

OPI Power Hour FAQ

12/21/21

Question: Are we resuming in-home visits?

Answer: Yes, we will follow the guidance in [AR-21-066](#) regarding the resumption of in-person activities. This may change based on CDC and OHA guidance, but this is currently what we are following.

Regarding exception requests by the HCW or consumer.

Question: If a consumer is currently receiving the max number of hours, we are limited to that right?

Answer: Yes, follow your local process for exception requests by the consumer. If your local policies do not allow exception hours above the current maximum, then inform the consumer of this.

Question: What is the deadline for HCWs to submit their hours?

Answer: The CBA allows HCWs up to one year to submit their time.

Question: Medicaid in-home service consumers will not have a service contribution starting January 1, 2022. Will this apply to OPI consumers as well?

Answer: No, OPI consumers will continue to be assessed a sliding-fee.

Regarding documentation for special diets.

Comment: This seems like significant documentation when we do not require verifications for other medical expenses.

Answer: Yes, this is extra documentation. The reason is to make sure that we are being good stewards of state funds and for auditing purposes. We need to ensure that we are not allowing expenses that do not meet a

medical requirement. The purpose of allowing medical deductions for a special diet is to factor in the cost of food that would otherwise not be eaten except for the medical condition. The additional documentation is used to confirm the medical condition and to determine the extra cost of the special diet outside of what one would normally spend on food.