

Fact Sheet for Personal Care and Homemaker Services January 2006

Personal Care

Legal Authority: 10 C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.489

Definition: Personal care is unskilled care services to assist the client with the activities of daily living, such as eating, bathing, dressing, and personal hygiene.

Personal care includes the following tasks:

- Bathing
- Skin care
- Hair care
- Nail care
- Mouth care
- Shaving
- Dressing
- Feeding
- Ambulation
- Exercises
- Transfers
- Positioning
- Bladder care
- Bowel care
- Medication reminding
- Respiratory care (includes only cleaning or changing tubing for oxygen equipment or filling the distilled water reservoir)
- Accompanying
- Protective oversight

Training requires 20 hours or skills validation test. It includes instruction in basic first aid, infection control techniques, and universal precautions.

Supervisory visits to client homes are required at least every three months or more often if necessary.

Norms are located at http://www.chcpf.state.co.us/HCPF/Pdf_Bin/B0000056.pdf.

Limitation on payment to family members is 1776 units per annual certification period.

A unit of service is 15 minutes.

The Procedure Code is T1019 and T1019 HR for Relative Personal Care.

The amount of personal care that is prior authorized is only an estimate, including estimated travel time. The prior authorization of a certain number of hours does not create an entitlement on the part of the client or the provider for the exact number of hours. All hours provided and reimbursed by Medicaid must be for covered services and must be necessary to meet the client's needs.

Homemaker Services

Legal Authority: 10 C.C.R. 2505-10, Section 8.490

Definition: Homemaker services means general household activities provided in the client's home.

Homemaker services include the following tasks:

- Routine light house cleaning, such as dusting, vacuuming, mopping, and cleaning of bathroom and kitchen areas
- Meal preparation
- Dishwashing
- Bed making
- Laundry
- Shopping

Training requires eight hours or a skills validation test. Training shall include proper food handling, food storage techniques, basic infection control techniques, and universal precautions.

Supervisory visits to client homes are required at least every three months or more often if necessary.

Norms are located at http://www.chcpf.state.co.us/HCPF/Pdf_Bin/B0000056.pdf.

Family members shall not be reimbursed to provide only homemaker services.

A unit of service is 15 minutes.

The Procedure Code is S5130.

The amount of homemaking that is prior authorized is only an estimate, including estimated travel time. The prior authorization of a certain number of hours does not create an entitlement on the part of the client or the provider for the exact number of hours. All hours provided and reimbursed by Medicaid must be for covered services and must be necessary to meet the client's needs.

For Both Personal Care and Homemaking: Document All Tasks, Not Just Time Spent, and Submit Claims for Services Delivered