# Medicaid Issues in Wisconsin Prescribing Personal Care Service



#### What are Personal Care Services?

Personal care services (PCS) are hands on assistance with tasks. They are ordered by a doctor and help the member stay in their home.

#### **Medicaid Reimbursement**

In 2019, Wisconsin Medicaid reimbursed:

- \$187 million for personal care services.
- \$11.6 million for travel time.
- \$2.1 million for supervisory nurse visits.

#### **Covered Services**

- Activities of daily living (ADLs) such as bathing, dressing, grooming, and toileting
- Incidental activities of daily living (IADLs) such as:
  - Meal preparation
  - Light housekeeping, such as tidying the kitchen after preparing a meal
  - Buying groceries
- Medically Oriented Tasks (MOTs) such as range of motion or using a mechanical lift

#### **Non-Covered Services**

- Transporting the member—even to medical appointments
- Running any errands—with or without the member
- Yard work
- Deep cleaning
- Child care
- Companionship or respite
- Any task the member can do with alternative techniques such as extra time, or durable medical equipment (DME)

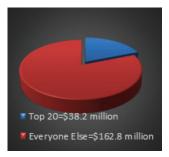
#### **Prescribed Services**

Personal care services require a prescription from a Medicaid enrolled physician. Prescribers should ensure they are knowledgeable about any services, tests, or medications before prescribing. PCS can be prescribed for a short time to treat a short-term injury or illness. They do not have to be ordered for a full year, per DHS 105.17 and DHS 107.112.

Services must be supported by the member's medical condition and diagnoses. Members should be assessed by the prescriber yearly and with any changes in condition.

### **Top 20 Personal Care Prescribers**

In 2019, a total of 2,692 physicians prescribed personal care services to Medicaid members. The services ordered by the top 20 prescribers, or 0.7% of all prescribers, account for 19% of the total spending. Less than 1% of prescribers ordered \$38.2 million out of a total \$201 million!



## Remember you play a vital role in protecting Medicaid program integrity!



