



Senior & Long Term Care Division

Community Services Bureau

Home Health Policy Manual

Title: Home Health Policy 506
Section: ELIGIBLE SERVICES
Subject: Home Health Aide Services
Reference: ARM 37.40.702, 42 CFR 440.70 and 42 CFR 484.80
Supersedes: Policy 506, Issued 01/01/2000

DEFINITION

A Home Health aide is a paraprofessional worker with specified training and certification which meets the requirements of 42 CFR 484.80 to provide unskilled Home Health care under the direction of a registered nurse or other appropriate skilled professional (physical therapist, speech-language pathologist or occupational therapist).

HOME HEALTH AIDE SERVICES

Home Health aides provide services on a part-time or intermittent basis that are:

1. Ordered by a physician;
2. Included in the plan of care;
3. Permitted to be performed under state law; and
4. Consistent with Home Health aide training.

Duties include:

1. Provision of hands on personal care;
2. Performance of simple procedures as an extension of therapy or nursing services;
3. Assistance in ambulation or exercises; and
4. Assistance in administering medications ordinarily self-administered.

Home Health aides are part of the interdisciplinary team and must report changes in the member's condition to a registered nurse or other appropriate skilled professional, and must complete appropriate records in compliance with the Home Health Agency's (HHA) policies and procedures.

**SUPERVISION
OF HOME HEALTH
AIDES**

1. When a Home Health aide is providing services to a member who is receiving skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy or speech language pathology services, a registered nurse or other appropriate skilled professional who is familiar with the member, the member's plan of care, and the written member's care instructions of Home Health aide services, must make an onsite visit to the member's home no less than every 14 days. The Home Health aide does not have to be present during the visit.
 - i. If an area of concern is noted by the supervising registered nurse or other appropriate skilled professional, the supervising individual must make an onsite visit to the location where the member is receiving care in order to observe and assess the aide while he or she is performing care.
 - ii. A registered nurse or appropriate skilled professional must make an annual on-site visit to the location where a member is receiving care in order to observe and assess each aide while he or she is performing care.
2. If the Home Health aide services are provided to a member who is not receiving skilled nursing care, physical or occupational therapy, or speech-language pathology services, the registered nurse must make an on-site visit to the location where the member is receiving care no less than every 60 days in order to observe and assess each aide while he or she is performing care.

For more information on the supervision of Home Health aide services please refer to 42 CFR 484.80 Condition of participation: Home Health aide services.

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**SERVICE
REQUIREMENTS**

Visits of a registered nurse to the home of a Medicaid member solely for the purpose of supervising a Home Health aide is not reimbursable by Medicaid.

**HOME HEALTH
AIDE SERVICE
LIMITATION**

All Home Health aide services must be prior authorized by the Department or the Utilization Review Contractor. (Refer to HH Policy 410). Home Health aide services will only be authorized when the member's medical needs cannot be met through the State's personal assistance programs.