

Aging and Disability Acronyms and Frequently Used Terms

This section is a glossary of the most frequently provided services and terms that are commonly used in long term care services. Long-Term care refers to care required by some children and adults with disabilities that can range from household tasks to skilled nursing services and can be delivered in a variety of care settings, including home, adult home, and nursing facilities. Acute care is required by a client/patient for a short period of time, usually until an underlying condition is resolved. Acute care is delivered in a variety of settings including home, hospitals, and nursing facilities.

A

Access

A person's ability to obtain healthcare services.

Adult Home-Level 1

A residential care facility licensed by the New York State Department of Social Services for four or more residents. Usually in a private home and overseen by the local County DSS. These homes provide room, meals, and assistance with personal care and supervision for those unable to live alone. Nursing care is not provided. Also called "domiciliary care facility" or "residential care facility".

Adult Home-Level II

Any facility with more than 4 residents which is licensed and overseen by the New York State Department of Health.

Ambulatory

Able to walk independently, or with a support such as a cane or walker.

Ambulatory Care

All health services that are provided on an out-patient basis, that don't require overnight care. Also called outpatient care.

Ancillary Services

Supplemental services, including laboratory, radiology and physical therapy, that are provided along with medical or hospital care, may also include in-home supplemental services that supplement aid service such as having a ramp built at the home of a wheelchair bound individual or installing an Emergency Response unit.

(AAA) Area Agency on Aging (another term for Office for the Aging)

Area agency is a public or private nonprofit agency, designated by the state to address the needs and concerns of all older Americans at the local level. “Area Agency on Aging” is a generic term. Specific names of Area Agency on Aging may vary. Area Agencies on Aging may be part of a city or county government or a regional planning organization or a private non-profit agency. Each Area Agency on Aging is responsible for a specific geographic area either a city, a single county, or a multi-county district. In NY State there are 59 local offices which serve each county.

(AC) Acute Care

Medical care that is required for a short period of time to cure a certain illness and/or condition. Acute care facilities are hospitals that mainly treat people with short-term health problems.

(ACCES-VR) (Formerly known as VESID) Adult Career and Continuing Educational Services-Vocational Rehab

(ACL) Administration for Community Living

(ADC) Adult Day Care

Health support and rehabilitation services provided in the community to people who are unable to care for themselves independently during the day, but are able to live at home at night.

(ADL) Activities of Daily Living

Bathing, Personal Hygiene (toothbrushing/hair, etc.), Dressing, Mobility (Getting around), Toileting, Eating, Transfer (getting from toilet to chair to bed, etc.)

(ADRC) Aging and Disability Resource Center

The Aging and Disability Resource Center Program (ADRC), a collaborative effort of AoA and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), is designed to streamline access to long-term care. The ADRC program provides states with an opportunity to effectively integrate the full range of long-term supports and services into a single, coordinated system. By simplifying access to long-term care systems, ADRCs and other single point of entry (SEP) systems are serving as the cornerstone for long-term care reform in many states.

(AIP) Annual Implementation Plan

A document prepared by local Offices for the Aging and submitted to State Office for the Aging, outlining programming, staffing, and budgeting

(APS) Adult Protective Services

Caseworkers assess an individual's situation whose health and safety are in question.

Caseworkers assess these individual's needs for services and may assist in arranging needed services. Can provide money management for those who are unable to manage their finances. Can also assist people in arranging alternative living arrangements in order to meet their needs.

(ALP) Assisted Living Program

Serves persons who are medically eligible for nursing home placement but serves them in a less medically intensive, lower cost setting. ALP provides personal care, room, board, housekeeping, supervision, home health aides, personal emergency response services, nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, medical supplies and equipment, adult day health care, a range of home health services, and the case management services of a registered professional nurse. Licensed through New York State Department of Health.

(ALR) Assisted Living Residence

A certified adult home or enriched housing program that has additionally been approved by the DOH for licensure as an ALR. An operator of an ALR is required to provide or arrange for housing, twenty-four hour on-site monitoring, and personal care services and/or home care services in a home-like setting to five or more adult residents. ALRs must also provide daily meals and snacks, case management services, and is required to develop an individualized service plan (ISP). The law also provides important consumer protections for people who reside in an ALR. Licensed through New York State Department of Health.

(AoA) Administration on Aging

The Administration on Aging (AoA) is the Federal agency responsible for advancing the concerns and interests of older people and their caregivers. AoA works with and through the Aging Services Network to promote the development of a comprehensive and coordinated system of home and community-based long-term care that is responsive to the needs and preferences of older people and their family caregivers. AoA is part of the Department of Health and Human Services and is headed by the Assistant Secretary for Aging, who reports directly to the Secretary.

(ASR) Aging Services Representative

A staff position at New York State Office for the Aging (NYSOFA) that oversees and acts as liaison between local OFA's and NYSOFA. This position often covers several counties.

B

C

Care At Home

It is an optional benefit under both Medicare and Medicaid that focuses entirely on older people, who are frail enough to meet their State's standards for nursing home care. It features comprehensive medical and social services that can be provided at an adult day health center, home, and/or inpatient facilities. For most patients, the comprehensive service package permits them to continue living at home while receiving services, rather than be institutionalized. A team of doctors, nurses and other health professionals assess participant needs, develop care plans, and deliver all services which are integrated into a complete health care plan. PACE is available only in States which have chosen to offer PACE under Medicaid.

Case Management

Case management is a service which is designed to make the service delivery system more accessible and responsive to the individual needs of clients and provide continuity of care, as client's needs change. Case management is defined as including the following separate but related activities: assessment of the client and informal caregiver(s); care planning; authorizing services; arranging for services; follow-up to assure that services are being delivered as planned; and reassessment of the client and/or informal caregivers, and as a means for maximizing all resources and services available in the community to meet these needs. It functions as a linkage between the client, informal caregivers, and service providers to facilitate an appropriate, comprehensive and coordinated response to needs.

Chronic Care

Treatment given to people whose health problems are long-term and continuing. Nursing Homes, mental hospitals and rehabilitation facilities are chronic care facilities.

Chronic Disease

Diseases which have one or more of the following characteristics: are permanent; leave residual disability; are caused by nonreversible pathological alteration; require special training of the patient for rehabilitation; or may be expected to require a long period of supervision, observation or care.

(CAARS) Consolidated Area Aging Reporting System

(CCMA) Chronic Care Medicaid

Chronic Care Medicaid will pay for skilled nursing or health related care for eligible recipients in appropriately certified facilities. Medicaid to pay for Nursing Home placement or (LTHHCP) Long Term Home Health Care cases. These are married couples who are looking for the "nursing home without walls" program. It allows them to receive care at home but still qualify for Medicaid

(CBS) Community Based Services

Long Term care services that are rendered generally at home, but include services rendered in a group setting, such as an adult day care center, or where human assistance is required to aid in necessary travel, such as to a physician's office.

(CDPAP) Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program

This Medicaid program provides services to chronically ill or physically disabled individuals who have a medical need for help with activities of daily living (ADLs) or skilled nursing services. Services can include any of the services provided by a personal care aide (home attendant), home health aide, or nurse. Recipients have flexibility and freedom in choosing their caregivers. The consumer or the person acting on the consumer's behalf (such as the parent of a disabled or chronically ill child) assumes full responsibility for hiring, training, supervising, and – if need be – terminating the employment of persons providing the services.

(CDSMP or CDSME) Chronic Disease Self Management Program or Education

An evidence-based program developed by Stanford University the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program is a workshop given two and a half hours, once a week, for six weeks, in community settings such as senior centers, churches, libraries and hospitals. People with different chronic health problems attend together. Workshops are facilitated by two trained leaders, one or both of whom are non-health professionals with chronic diseases themselves.

(CHHA) Certified Home Health Agencies

Certified Home Health Agencies (CHHAs) provide part-time, intermittent health care and support services to individuals who need intermediate and skilled health care. CHHAs can also provide long-term nursing and home health aide services, can help patients determine the level of services they need, and can either provide or arrange for other services including physical, occupational, and speech therapy, medical supplies and equipment, and social worker and nutrition services.

(CMS) Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services

(COMPASS) Comprehensive Assessment for Aging Network Community-based Long Term Care Services

(CTI) Care Transitions Intervention

An evidence-based program to improve patient transitions from one care setting to another

D

(DD or PWDD) Developmentally Disabled or Persons with DD

This term refers to someone of any age whose development is delayed either physically, cognitively, or emotionally. The Office of Mental Retardation and Development Disabilities provides a variety of alternative living arrangements and services.

(DOH or NYSDOH) Department of Health or New York Department of Health

(DoVA) Department of Veterans Affairs

(DSS)- Department of Social Services

Agency to assist individuals of the county with a number of services including Food Stamps, Medicaid, Health Care needs and monetary assistance.

E

(EBI) Evidence Based Interventions

Treatments / programs that have been proven effective (to some degree) through outcome evaluations.

(EHR) Electronic Health Record

(EI) Early Intervention

The Early Intervention Program offers services that are directed to assist families of children with developmental delays through home visits from teachers, therapists and counselors. Medical services for diagnostic or evaluation purposes are included at no charge to families. Every child is entitled to a multidisciplinary evaluation to help assess the child's needs.

(EISEP) Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly

EISEP services include non-medical in-home services such as housekeeping, personal care, respite, case management, and related services (such as emergency response systems). EISEP services support and supplement informal care provided by clients' families. Clients are required to share the cost of services, based on income. These costs are determined by a sliding scale and range from no-cost to full-cost.

(EMR) Electronic Medical Record

F

Family Care Home

A residential care facility licensed by the New York State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Family Type Adult Home

See Adult Homes

Friendly Visiting

A program designed to decrease social isolation by providing regular in-home visits to elderly people living alone.

G

H

Health Related Nursing Care

Care which is less intensive in its nursing services than skilled nursing care. Medicaid reimbursement for such services can be provided on behalf of eligible recipients to certified health related facilities.

Hospice Care

A program which provides palliative and supportive care for terminally ill patients and their families. Hospice provides expert guidance, support and services for families dealing with a life-limiting illness. The goal is to help the patient live as fully and comfortably as possible.

(HCHC) Home Care and Home and Community Based Care Benefits

Health services rendered to an individual as needed in the home. Such services are provided to aged, disabled, sick or convalescent individuals who do not need institutional care. A wide range of long term health care services including skilled nursing care, home health care, personal care services, assisted living, and adult day care. Under Medicare and Medicaid in New York State such services must be provided by a certified home health agency.

(HCSA) Home Care Service Agency

HCSA's provide hourly nursing care and homemaker, housekeeper, personal-care attendants and other health and social services.

(HDM) Home Delivered Meals

(HIICAP) Health Insurance Information Counseling & Assistance Program

The Office for the Aging staff person is available to assist clients with medical bills, health insurance, and Medicare questions.

(HIPAA) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act

Protects the privacy of individually identifiable health information

I

(I & A) Information & Assistance

Comprehensive and objective information and support (as necessary) for individuals and their caregivers/ families about all medical, non-medical (e.g. housing) and other community services; institutional services; eligibility criteria, etc. to link them with the opportunities, services and resources available to help meet their particular needs.

(IADL) Instrumental Activities of Daily Living

Housework/cleaning, Setting up and taking medications, Shopping, Laundry, Transportation, Preparing and cooking meals, Handling personal business and finances, Using the Telephone

(IFSP) Individualized Family Service Plan

An IFSP is a written plan for the early intervention services you and your child will get from the Early Intervention Program. This plan includes the outcomes for your child and family-what you hope to gain from this program. It will describe the early intervention services your child and family will get to help you reach your goals. It will describe who will provide the service and where and when and how often the services will be provided. And it will also give the ways services will be used to help you and your family reach those goals.

(IRA's) Individualized Residential Alternative

A home for men and women of all ages needing supervision, generally because of developmental disabilities, but is structured to meet each person's individual wants, preferences, and needs.

(IS) Informal Supports

Unpaid care and support provided to the consumer by family, friends, neighbors and others in the community.

J

K

L

(LPN) Licensed Practical Nurse

One who has completed one year in a school of nursing or vocational training school. LPNs are licensed by the State.

(LDSS) Local Department of Social Services

Agency to assist individuals of the county with a number of services including Food Stamps, Medicaid, Health Care needs and monetary assistance.

(LTC) Long Term Care

The provision of services on a continuing basis to assist chronically impaired individuals with their daily living. These services may be healthcare, personal care and social services care and are provided to the individual who has a chronic illness or disability and do not have full functional capacity. This care can be provided in an individual's residence or in a long term care facility and are often of a preventative nature.

(LTCS) Long Term Care Services

Offers a wide range of assistance, services or devices provided over an extended period of time and designed to meet medical, personal, and social needs in a variety of settings to enable the person to live independently as long as possible.

(LTHCP) Long Term Health Care Program

The provision of services on a continuing basis to assist chronically impaired individuals with their daily living. These services may be healthcare, personal care and social services and are provided to the individual who has a chronic illness or disability and does not have full functional capacity. This care can be provided in an individual's residence or in a long term care facility and is often of a preventative nature.

(LTCTF) Long Term Care Task Force

(LTSS) Long Term Services & Support

M

Medicare

Medicare is a federal health insurance program in which most persons over the age of 65 participate. Medicare will pay for medical services, hospitalization and drug prescriptions (Medicaid D). Medicare will pay for nursing home care only in a certified skilled nursing facility (SNF), for short periods of time, under specific conditions.

Medicare Part D

Medicare Part D is a federal program to subsidize the costs of prescription drugs for Medicare beneficiaries in the U.S. It was enacted as part of the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003 and went into effect on January 1, 2006. The drug benefit is not part of the original Medicare program which includes Part A for hospital care and Part B for physician/outpatient care and durable medical equipment. The benefit is administered by private insurance plans that are reimbursed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

Beneficiaries can obtain the Medicare Drug benefit through two types of private plans: beneficiaries can join a Prescription Drug Plan (PDP) for drug coverage only or they can join a Medicare Advantage Plan (MA) that covers both medical services and prescription drugs (MA-PD). Medicare beneficiaries have to affirmatively choose and enroll in the plan, unless they are dual eligible having both Medicare and Medicaid.

(MA) Medicaid

A medical assistance program which pays certain medical expenses for eligible needy individuals with low incomes. Medicaid will pay for some home care/ personal care for eligible recipients. This is State and County funded.

(MLTC) Managed Long Term Care Program

A Case Managed service providing health and long-term care services to adults with chronic illness or disabilities, to better address their needs and to prevent or delay nursing home placement. Services include – but are not limited to – nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, medical equipment and supplies, podiatry, dentistry, optometry, respiration therapy, transportation and social day care. The client must be both Medicaid and Medicare eligible.

(MOW) Meals on Wheels

N

(NAPIS) National Aging Program Information System

A NAPIS tool was developed in the aging network to meet a mandate from the federal government in collecting a “minimum data set” of information on the clients served with long term care services. The intent of this tool is to assess the client’s needs on a large variety of services. This tool is used to deliver Home Delivered Meals service, EISEP services and Emergency Response service. Data from NAPIS tool is entered into an internet computer data base called Peerplace. This information generates client record information as well as state mandated reports for NY State OFA.

(NH) Nursing Home

A facility that provides room and board and a planned, continuous medical treatment program, including 24-hour-per-day skilled nursing, personal and custodial care. All nursing homes that are licensed or certified and legally operating within the appropriate jurisdiction are deemed to be eligible for benefit payments.

(NHTD) Nursing Home Transition and Diversion Waiver

Designed to improve or maintain the ability of the participant to live as independently as possible in the community. Assists in recovering skills that have decreased as a result of onset of disability. Will primarily be targeted to those individuals with progressive illnesses to maintain essential skills. May be provided in the waiver participant's home and in the community

(NP) Nurse Practitioner

(NYSOFA) New York State Office for the Aging

The New York State Office for the Aging, in partnership with 59 county offices for the aging and the many service providers, help to guide elders, their families and caregivers to opportunities that enhance their lives. NYSOFA is also charged with advocating for elders at every level of government and throughout local communities. We are committed to conveying their views, protecting their rights, and ensuring that their needs are addressed.

O

Outreach Services

Programs designed to help identify problems or situations wherein people may need assistance but may not realize help is available.

(Oasis) Online Analytical Statistical Information System

This is a web-based tool for Public Health & Public Policy Data Analysis. It is a suite of tools used to access the Public Health standardized health data repository. This repository is populated with vital statistics such as births and deaths, etc.

(OCFS) Office of Children and Family Services

(OFA) Office for the Aging

(OPWDD) Office for Persons with Developmental Disabilities

(OT) Occupational Therapist

A person trained to help the patient improve his or her condition by carrying out a specific activity under supervision. The term occupational therapy is often used synonymously with activities therapy, since this also involves developing or renewing fine motor skills through specially prescribed activities.

(OTDA) Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

P

PeerPlace

PeerPlace™ is a comprehensive consumer and case management computer data base system, designed to meet the NAPIS requirements established by the federal government for the Aging network and CAARS requirements established by the New York State Office for the Aging. It is a comparable system to SAMS™.

(PA) Physician's Assistant

(PCA) Personal Care Aid

Assistance provided by another person to help with walking, bathing, eating and other routine activities of daily living and/or shopping, transportation, cooking, cleaning and other instrumental activities of daily living. It is provided by individuals trained and qualified to help with these tasks.

(PCSP) Personal Care Services Program

Provides services such as housekeeping, meal preparation, bathing, toileting, and grooming.

(PDNS) Private Duty Nursing Services

Patient receives nursing services at home from Registered Nurses (RNs) or Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), in accordance with physician orders. Patient may receive continuous nursing services beyond the scope of care available from certified home health care agencies (CHHAs).

Patient may need only intermittent nursing services which are normally provided by the CHHAs but which are unavailable at the time the patient needs them.

(PHR) Personal Health Record

(POE) Point of Entry

A consumer-centered entry point for information about and linkages to services that assist individuals of all ages with long term care needs. The POE will be available to serve individuals who need long term care support, their family caregivers, and those planning for future long term support needs, regardless of how they will pay. POE will also serve as a resource for long term care professionals and others who provide long term care services to the elderly and to people with physical disabilities of all ages.

(PRI) Patient Review Instrument

PRI stands for “Patient Review Instrument.” A PRI is mandated by law before any senior can enter a skilled nursing facility. PRI’s are valid for 30 days and are used to determine the level of care and the type of facility required. A PRI assessment is very thorough and includes medical conditions, treatments and medications needed, special diets or therapies needed, physical and mental abilities and limitations, ability to perform acts of daily living such as eating, moving and toileting, and behaviors such as aggressiveness and disruptiveness.

(PT) Physical Therapist

A person trained to retain or restore functioning in the large muscles through movement exercises and/or specially prescribed treatments.

(PWDD or PWIDD) Persons with Developmental Disability or Intellectual Disability

This term refers to someone of any age whose development is delayed either physically, cognitively, or emotionally. The Office of Mental Retardation and Development Disabilities provides a variety of alternative living arrangements and services.

Q

(QTAC) Quality and Technical Assistance Center-SUNY Albany

R

(RC) Respite Care

Short term inpatient or outpatient care delivered to an elderly person in lieu of his or her regular source of support. Nursing home or home care that temporarily replaces the existing level of support received from an informal, non-paid caregiver for the purpose of providing care and supervision to the patient while relieving the caregiver.

(RCF) Residential Care Facility

A facility that provides 24-hour care and services sufficient to assist a minimum of three residents with personal needs that result from the inability to perform ADLs (Activities of Daily Living) or from severe cognitive impairment, provides at least two meals per day, has formal arrangements for emergency medical care, and has appropriate procedures in place for the administration of prescribed drugs where allowed by law. All residential care facilities (also known as assisted living facilities, adult care facilities, assisted living residences) that are licensed or certified and legally operating within the appropriate jurisdiction are deemed to be eligible for benefit payments.

(RFP) Request for Proposals

(RGRTA) Rochester Genesee Regional Transportation Authority

(RHIO) Regional Health Information Organization

(RN) Registered Nurse

A graduate nurse who has completed at least two years at an accredited nursing school. RNs are trained in providing skilled nursing care, including the administration of medications and treatment, and are licensed by the State.

(RSVP) (formerly known as Retired and Senior Volunteer Program)

RSVP provides Genesee County residents 55 years of age and older with information on volunteer opportunities in the county, and matches them with agencies based on their skills, hobbies, interest, and available time. Assignments are numerous and diverse. Volunteering has been proven to be an excellent way to improve general health, both mental and physical.

S

Spending-down

“Spending down” income/assets to meet the eligibility requirements for Medicaid.

Stakeholders

Those served by the long term care system, as well as the individuals, groups, organizations and government agencies that provide services, funding, advocacy or hold a shared interest in the long term care system.

(SADS) Social Adult Day Services

Social adult day services are structured, comprehensive programs that provide older people with personal care, nutrition, socialization, supervision and monitoring in a protective setting during part of a day, but for less than a 24-hour period.

SAMS

SAMS™ is a comprehensive consumer and case management computer data base system, designed to meet the NAPIS requirements established by the federal government for the Aging network. It is a comparable system to PeerPlace™.

(SHIPTALK)

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program, or SHIP, is a national program that offers one-on-one counseling and assistance to people with Medicare and their families. Through federal grants directed to states, SHIPs provide free counseling and assistance via telephone and face-to-face interactive sessions, public education presentations and programs, and media activities. Use of the SHIPTalk web site is intended for people who work with the State Health Insurance Assistance Program grant from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

(SNC) Skilled Nursing Care

Nursing and rehabilitative care provided by, or under the direction of skilled medical personnel. This care is less intensive than hospital care, but which requires the training and skill of a registered nurse. Skilled nursing care involves procedures providing for the patient's physical, emotional and rehabilitation needs, which require technical skills. Both Medicare and Medicaid can pay for skilled care for eligible recipients, in a certified skilled nursing facility (SNF).

(SNF) Skilled Nursing Facility

A nursing home that provides 24 hour per day skilled nursing and rehabilitative care.

(SPOA) Single Point of Accountability

A process designed to identify, screen and assign Care Coordination and Wraparound Services to eligible high need/high risk children, youth, and adults with a serious emotional disturbance (SED) and/or behavioral disorder and their families.

T

(TBI) Traumatic Brain Injury

Damage to living brain tissue caused by an external, mechanical force. The term does not include brain injuries that are caused by insufficient blood supply, toxic substances, malignancy, disease-producing organisms, congenital disorders, birth trauma or degenerative processes.

U

(USDA) United States Department of Agriculture

V

(VA) Veterans Administration

(VNA or VNS) Visiting Nursing Association or Services

W

(WMS) Work Management System

The Welfare Management System is a New York State computer client data base system used by local Department of Social Services to track services and eligibility of clients receiving welfare services, as well as report client statistical data to the New York State Department of Social Services system.

X

Y

Z