

***Home & Community-Based Characteristics:
Home-Like Environment & Community
Integration
for Medicaid Recipients in Assisted Living
Facilities & Adult Family Care Homes***

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Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Proposed Rule

- Requires that assisted living facilities (ALF) and adult family care homes (AFCHs) that serve Medicaid recipients maintain home and community-based characteristics, which includes person-centered services and a home-like environment
- Proposed rule [CMS-2249-P2] published in *Federal Register* 5/3/2012
- Online at <http://federalregister.gov/a/2012-10385> and on FDsys.gov

Programs Affected

All Medicaid waiver programs providing services in ALFs/AFCHs are expected to provide a home-like environment and community integration to the fullest extent possible:

- Nursing Home Diversion Waiver
- Assisted Living Waiver
- Channeling Waiver (Facility-based Respite)
- Aged/Disabled Adult Waiver (Facility-based Respite)
- Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
- Long-Term Care Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Waiver
- Any other Medicaid waiver program that offers services in assisted living facilities

Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waivers

- Provide funding for services for Medicaid eligible people with qualifying disabilities who want to live at home or in the community
- Home and Community Based Services Waivers
 - Purpose: Allow state Medicaid programs to cover services traditionally viewed as “long-term care” and provide them in a community setting to individuals instead of nursing home or institutions

Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waivers Eligibility

Recipients must:

- Meet institutional level of care
- Meet Medicaid Institutional Care Program (ICP) income and asset limits
- Satisfy any additional impairment criteria
- Accept waiver services in lieu of institutional placement

Defining Characteristics of a Home-Like Environment

Each resident must be assured privacy in sleeping and personal living areas:

- Entrance doors must have locks, with appropriate staff having keys to the doors
- Freedom to furnish and/or decorate sleeping or personal living areas
- Choice of private or semi-private rooms
- Choice of roommate for semi-private rooms
- Access to telephone service as well as length of use
- Freedom to engage in private communications at any time

Defining Characteristics of a Home-Like Environment, continued

- Freedom to control daily schedule and activities (physical and mental conditions permitting)
- Visitation options of the resident's choosing
- Access to food and preparation areas in the facility at any time (physical and mental conditions permitting)
- Personal sleeping schedule
- Participation in facility and community activities of the resident's choice
- Ensuring that residents are allowed to participate in **unscheduled** activities of their choosing

Community Integration

- Access to the greater community is facilitated by the ALF based on the resident's abilities, needs and preferences
- The ALF setting must offer meaningful community participation opportunities for their residents at times, frequencies and with persons of their choosing
- **Example:** The resident wishes to visit the senior center to participate in social activities
Barrier: The resident does not have access to transportation
Intervention: The case manager works with the ALF to ensure that transportation, such as Dial-a-Ride, is available to transport the resident to and from the senior center and to ensure that the resident is dressed and ready to depart

Person-Centered Care Planning

- The basis of a successful home and community-based setting is the creation of a individualized and inclusive person-centered plan of care that addresses services, supports, and goals based on the resident's preferences
- The person-centered plan of care is based on a comprehensive assessment that includes the resident and participation by any other individuals chosen by the resident

Person-Centered Care Planning, Continued

- The plan of care must support the resident's needs in the most integrated community setting possible
- The waiver recipient's plan of care must include personal preferences, choices, and goals to achieve personal outcomes

Personal Goals

Examples of personal goals a resident may choose:

- Deciding where and with whom to live
- Making decisions regarding supports and services
- Choosing which activities are important
- Maintaining relationships with family and friends
- Deciding how to spend each day

Promoting Home and Community-Based Characteristics

The state will ensure the promotion of home and community-based settings and community integration through:

- Individualized person-centered care planning
- Goal planning activities
- Promotion of a home-like environment in assisted living facilities

Promoting a Home-Like Environment

To ensure that ALFs/AFCHs serving Medicaid recipients maintain a home-like environment and provide community integration, the state will implement the following new processes:

- Modification of current Department of Elder Affairs referral agreements and Managed Care Organization contracts
- Reviewing for these characteristics during credentialing and re-credentialing of waiver providers
- Monitoring ALFs/AFCHs for the characteristics of a home-like environment and community integration

Modification of Subcontracts

- Department of Elder Affairs is modifying its referral agreements with ALF providers to include language (to be provided by the state) that details the requirements for a home-like environment and community integration
- Managed Care Organizations will include this language in their subcontracts with ALF/AFCH providers

Credentialing and Re-Credentialing

- Dept. of Elder Affairs and Managed Care Organizations are required to:
 - Verify during the credentialing and re-credentialing process that home-like environment and community integration exist in facilities they intend to contract with as well as in existing network ALFs

Remediation

- If at any point a managed care organization discovers that an ALF/AFCH is not maintaining a home-like environment or supporting full community integration, they must:
 - **Report that finding** to the DOEA contract manager immediately
 - **Propose a remediation** within three business days of discovery
- When the transition to the Long-Term Care Medicaid Managed Care waiver is completed, AHCA will provide the oversight of the monitoring process to ensure the MCOs will contract only with ALFs/AFCHs providing and supporting a home-like environment and community integration.

Monitoring Activities by the State

- **Care Plan Development and Goal Planning:**
 - Monitoring of ALF resident case files by Quality Assurance team members
 - Review of Community Integration Goal Planning Documentation
- **Modification of Referral Agreements:**
 - Annual desk review of referral agreements or MCO subcontracts for inclusion of home-like environment and community integration language
- **Credentialing and Re-Credentialing:**
 - Review of monthly provider network reports and MCO credentialing files
- **On-site review of ALFs and AFCHs**

For More Information

Go to <http://ahca.myflorida.com>

Email questions to:

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