

Subject MA home care services and homemaker services

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Overview

This bill establishes care evaluation as a covered service under MA home care services, modifies homemaker services rates under the elderly waiver, and requires the commissioner of human services to establish homemaker services rates under the MA disability waivers.

Home care provides medical and health-related services and assistance with day-to-day activities to people in their home. It can be used to provide short-term care for people moving from a hospital or nursing home back to their home, or it can also be used to provide continuing care to people with ongoing needs. Home care services may also be provided outside the person's home when normal life activities take them away from home.

The Elderly Waiver (EW) provides home and community-based services not normally covered under MA to MA enrollees who are at risk of nursing facility placement. In addition, EW recipients are eligible for all standard MA covered services.

Home and community-based waiver services (HCBS) offers MA service options that allow people to live in the community instead of going into or staying in an institutional setting. HCBS covers two types of services: (1) services necessary to avoid institutionalization that are not offered in Minnesota's MA state plan, and (2) services that are extensions of Minnesota's MA state plan services. Minnesota has four HCBS disability waivers:

- Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI): Provides services for individuals with disabilities who need the level of care provided in a nursing home.
- Brain Injury (BI): Provides services for individuals with a brain injury who need the level of care provided in a nursing home or neurobehavioral hospital.

- Developmental Disabilities or Related Conditions (DD): Provides services for individuals with developmental disabilities or related conditions who need the same level of care as provided in an ICF/DD.
- Community Alternative Care (CAC): Provides services for individuals with chronic illness who need the level of care provided in a hospital.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Definitions. Amends § 256B.0651, subd. 1. Defines “care evaluation” for the sections of statutes that govern MA home care services. Removes obsolete language and makes conforming technical changes.
2	Services covered. Amends § 256B.0651, subd. 2. Makes technical changes and adds care evaluations to the list of covered services under MA home care services.
3	Limits on services without authorization. Amends § 256B.0652, subd. 11. Limits care evaluation visits to nine per calendar year without authorization. Makes technical and clarifying changes.
4	Scope. Amends § 256B.0653, subd. 1. Modifies the application of the section governing home health agency services to include care evaluations.
5	Noncovered home health agency services. Amends § 256B.0653, subd. 6. Modifies the list of noncovered home health agency services to provide an exception for certain care evaluation visits.
6	Care evaluations. Amends § 256B.0653, by adding subd. 9. Provides that MA covers care evaluations as a home health service provided that the recipient’s home health services are not covered by Medicare or any other insurance held by the recipient. Establishes the reimbursement rate for care evaluations. Specifies when care evaluations must occur and who may provide care evaluations.
7	Care evaluations. Amends § 256B.0654, by adding subd. 6. Provides that MA covers care evaluations as a home care nursing service provided that the recipient’s home care nursing services are not covered by Medicare or any other insurance held by the recipient. Establishes

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	the reimbursement rate for care evaluations. Specifies when care evaluations must occur and who may provide care evaluations.
8	Rates established by the commissioner. Amends § 256B.4912, by adding subd. 16. Requires the commissioner of human services to establish homemaker services rates under the MA disability waivers equal to the homemaker services rates established under the elderly waiver. Provides a January 1, 2024, effective date.
9	Determination of CFSS service authorization amount. Amends § 256B.85, subd. 8. Makes a conforming cross-reference change.
10	Case mix classifications. Amends § 256S.18, subd. 1. Makes a conforming cross-reference change.
11	Phase-in for elderly waiver rates. Amends § 256S.2101, subd. 2. Exempts homemaker services rates from the EW rate phase-in and moves the language governing the home-delivered meals rate to a new subdivision.
12	Phase-in for home-delivered meals rate. Amends § 256S.2101, by adding subd. 3. Creates a separate subdivision for the EW home-delivered meals rate (this language is moved from subd. 2).
13	Service rates exempt from phase-in. Amends § 256S.2101, by adding subd. 4. Exempts homemaker services rates from the phase-in of EW rates. Provides a January 1, 2024, effective date.
14	Updating base wages. Amends § 256S.212, by adding subd. 1a. Under the EW program, beginning on January 1, 2024, and every two years thereafter, requires the commissioner to update the base wages for certain services based on the most recently available Bureau of Labor Statistics Twin Cities metro data. Lists the services to which this subdivision applies. Provides a January 1, 2024, effective date.

Section	Description
15	<p>Direction to commissioner; care coordination expansion.</p> <p>Requires the commissioner of human services to collaborate with interested stakeholders to identify new or existing billable MA services for care coordination activities for MA home care services; lists care coordination activities; requires the commissioner to provide guidance to home care providers regarding existing billable MA services for care coordination activities for MA home care services; and requires the commissioner to report to the legislature with a summary of any potential billable MA services for care coordination activities for MA home care services identified by the commissioner and stakeholders.</p>



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