



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: June 9, 2020
MOAHR Docket No.: 20-001975
Agency No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Corey Arendt

DECISION AND ORDER

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; and 42 CFR 438.400 to 438.424, upon the Petitioner's request for a hearing.

After due notice, a hearing was held on June 2, 2020. [REDACTED], Petitioner's Sister and Authorized Hearing Representative appeared on behalf of the Petitioner. Theresa Root, Appeals Review Officer, appeared on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services (Department). Nancy Farmer, Adult Services Worker, (ASW) appeared as a witness for the Department.

Exhibits:

Petitioner	None
Department	A – Hearing Summary

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner's Home Help Services (HHS) application?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the competent, material and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

1. Petitioner is a Medicaid beneficiary, born [REDACTED] who applied for HHS. (Exhibit A, p 14; Testimony.)
2. Petitioner is diagnosed with fibromyalgia, hypertension, insomnia, DDD, Vitamin B12 deficiency and RLS. Petitioner also has a disabled son who suffers from cerebral palsy. (Exhibit A, p 12; Testimony.)
3. On January 15, 2020, the ASW met with Petitioner in Petitioner's home and

performed an assessment. During the assessment, Petitioner was observed ambulating, transferring, stooping and reaching without the need of adaptive equipment or hands on assistance. During the assessment, Petitioner reported that she performs all activities of daily living (ADL) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) for her disabled adult son. Petitioner also reported that she can perform all ADL's for herself independently with the exception of grooming and dressing. (Exhibit A, p 12; Testimony.)

4. On January 15, 2020, the ASW sent Petitioner a Negative Action Notice indicating that HHS was denied based on the policy requiring a need for hands on assistance with at least one ADL, functional ranking 3 or greater. (Exhibit A, p 4; Testimony)
5. On March 18, 2020, Petitioner's hearing request was received by the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules. (Exhibit A, p 3.)

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Medical Assistance Program is established pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). It is administered in accordance with state statute, the Social Welfare Act, the Administrative Code, and the State Plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act Medical Assistance Program.

Home Help Services (HHS) are provided to enable functionally limited individuals to live independently and receive care in the least restrictive, preferred settings. These activities must be certified by a physician and may be provided by individuals or by private or public agencies.

The Adult Services Manual (ASM) address issues of what services are included in Home Help Services and how such services are assessed:

ASM 101 AVAILABLE SERVICES

Payment Services Home Help

Home help services are non-specialized personal care service activities provided under the home help services program to persons who meet eligibility requirements.

Home help services are provided to enable individuals with functional limitation(s), resulting from a medical or physical disability or cognitive impairment to live independently and receive care in the least restrictive, preferred settings.

Home help services are defined as those tasks which the department is paying for through Title XIX (Medicaid) funds. These services are furnished to individuals who are **not** currently residing in a hospital, nursing facility, licensed foster care home/home for the aged, intermediate care facility (ICF) for persons with developmental disabilities or institution for mental illness.

These activities **must** be certified by a Medicaid enrolled medical professional and may be provided by individuals or by private or public agencies. **The medical professional does not prescribe or authorize personal care services.** Needed services are determined by the comprehensive assessment conducted by the adult services worker.

Home help services which are eligible for Title XIX funding are limited to:

Activities of Daily Living (ADL)

- Eating.
- Toileting.
- Bathing.
- Grooming.
- Dressing.
- Transferring.
- Mobility.

Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL)

- Taking medication.
- Meal preparation/cleanup.
- Shopping for food and other necessities of daily living.
- Laundry.
- Light housecleaning.

An individual must be assessed with at least one activity of daily living (ADL) ranked 3 or higher or complex care need in order to be eligible to receive home help services.

Note: If the assessment determines a need for an ADL at a level 3 or greater but these services are not paid for by the department, the individual would be eligible to receive IADL services if assessed at a level 3 or greater.

Services not Covered by Home Help

Home help services must **not** be approved for the following:

- Supervising, monitoring, reminding, guiding, teaching or encouraging (functional assessment rank 2).
- Services provided for the benefit of others.
- Services for which a responsible relative is **able** and **available** to provide (such as house cleaning, laundry or shopping). A responsible relative is defined as an individual's spouse or a parent of an unmarried child under age 18.
- Services provided by another resource at the same time (for example, hospitalization, MI-Choice Waiver).
- Transportation - See Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 825 for medical transportation policy and procedures.
- Money management such as power of attorney or representative payee.
- Home delivered meals.
- Adult or child day care.
- Recreational activities. (For example, accompanying and/or transporting to the movies, sporting events etc.)

Note: The above list is not all inclusive.

*Adult Services Manual 101
April 1, 2018, pp 1-2, 5
Emphasis added*

ASM 105 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

GENERAL

Requirements

Home help eligibility requirements include **all** of the following:

- Medicaid eligibility.
- Certification of medical need.
- Need for service, based on a complete comprehensive assessment indicating a functional limitation of level 3 or greater for at least one activity of daily living (ADL).
- Appropriate Program Enrollment Type (PET) status.

Medical Need Certification

Medical needs are certified utilizing the DHS-54A, Medical Needs form and must be completed by a Medicaid enrolled medical professional. The medical professional must hold one of the following professional licenses:

- Physician (M.D. or D.O.).
- Physician Assistant.
- Nurse practitioner.
- Occupational therapist.
- Physical therapist.

The DHS-54A or veterans administration medical form are acceptable for individuals treated by a VA physician; see ASM 115, Adult Services Requirements.

Necessity For Service

The adult services worker (ASW) is responsible for determining the necessity and level of need for home help services based on all of the following:

- Client choice.
- A completed MDHHS-5534, Adult Services Comprehensive Assessment. An individual must be

assessed with at least one activity of daily living (ADL)
in order to be eligible to receive home help services.

*Adult Services Manual 105
January 1, 2018, pp 1, 3
Emphasis added*

ASM 115 ADULT SERVICES REQUIREMENTS

COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT (MDHHS-5534)

Conduct a face-to-face interview with the client in their home to assess the personal care needs. Complete the MDHHS-5534, Adult Services Comprehensive Assessment, which is generated from MiAIMS; see ASM 120, Adult Services Comprehensive Assessment.

CONTACTS

The ASW must, at a minimum, have a face-to-face interview with the client, prior to case opening, then every six months in the client's home, at review and redetermination.

*Adult Services Manual 115
January 1, 2018, p 3*

ASM 120 ADULT SERVICES COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTION

The MDDHS-5534, Adult Services Comprehensive Assessment, is the primary tool for determining need for services. The comprehensive assessment must be completed on all open home help services cases. Michigan Adult Integrated Management System (MiAIMS), provides the format for the comprehensive assessment and all information must be entered on the computer program.

Functional Abilities Tab

The **Functional** Tab under **Assessment** module of MiAIMS is the basis for service planning and for the home help services payment.

Document the client's abilities and needs in the functional abilities tab to determine the client's ability to perform the following activities:

Activities of Daily Living (ADL)

- Eating.
- Toileting.
- Bathing.
- Grooming.
- Dressing.
- Transferring.
- Mobility.

Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL)

- Taking Medication.
- Meal preparation and cleanup.
- Shopping.
- Laundry.
- Light housework.

Functional Scale

ADLs and IADLs are assessed according to the following five point scale:

1. Independent.

Performs the activity safely with no human assistance.

2. Verbal assistance.

Performs the activity with verbal assistance such as reminding, guiding or encouraging.

3. Some human assistance.

Performs the activity with some direct physical assistance and/or assistive technology.

4. Much human assistance.

Performs the activity with a great deal of human assistance and/or assistive technology.

5. Dependent.

Does not perform the activity even with human assistance and/or assistive technology.

Home help payments may only be authorized for needs assessed at the level 3 ranking or greater.

An individual must be assessed with at least one activity of daily living ranked 3 or higher or a complex care need in order to be eligible to receive home help services.

Note: If the assessment determines a need for an ADL at a level 3 or greater but these services are not paid for by the department, the individual would be eligible to receive IADL services if assessed at a level 3 or greater.

*Adult Services Manual 120
January 1, 2018, pp 1-3
Emphasis added*

The ASW testified that on January 15, 2020, she went to Petitioner's home and completed a comprehensive assessment with Petitioner. During the assessment, the ASW determined that Petitioner did not have a need for hands on assistance with any Activities of Daily Living (ADL), functional ranking 3 or greater based on Petitioner's responses to questions, observations made of Petitioner and the fact Petitioner reported to be the person responsible for and providing for all ADL's and IADL's for son.

The ASW testified that based on the information available at the time of the assessment, she concluded that Petitioner did not have a medical need, functional ranking of 3 or higher, with any ADL.

Petitioner's authorized hearing representative indicted Petitioner was disabled herself and that Petitioner must provide assistance for her son as she was the only person able to do so. Even if true, this is evidence of Petitioner's ability and capability to provide these services herself.

Based on the evidence presented, Petitioner has failed to prove, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the Department erred in denying her HHS application. The evidence was not sufficient to establish that Petitioner had a need for hands on assistance, functional ranking 3 or greater, with at least one ADL, based on the information

available to the ASW for this assessment. The ASW provided credible, detailed testimony regarding her discussion of ADL's with Petitioner and her observations of Petitioner during the assessment. Accordingly, the denial of Petitioner's HHS application was proper and must be upheld.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the Department properly denied Petitioner's HHS application based on the available information.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that:

The Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

CA/sb



Corey Arendt
Administrative Law Judge
for Robert Gordon, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

NOTICE OF APPEAL: A party may appeal this Order in circuit court within 30 days of the receipt date. A copy of the circuit court appeal must be filed with the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Order if the request is received by MOAHR within 30 days of the date the Order was issued. The party requesting a rehearing or reconsideration must provide the specific reasons for the request. MOAHR will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration.

A written request may be mailed or faxed to MOAHR. If submitted by fax, the written request must be faxed to (517) 763-0155; Attention: MOAHR Rehearing/Reconsideration Request.

If submitted by mail, the written request must be addressed as follows:

Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules
Reconsideration/Rehearing Request
P.O. Box 30763
Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

DHHS -Dept Contact

Michelle Martin
Capitol Commons
6th Floor
Lansing, MI
48909

DHHS-Location Contact

Sherry Reid
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3040 W. Grand Blvd., Suite L450
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DHHS Department Rep.

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