

Service Eligibility for Clients with Alzheimer's Disease Under 60 Years of Age

Introduction

In order to meet the in-home service needs of adults who have Alzheimer's disease and are under the age of 60, the Oregon Legislature, through Senate bill 837, expanded the Oregon Project Independence (OPI) to include services to individuals who have a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and other related disorders who are under 60 years of age. This program will operate within the existing OPI administrative rules and any future administrative rules developed by the Department of Human Services, Seniors and People with Disabilities to implement Senate Bill 827 and this program description.

Definitions

For the purpose of the OPI administrative rules and this program:

"Alzheimer's Disease" means a progressive and degenerative neurological disease which is characterized by dementia including the insidious onset of symptoms of short-term memory loss, confusion, behavior changes and personality changes.

"Other Related Disorders" means the dementia that results from any of the following disorders:

- Multi-Infarct Dementia (MID)
- Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus (NPH)
- Inoperable Tumors of the Brain
- Parkinson's Disease
- Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease
- Huntington's Disease
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Uncommon Dementia such as Pick's disease, Wilson's disease, and progressive Supranuclear Palsy

Program Goal

The goal of services to adults with Alzheimer's disease and other related disorders and their caregivers is to help these clients avoid premature institutionalization and continue to live as independently as possible in their community through the provision of case management, support services, and respite for caregivers.

Program Clientele

Clients must be under 60 years of age, live in Multnomah County, and have a medical diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or other related disorder.

Services

Services funded within this program are designed to meet the specific needs of adults with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers.

1. Case management will be provided to coordinate and authorize services for the program clientele and to insure linkage with available community resources including financial and legal planning.
2. Respite services in the form of adult day services and in-home respite will be provided to support the caregivers, prevent "burn-out", and maintain the client with Alzheimer's disease in the least restrictive living situation. The primary caregiving responsibility for these individuals falls primarily on the spouses and family. Respite services will be provided in accordance with the ADS In Home Services Policy.
3. Personal care will be provided to assist with bathing, grooming, and toileting. Personal care is important for clients with Alzheimer's disease who experience increased muscular deterioration and whose caregivers may be unable to meet the physical demands of care giving.

Program Budget/Allocation

Available OPI Alzheimer's under sixty funds will be maintained in a single pool from which all Alzheimer's services will be paid. Specific amounts will not be assigned to services or district centers to allow maximum flexibility in providing services to clients with Alzheimer's disease. District centers and ADS are responsible for monitoring overall expenditures so that spending does not exceed available resources.

Client Fees

The Alzheimer's under sixty program will follow the OPI fee assessment procedures, which are a sliding-fee schedule based on the client's income. Fees that are collected go toward expanding the service to other individuals who may need it. Those persons with the lowest income levels will pay an annual fee of \$5.00.

Authorization Process

District Center case managers will perform intake, assessment and case management services for Alzheimer's clients under 60 years of age. Case managers will ensure client eligibility and complete all normal procedures, including the OPI fee assessment and appropriate authorization form.

ACTION REQUIRED

District Centers:

1. Ensure a least one case manager has skills and capacity to work with clients with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders.



2. Authorize appropriate services for clients and families through determination of service level need for clients and families, eligibility, and level of care. Inform ADS when respite or personal care services are authorized.
3. Explain fee system to clients and caregivers, determine client monthly income and assess appropriate fee, monitor fees paid and adjust as needed.

Service Providers:

1. Comply with ADS service specifications, Request for Qualification(s) and state and federal rules and regulations.
2. Ensure staff has skills and capacity to care for clients with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders.

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