


NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)  
Division of Long Term Supports and Services  
Bureau of Elderly and Adult Services (BEAS)

105 Pleasant St.  
Concord, NH 03301

<b>STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE BEAS GENERAL MEMORANDUM (GM)</b>	
<b>DATE:</b>	March 20, 2020
<b>TO:</b>	Deborah Scheetz, Division Director, Division of Long Term Supports and Services (DLTSS); Wendi Aultman, Bureau Chief, Elderly and Adult Services; Kristina Ickes, CFI Program Administrator, Jayne Jackson, DLTSS Finance Director; Jennifer Doig, DLTSS Finance Administrator; Deborah Ritcey, GSIL Executive Director
<b>FROM:</b>	Wendi Aultman, Bureau Chief, Elderly and Adult Services
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	BEAS COVID-19 Emergency Guidance for Personal Care Services Program
<b>GM NUMBER:</b>	GM 20-010
<b>EFFECTIVE DATE:</b>	March 13, 2020
<b>REGULATORY GUIDANCE:</b>	This memo is a communication tool circulated for informational purposes only. The goal is to provide information and guidance to the individuals to whom it is addressed. The contents of this memo and the information conveyed are subject to change. This communication is not intended to take the place of or alter written law, regulations or rule.

<b>MEMORANDUM SUMMARY</b>
The purpose of this memorandum is to guidance regarding self-directed personal care services covered under the Choices for Independence Waiver Program and the Medicaid State Plan during the COVID-19 Emergency.

**Self-Directed Personal Care under the Choices for Independence Waiver Program (PCSP) and Self Directed Personal Care Attendant Services under Medicaid State Plan (PCA)**

**BEAS offers the following guidance:**

**Will DHHS allow for family members to care for PCA folks in this short term crisis and be able to get paid?**

- Under the PCS State plan benefit authorized under section 1905(a) (24) of the Social Security Act, Medicaid programs generally do not allow billing for PCS provided by a legally responsible relative. [59] This would include spouses or parents of a minor child. However, New Hampshire

has an approved waiver under the Social Security Act Section 1915(c) waiver, therefore billing for care provided by a legally responsible relative is permissible.

**Will DHHS allow face to face requirements to be waived?**

- DHHS will waive face to face requirements (under CFI and PCA to be completed via Skype or telephonic) when participant or GSIL care coordinators requests.
- DHHS requires providers of PCSP and PCA services to continue to:
  - Complete required documentation,
  - Complete telephone or virtual contacts when an attendant care employee is with the consumer to assist as needed, based on timesheet submission and regular schedules,
  - Use videoconferencing whenever possible to get a visual of the consumer and their surroundings,
  - Connect with attendant care employees to provide their assessment of the consumer and identify any needs or abnormalities of the consumer,
  - Ensure that a face-to-face visit is done when it is identified consumer is at risk of immediate harm, and
  - Make outreach calls weekly to high risk consumers to see if a visit is warranted.