Do You Know About Virginia’s EDCD Waiver?

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is the unit of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that administers the Medicare and Medicaid programs, including the EDCD waiver. The EDCD waiver is an approved waiver that covers a range of community support services offered to individuals who are elderly or disabled who would otherwise require a nursing facility level of care.

Who may qualify?

Individuals who:
Meet the nursing facility level of care criteria (i.e., they are functionally dependent and have a medical nursing needs);

Are determined to be at imminent risk of a nursing facility placement; and

Are determined that community-based care services under the waiver are the critical services that enable the individual to remain at home rather than being placed in a nursing facility.

Available Services through the Waiver

Adult Day Health Care - A provider that offers a community-based day program providing a variety of health, therapeutic, and social services designed to meet the specialized needs of those elderly and disabled individuals at risk of placement in a nursing facility. This includes services designed to prevent institutionalization by providing participants with health, maintenance, and coordination of rehabilitation services in a congregate daytime setting.

Medication Monitoring - an electronic device, which is only available in conjunction with Personal Emergency Response Systems, that enables certain individuals at high risk of institutionalization to be reminded to take their medications at the correct dosages and times.

Personal Care Aide Services - long-term maintenance or support services necessary to enable the individual to remain at or return home rather than enter a nursing facility. Personal care services are provided to individuals in the areas of activities of daily living, access to the community, monitoring of self-administered medications or other medical needs, and the monitoring of health status and physical condition. Where the individual requires assistance with activities of daily living, and where specified in the plan of care, such supportive services may include assistance with instrumental activities of daily living. Services may be provided in home and community settings to enable an individual to maintain the health status and functional skills necessary to live in the community or participate in community activities.
Respite Care - short-term personal care services provided to individuals who are unable to care for themselves because of the absence of or need for the relief of those unpaid caregivers who normally provide the care.

Personal Emergency Response System (PERS) - a certified home health or a personal care agency, a durable medical equipment provider, a hospital, or a PERS manufacturer that has the ability to provide PERS equipment, direct services (i.e., installation, equipment maintenance, and services calls), and PERS monitoring. PERS providers may also provide medication monitoring.

Transition Coordination - the provider who is responsible for supporting the individual and family/caregiver, as appropriate, with the activities associated with transitioning from an institution to the community.

Transition Services - set-up expenses for individuals who are transitioning from an institution or licensed or certified provider-operated living arrangement to a living arrangement in a private residence where the person is directly responsible for his own living expenses.

How do I enroll?

1. Use the links below to identify your local agency and call to request a screening:

   OR
   Health Department - [http://www.vdh.state.va.us/LHD/index.htm](http://www.vdh.state.va.us/LHD/index.htm)

2. You and the screener will complete the Uniform Assessment Instrument (UAI) and the packet will be sent to the provider you’ve selected.

3. The provider will design and submit a Plan of Care with you. The screener will complete additional paperwork and send it to Virginia Medicaid Management Information Systems (VAMMIS) for approval.

4. If everything is approved services begin.

Resources


Early Periodic Screening and Diagnosis and Treatment Program (EPSDT) – EPSDT is geared to the early assessment of children’s health care needs through periodic screenings. The goal of EPSDT is to assure that health problems are diagnosed and treated as early as possible. [http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/Content_pgs/ltc-wvr.aspx](http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/Content_pgs/ltc-wvr.aspx)