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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES



GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR

FACT SHEET

Home Care Services

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Services Home Care Organizations and Home Care Aides May Provide

Home Care Organizations arrange for home care services to be provided by an Affiliated Home Care Aide to a client. (Health and Safety Code § 1796.12(j).) Home care services are nonmedical services and assistance provided by a Registered Home Care Aide to a client who, because of advanced age or physical or mental disability, cannot perform these activities. These services specified in Health and Safety Code section 1796.12, subdivision (n), enable the client to remain in their residence and include, but are not limited to, assistance with the following:

- Bathing
- Exercising
- Making telephone calls
- Meal planning and preparation
- Dressing
- Positioning
- Transferring
- Ambulating
- Feeding
- Companionship
- Housekeeping
- Laundry
- Personal hygiene and grooming
- Transportation
- Shopping for personal care items or groceries
- Toileting and incontinence care
- Assisting with medication that the client self-administers
- Correspondence

The following list contains examples of nonmedical services a Registered Home Care Aide may provide when assisting with medication that the client self-administers:

- Opening the client's medication bottle/canister/blister pack
- Reminding the client to take medication
- Reminding a client to refill medication

Services Home Care Organizations and Registered Home Care Aides may NOT Provide

Home Care Organizations are not authorized to arrange for the provision of medical services to a client, and Registered Home Care Aides are not authorized to provide medical services to a client. The California Department of Social Services does not have the authority to provide waivers or authorizations which allow Home Care Organizations to provide medical services to clients.

The following list, while not exhaustive, it contains examples of medical services a Registered Home Care Aide **may not** provide:

- Diabetic insulin shots
- Catheter care
- Bedsore treatment
- Physical therapy
- Glucose readings (blood sugar)
- Tube feedings and care
- IV insertions
- Monitoring/recording blood pressure
- Ventilator dependent care
- Colostomy bag care
- Monitoring/recording vital signs
- Post-surgery wound care
- Medication administration
- Assistance with medication that the client self-administers that would otherwise require administration or oversight by a licensed health care professional.

For more information, please contact the [Home Care Services Branch](#) by e-mail at HCSB@dss.ca.gov or telephone at (877) 424-5778.