



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: May 26, 2020  
MOAHR Docket No.: 20-001591  
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 and 42 CFR 431.200 *et seq.*, upon Petitioner's request for a hearing.

After due notice, a hearing was held on November 12, 2019. Petitioner appeared and testified on his own behalf. John Lambert, Appeals Review Officer, appeared on behalf of Respondent, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department). Brigeda Nelson, Adult Services Worker (ASW), appeared as witnesses for the Department.

Exhibits:

Petitioner	None
Department	A. Hearing Summary

**ISSUE**

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

**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 has been receiving HHS since 2016. (Exhibit A, pp 5-6; Testimony.)
2. Petitioner has a diagnosis of hypertension, gait, DM, knee pain and joint pain. (Exhibit A, p 14.)
3. Prior to February 11, 2020, Petitioner received HHS for the tasks of dressing, housework, laundry, meal preparation, shopping for food/meds

and travel for shopping. (Exhibit A, p 9; Testimony.)

4. On February 11, 2020, the ASW completed an in-home assessment with Petitioner and Petitioner's provider. During the assessment, Petitioner was observed ambulating without his cane and reported that he did not require hands on assistance with activities of daily living (eating, toileting, bathing, grooming, dressing, transferring, mobility). During the assessment, it was reported the provider performs services 2 or 3 days a week even though it was being reported that services were being provided 7 days a week. (Exhibit A, p 13; Testimony.)
5. On February 24, 2020, the ASW spoke to Petitioner's medical provider Dr. Alvero Magalheas who recommended personal care services for instrumental activities of daily living only and who reported Petitioner walks with a regular cane and not a prescribed cane. (Exhibit A, p 14; Testimony.)
6. Following the assessment and conversation with Petitioner's medical provider, the Department determined Petitioner no longer qualified for HHS as he no longer had a need for hands on assistance with an activity of daily living. (Exhibit A, p 15; Testimony.)
7. On February 24, 2020, the Department sent Petitioner an Advance Negative Action Notice informing Petitioner that HHS would be terminated effective March 11, 2020. (Exhibit A, p 15; Testimony.)
8. On March 5, 2020, Petitioner's Request for Hearing was received by the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules. (Exhibit A, p 4.)

### **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 the issues of what services are included in Home Help Services and how such services are assessed:

### **ASM 101 AVAILABLE SERVICES**

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## **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.

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### **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.

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

## **ASM 105 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

### **GENERAL**

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#### **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.

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#### **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.

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

### **ASM 115 ADULT SERVICES REQUIREMENTS**

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### **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.

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### **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.

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## **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.

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### **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.

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

The ASW testified she completed an in-home assessment with Petitioner and that it was reported that Petitioner performed activities of daily living independently and was observed moving about without the need for hands on assistance or assistive device. The evidence also indicates Petitioner's medical provider indicted Petitioner only needed assistance with IADL's. The ASW noted that Petitioner previously qualified for HHS through dressing.

Petitioner testified that he always uses a cane and that he still need assistance.

Based on the evidence presented, Petitioner has failed to prove, by a preponderance of evidence, that the termination of HHS was inappropriate. While Petitioner previously qualified for HHS, it was clear during the assessment that Petitioner can ambulate independently without the use of the cane because the ASW observed Petitioner ambulating independently. Petitioner's physician also reported Petitioner only needed assistance with IADL's. As such, 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 when Petitioner was terminated from the HHS program. The ASW provided credible, detailed testimony regarding her observations of, and discussions with, Petitioner. Accordingly, the termination of Petitioner's HHS is upheld.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

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

### **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**

The Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

CA/sb

  
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**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  
Oakman Adult Services  
3040 W. Grand Blvd., Suite L450  
Detroit, MI  
48202

**DHHS Department Rep.**

M. Carrier  
Appeals Section  
PO Box 30807  
Lansing, MI  
48933

**Petitioner**

  
  
MI

**Agency Representative**

John Lambert  
PO Box 30807  
Lansing, MI  
48909