



State of West Virginia  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES  
Office of Inspector General  
Board of Review  
1027 N. Randolph Ave.  
Elkins, WV 26241

Earl Ray Tomblin  
Governor

Michael J. Lewis, M.D., Ph.D  
Cabinet Secretary

May 11, 2011

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Dear -----:

Attached is a copy of the findings of fact and conclusions of law on your hearing held May 5, 2011. Your hearing request was based on the Department of Health and Human Resources' proposal to reduce your homemaker service hours under the Aged/Disabled (HCB) Title XIX Waiver Services Program.

In arriving at a decision, the State Hearing Officer is governed by the Public Welfare Laws of West Virginia and the rules and regulations established by the Department of Health and Human Resources. These same laws and regulations are used in all cases to assure that all persons are treated alike.

Eligibility for the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program is based on current policy and regulations. One of these regulations specifies that for the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program, the number of homemaker service hours is determined based on the Level of Care (LOC). The Level of Care is determined by evaluating the Pre-Admission Screening Form (PAS) and assigning points to documented medical conditions that require nursing services. Program services are limited to a maximum number of units/hours which is reviewed and approved by WVM. (Aged/Disabled Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Policy and Procedures Manual 501.3)

Information submitted at your hearing reveals that you continue to require the degree of care and services necessary to qualify medically for the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program and your documented medical conditions confirm that your Level of Care should be a Level "B" rating. As a result, you are eligible to receive three (3) hours per day or 93 hours per month of homemaker services.

It is the decision of the State Hearing Officer to **uphold** the proposal of the Department to decrease your Level of Care under the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program.

Sincerely,

Pamela L. Hinzman  
State Hearing Officer  
Member, State Board of Review

cc: Erika H. Young, Chairman, Board of Review  
BoSS  
WVMI  
CWVAS

**WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN RESOURCES  
BOARD OF REVIEW**

-----,

**Claimant,**

v.

**Action Number: 11-BOR-816**

**West Virginia Department of  
Health and Human Resources,**

**Respondent.**

**DECISION OF STATE HEARING OFFICER**

**I. INTRODUCTION:**

This is a report of the State Hearing Officer resulting from a fair hearing for ----- . This hearing was held in accordance with the provisions found in the Common Chapters Manual, Chapter 700 of the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources. This fair hearing was convened telephonically on May 5, 2011 on a timely appeal filed February 9, 2011 and received by the Hearing Officer on March 28, 2011.

It should be noted that the Claimant's benefits have continued pending a hearing decision.

**II. PROGRAM PURPOSE:**

Under Section 2176 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, states were allowed to request a waiver from the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) so that they could use Medicaid (Title XIX) funds for home and community-based services. The program's target population is individuals who would otherwise be placed in an intermediate or skilled nursing facility (if not for the waiver services). Services offered under the Waiver Program will include: (1) chore, (2) homemaker and (3) case management services. West Virginia has been offering the Waiver Services Program since July, 1982 to those financially eligible individuals who have been determined to need ICF level care but who have chosen the Waiver Program services as opposed to being institutionalized.

**III. PARTICIPANTS:**

-----, Claimant

██████████ Case Manager, ██████████  
Kay Ikerd, RN, Bureau of Senior Services

Teresa McCallister, RN, West Virginia Medical Institute

Presiding at the hearing was Pamela L. Hinzman, State Hearing Officer and a member of the State Board of Review.

**IV. QUESTION TO BE DECIDED:**

The question to be decided is whether the Agency was correct in its proposal to reduce the Claimant's homemaker service hours under the Aged/Disabled Waiver (HCB) Program.

**V. APPLICABLE POLICY:**

Aged/Disabled Home and Community-Based Services Manual Sections 501.3.2.1 and 501.3.2.2

**VI. LISTING OF DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE ADMITTED:**

**Department's Exhibits:**

- D-1 Aged/Disabled Home and Community-Based Services Manual Sections 501.3.2.1 and 501.3.2.2
- D-2 Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) assessment completed on January 6, 2011
- D-3 Notice of Decision dated January 21, 2011
- D-4 WVMI Diagnosis Request for PAS for ADW Program

**Claimant's Exhibits:**

- C-1 Medical documentation from [REDACTED] M.D., and [REDACTED] M.D.

**VII. FINDINGS OF FACT:**

- 1) The Claimant, a recipient of Aged/Disabled Waiver (ADW) Medicaid benefits, underwent an annual reevaluation to verify continued medical eligibility for the program.
- 2) West Virginia Medical Institute (WVMI) Registered Nurse Teresa McCallister completed a Pre-Admission Screening (PAS) medical assessment (D-2) on January 6, 2011 and determined that the Claimant continues to meet the medical eligibility criteria. The Claimant was assigned 16 points to documented medical conditions that require nursing services and meets the criteria necessary to qualify as a Level of Care "B" - eligible for three (3) hours per day or 93 hours per month of homemaker services. It should be noted that the Claimant previously qualified for a Level of Care "C"- eligible for four (4) hours per day or 124 hours per month of homemaker services.
- 3) The Claimant was sent notification on January 21, 2011 (D-3) advising her of the proposed reduction in homemaker service hours.
- 4) It should be noted that the Department conceded one (1) point to the Claimant during the hearing for the use of continuous oxygen, bringing her total number of points to 17.

- 5) The Claimant and her witness contended that additional points should be awarded in the following area:

*Angina-* [REDACTED] Case Manager with [REDACTED] provided information from [REDACTED] M.D., and [REDACTED] M.D. This information, most of which was dated January 2010 and February 2010, indicates that the Claimant reported a history of angina on January 28, 2010. A cardiac catheterization report dated February 8, 2010 lists diagnoses of “Normal LV function with hyperdynamic function. No flow limiting coronary disease. No valve disease. No aortic stenosis, aortic insufficiency or mitral regurgitation. Atherosclerotic heart disease based on the calcium seen in the left main. This is positive remodeling, which is early coronary disease...” It should be noted that this documentation was received by the Hearing Officer on April 27, 2011, however the Department has never received a copy.

The WVMI Nurse testified that – during the PAS - the Claimant reported chest pain following activity at times, however she was no longer using nitroglycerin. Based on that statement, the WVMI sent a WVMI Diagnosis Request for PAS (D-4) to Dr. [REDACTED] on January 20, 2011 inquiring about whether the Claimant has been diagnosed with angina and/or angina upon exertion. The physician responded that the Claimant does not have angina and her 2010 cardiac catheterization was normal. Based on the doctor’s written statement, the WVMI Nurse did not award a point to the Claimant for angina.

The most recent report included in Exhibit C-1 - regarding a February 22, 2011 office visit with Dr. [REDACTED] - indicates that the Claimant reported no chest pain or palpitations. No angina diagnosis was listed in the Impression section of this report.

- 6) Aged/Disabled Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Policy Manual Sections 501.3.2.1 and 501.3.2.2 (D-1): There will be four levels of care for clients of ADW homemaker services. Points will be determined based on the following sections of the PAS:

- #23- Medical Conditions/Symptoms- 1 point for each (can have total of 12 points)
- #24- Decubitis- 1 point
- #25- 1 point for b., c., or d.
- #26 Functional abilities
  - Level 1- 0 points
  - Level 2- 1 point for each item a. through i.
  - Level 3- 2 points for each item a. through m.; i. (walking) must be equal to or greater than Level 3 before points are given for j. (wheeling)
  - Level 4 - 1 point for a., 1 point for e., 1 point for f., 2 points for g. through m.
- #27 Professional and Technical Care Needs- 1 point for continuous oxygen
- #28 Medication Administration- 1 point for b. or c.
- #34- Dementia- 1 point if Alzheimer’s or other dementia
- #34- Prognosis- 1 point if terminal

The total number of points allowable is 44.

#### **LEVELS OF CARE SERVICE LIMITS**

Level A- 5 points to 9 points- 2 hours per day or 62 hours per month  
Level B- 10 points to 17 points- 3 hours per day or 93 hours per month  
Level C- 18 points to 25 points- 4 hours per day or 124 hours per month  
Level D- 26 points to 44 points- 5 hours per day or 155 hours per month

**VIII. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

- 1) Policy dictates that an individual's Level of Care for the Aged/Disabled Waiver Program is determined by the number of points obtained on the PAS assessment tool.
- 2) The Claimant was awarded 16 points as the result of a PAS completed by WVMI in January 2011 in conjunction with her annual medical evaluation. During the hearing, the Department conceded one (1) additional point to the Claimant, bringing her total points to 17.
- 3) As a result of information presented during the hearing, no additional points are awarded to the Claimant. While the January 2010 medical documentation lists a history of angina, the Claimant's physician informed WVMI in January 2011 that the Claimant does not have an angina diagnosis. In addition, the Claimant reported she no longer uses nitroglycerin.
- 4) The Claimant's total number of points remains at 17, rendering her eligible to receive a Level "B" Level of Care.

**IX. DECISION:**

It is the decision of the State Hearing Officer to **uphold** the Agency's proposal to reduce the Claimant's homemaker service hours under the Aged/Disabled, Title XIX (HCB) Waiver Program.

**X. RIGHT OF APPEAL:**

See Attachment

**XI. ATTACHMENTS:**

The Claimant's Recourse to Hearing Decision

Form IG-BR-29

**ENTERED this 11th Day of May, 2011.**

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**Pamela L. Hinzman  
State Hearing Officer**