



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2017 Wisconsin Act 119
[2017 Assembly Bill 529]

**Requirements Under Medical
Assistance Program**

2017 Wisconsin Act 119 modifies statutory requirements under the Medical Assistance (MA) program that restrict coverage of MA benefits not prescribed by a physician. Benefits affected by these requirements include skilled nursing home services, outpatient hospital services, home health services, occupational therapy, durable medical equipment, personal care services, mental health rehabilitative and psychosocial services, community recovery services, and others.

Under the Act, as under prior law, the restriction will not apply to MA benefits prescribed by a physician. In addition, the Act modifies the restriction by allowing coverage of the benefits without a physician's prescription, in certain cases. The Act specifies that the restriction will not apply if services are prescribed or ordered by another provider acting within the scope of the provider's practice under applicable statutes, rules, or regulations.

Effective date: December 2, 2017

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov>.