

**Taking Charge: Good Medical Care for the Elderly
and How to Get It**

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APPENDIX B

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Appendix B

Government Programs to Keep the Elderly in the Community

The Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), charged with oversight of American nursing homes, also oversees government programs that are designed to keep the elderly in their own communities and, if possible, in their own homes.

Some of the assistance provided under these programs includes the Medicaid Home and Community-Based Service Waivers. These waivers allow individual states to develop and implement alternatives to long-term care facility placement. The program is described at www.hcfa.gov/medicaid/hpg4.htm. At the time of this writing, budget cuts are looming and these programs may disappear. Some of the services that currently can be provided at no cost to seniors and disabled persons who qualify include:

1. Case management
2. Homemaker/home health aide services
3. Personal care services
4. Adult day health
5. Rehabilitation
6. Respite care

Other services, if approved by HCFA and requested by the state because they are needed by waiver participants to avoid being placed in a medical facility, include:

1. Non-medical transportation
2. In-home support services
3. Special communication services
4. Minor home modifications
5. Adult day care

For those with chronic mental illness, services (exclusive of coverage for room and board except for certain limited circumstances) include:

1. Day treatment or other partial hospitalization services
2. Psychosocial rehabilitation services
3. Clinic services

You can get more information by telephoning or visiting the agency on aging in your own community or by telephoning your social security office if you need help in finding the right office.

The following websites have valuable information from the U.S. Government

Appendices

Medicare website for Medicaid Waiver & Demonstration Projects.

Medicaid State Waiver Program Demonstration Projects—
General Information

Medicaid Demonstration Projects & Evaluation Reports

Medicaid Health Insurance Flexibility & Accountability (HIFA)

Medicaid Pharmacy Plus

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