in nature or that assist with developing and maintaining natural supports	X		
Medication management			
Assistance through providing reminders or cues to take medication, the opening of preset medication containers, and providing assistance in the handling or ingesting of noncontrolled substance medications, including eye drops, herbs, supplements, and over-the-counter medications; and to an individual who is unable to accomplish the task due to an impairment and who is competent and has directed the services; or incompetent and has the services directed by a competent individual who may consent to healthcare for the impaired individual	X	X	X
Mobility			
Assistance with proper body mechanics	X	X	X
Assistance with transfers	X	X	X
Assistance with ambulation	X	X	X
Assistance with use of assistive devices	X	X	X
Nutrition			
Assistance with nutrition; meal planning; preparation; feeding; cleanup	X	X	X
Other			
Provides assistance with correspondence and bill paying	X		
The physical, emotional, and developmental needs of and ways to work with the populations served by the agency, including the need for respect for the patient, privacy, and property	X	X	X
Hands-on activity	X	X	X
Normal range of motion and positioning	X	X	X
Any other task the home health agency may choose to have the home health aide perform			X
Requires supervision of a registered nurse		X	X
Safety			
Assistance/identify and eliminate safety hazards	X	X	X
Waste disposal and household tasks	X	X	X
Maintaining a clean, safe, and healthy environment	X	X	X

Activity	Attendant care	Respite home health aide	Medicaid PA home health aide
Basic infection control procedures and universal precaution	X	X	X
Toileting			
Assistance with bedpan, bedside commode, toilet	X	X	X
Assistance with incontinent or involuntary care	X	X	X
Assistance with emptying urine collection and colostomy bags	X	X	X
Training and evaluations			
Training and evaluation	X	X	X

Reference documents

- CMS-approved Aged and Disabled Medicaid Waiver
- IC 16-27-4 and IC 16-18-2-28.5 – Licensure of Personal Services Agencies
- IAC Article 17 – Home Health Agencies
- IC 16-18-2-28.5 – Attendant Care Services definition

Questions?

If you have questions about this bulletin, please contact Customer Assistance at (317) 655-3240 in the Indianapolis local area or toll-free at 1-800-577-1278.