

## The Makofsky Minute | April 20, 2022

### Home Care Medicaid Update: New “Independent Assessor” to Start May 1, 2022



Beginning May 1, 2022, new applicants over the age of 18 for Personal Care or Consumer-Directed Personal Assistance Program (CDPAP) services must undergo nurse assessments conducted by the New York Independent Assessor (NYIA). The State has contracted with Maximus (also known as NY Medicaid Choice) to conduct these assessments. In addition to the current conflict-free assessment that NY Medicaid Choice already conducts for people seeking to enroll in managed long term care plans, it will also serve as the NYIA.

The Independent Assessor conducts not only a nurse assessment, but also a clinical assessment by a doctor, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant. With those two assessments, the NYIA decides if the applicant is eligible for personal care or CDPAP and sends the applicant a written notice with Fair Hearing rights if denied eligibility.

Because of this new additional step in the Medicaid application process, it is expected that there may be further delays in getting home care services started. We urge anyone who needs help with care at home to act quickly in submitting a home care Medicaid application. Give us a call if you'd like to schedule an appointment to discuss creating a plan for Medicaid eligibility for you or a loved one.

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