

Our Healthcare Journey: A Monthly Bulletin for Ohio Medicaid's In-Home Service Providers

December 2023



Every year, on December 1st, the world commemorates World AIDS Day. ¹ People around the world unite to show support for people living with and affected by HIV and to remember those who lost their lives to AIDS.¹ Please visit <https://www.unaids.org/en> to learn more about the fight against AIDS and how you can participate.

In this edition of the monthly newsletter for Ohio Medicaid's in-home care providers, PCG will share a roundup of the resources, training, and support available to help ensure your ongoing success.

In this issue you will find:

- Education Corner – CE Training & Provider Toolkit Highlights
- Medicaid Agreement Revalidations in the PNM Module
- PCG Partner Spotlight – Delaware Area Career Center
- PCG Match – 150+ Active Jobs in PCG Match!
- Making a Difference – *Home Safety for Individuals with Alzheimer's and Dementia*

We hope you find this information engaging and helpful!

Rule Updates

There are no rule updates to share this month. To be notified about rule changes as they occur, please sign up to receive email alerts from [Rule Watch Ohio](#).

Education Corner

Continuing Education (CE) Course Highlight

Training Name: *Supplementary Waiver Services*

Description: This training provides an overview of the specifications and requirements for various waiver services such as Community Integration and Transition, Adult Day Health Center, Out of Home Respite, Supplemental Transportation Services, Home Delivered Meals, and Personal Emergency Services. The training is geared toward waiver nurses, personal care aides, and home care attendants.

To register for this course, click [HERE](#). To view the other CE courses available on our website, click [HERE](#).

*PCG has 12 courses posted on [our website](#) that meet the requirements for **1-hour** of credit towards the Ohio Department of Medicaid's (ODM) required annual 12 hours of continuing education.*

Provider Toolkit

The Provider Toolkit is a collection of forms approved by ODM that can help you maintain your compliance with documentation requirements.

Toolkit Highlight: This month, we're highlighting the **Home Care Attendant and Personal Care Aide Visit Documentation Form** and the **Skilled Nursing Progress Note** which can be used to document daily service visits with an individual as required by OAC 5160-46-04, OAC 5160-44-27, and OAC 5160-44-22 for Home Care Attendants, Personal Care Aides, and Nurses, respectively. These forms should be used to document only one visit per day. If you have multiple visits on a given day, use multiple copies of the document for each additional visit. We hope you find these forms, and the entire toolkit, useful in completing your documentation.

Click [HERE](#) to sign up to receive the provider toolkit, available for Personal Care Aides, Home Care Attendants, and Nurses. Want to learn more about the toolkit? Review the CE training [How to Make the Most of Your Provider Toolkit](#).

Medicaid Agreement Revalidations in the Provider Network Management Module

Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) resumed provider revalidation notices in June 2023 as part of the federally required unwinding process from the COVID-19 public health emergency.

For more information on provider agreement revalidations please visit our latest blog post on our website [HERE](#). The post contains the following:

- How to determine if you are due for revalidation
- What actions to take if you are due for revalidation
- Information on the PNM module and Centralized Credentialing
- Quick Reference Guide for Revalidation
- Quick Reference Guide for Correspondence
- Provider Resources

PCG Partner Spotlight

Delaware Area Career Center (DACC)

The Delaware Area Career Center is an Ohio-based organization dedicated to empowering, preparing, inspiring, and connecting individuals with the support and resources they need to succeed. They offer adults multiple opportunities to expand their careers through advanced training including computer training and free GED preparation courses.

Interested in learning more about the adult education courses offered by DACC? Please visit their website at <https://www.delawareareacc.org/o/adult-ed/>!

PCG Match

150+ Active Jobs in PCG Match!

There are currently more than 150 active jobs postings from individuals and case managers in PCG Match! Visit [PCGMatch.com](https://www.pcgmatch.com) to register for an account, respond to job posts, and increase your provider business!

For step-by-step instructions on how to get started on [PCGMatch.com](https://www.pcgmatch.com), view the provider Quick Reference Guide, available [here](#). For technical assistance, please call 1-800-908-1746 or email ohiohcb@pcgus.com. Our team is available Monday-Friday from 7:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. EST.

Making a Difference

Home Safety for Individuals with Alzheimer's and Dementia

Individuals with Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia may require modifications to their living environment tailored to the severity of their condition to ensure safety. In the early stages of the disease, including the individual in these adjustments can empower them and enhance their sense of control.

As the individual's condition progresses, the individual may experience increasing confusion, memory loss, agitation, and disorientation, along with physical limitations like mobility and difficulty swallowing. In the middle stages, their senses such as sight, hearing, depth perception, and temperature sensitivity may be significantly reduced. To help reduce or prevent agitation, engage the person in meaningful activities related to their past interests, and be selective about TV programs, as they may pick up on the tone rather than the content. It's important to focus on activities that hold personal meaning and purpose for them.

It is important to adapt to the individual's needs and avoid attempting to teach them new things. Provide clear, simple instructions and avoid rushing them as accidents during personal care often occur when individuals feel hurried.

Below are some safety measures to consider. As a reminder, larger modifications or ones that involve cost must be prior approved by the Case Manager.

- **Floor Safety:** Remove or secure throw rugs with tape and clear clutter and cords from walking areas to prevent tripping.
- **Lighting:** Use nightlights in bedrooms, bathrooms, and hallways. Use light switch plates that are a different color from the wall, so they are more easily seen.
- **Electrical Safety:** Use electrical outlet covers and secure electric tools and machines.
- **Orientation:** Keep furniture in the same location for familiarity.
- **Fire Safety:** Ensure smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are functional and batteries are checked regularly.
- **Emergency Contact Information:** Post contact information in visible areas and use photos if necessary.
- **Date and Time:** Provide large print calendars and digital clocks with the date.
- **Room Identification:** Keep interior doors open. Label rooms clearly and use signs or pictures for identification. Close doors to areas the individual should not go.
- **Temperature Safety:** Label faucets and adjust hot water temperature to prevent burns.
- **Stair Safety:** Install gates at stairs and handrails in hallways, bathrooms, and stairways.
- **Vehicle Safety:** Lock vehicle doors, hide keys, and secure garage door openers.
- **Chemical Safety:** Remove toxic plants and lock chemicals and household cleaners to prevent accidental exposure.

By following some of these safety measures, from floor safety and lighting to kitchen modifications and mealtime adjustments, caregivers can create a safer, more familiar space for individuals with Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia. It is important to remain aware and make changes as the individual's condition progresses. Additionally, working with other members of the individual's care team can ensure that modifications align with the individual's specific needs. With these precautions in place, you can provide individuals with Alzheimer's Disease or Dementia the support and safety they need to maintain a higher quality of life as they navigate their daily routines.

References

1. <https://www.un.org/en/observances/world-aids-day>
2. <https://careforth.com/blog/safety-tips>
3. <https://www.homewatchcaregivers.com/dementia/living-with-dementia/safety-precautions/>
4. <https://dailycaring.com/13-ways-to-create-a-dementia-friendly-environment-at-home/>
5. <https://dailycaring.com/dementia-friendly-home-4-ways-to-make-things-easier-to-see/>
6. <https://dailycaring.com/6-alzheimers-sensory-activities-reduce-anxiety-without-medication/>
7. <https://www.socialworktoday.com/archive/111610p22.shtml>



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