

Daily Living Activity 3: Managing therapy or monitoring a health condition

Descriptors	Points
<p>a. Either –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Does not receive medication or therapy or need to monitor a health condition, or (ii) Can manage medication or therapy or monitor a health condition unaided. 	0
<p>b. Needs any one or more of the following –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To use an aid or appliance to be able to manage medication; (ii) Supervision, prompting or assistance to be able to manage medication; (iii) Supervision, prompting or assistance to be able to monitor a health condition. 	1
<p>c. Needs supervision, prompting or assistance to be able to manage therapy that takes no more than 3.5 hours a week.</p>	2
<p>d. Needs supervision, prompting or assistance to be able to manage therapy that takes more than 3.5 but no more than 7 hours a week.</p>	4
<p>e. Needs supervision, prompting or assistance to be able to manage therapy that takes more than 7 but no more than 14 hours a week.</p>	6
<p>f. Needs supervision, prompting or assistance to be able to manage therapy that takes more than 14 hours a week.</p>	8

Legislative Definitions

“Manage medication” means take medication, where a failure to do so is likely to result in a deterioration in the claimant’s health.

“Manage therapy” means undertake therapy, where a failure to do so is likely to result in a deterioration in the claimant’s health.

“Medication” means medication to be taken at home which is prescribed or recommended by a registered— (a) doctor; (b) nurse; or (c) pharmacist.

“Monitor a health condition” means—

- (a) Detect significant changes in the claimant's health condition which are likely to lead to a deterioration in the claimant's health; and
- (b) Take action advised by a— (i) registered doctor, (ii) registered nurse, (iii) social worker regulated by the Northern Ireland Social Care Council, or (iv) health professional who is regulated by the Health and Care Professions Council, without which the claimant's health is likely to deteriorate.

"Therapy" means therapy to be undertaken at home which is prescribed or recommended by a—

(a) registered doctor; (b) registered nurse; (c) registered pharmacist; (d) social worker regulated by the Northern Ireland Social Care Council; or (e) health professional regulated by the Health and Care Professions Council; but does not include taking or applying, or otherwise receiving or administering, medication (whether orally, topically or by any other means), or any action which, in the claimant's case, falls within the definition of "monitor a health condition".

Select Case Law

- [RH v SSWP \(PIP\) \[2015\] UKUT 281](#) – Time taken to set up and take down the tens machine counts for assistance to manage therapy.
- [JT v SSWP \(PIP\) \[2015\] UKUT 554; \[2016\] AACR 20](#) – Confirms the time period relates to the time needed to help manage therapy and not the length of the therapy. *The time period referred to the duration of the supervision, prompting or assistance rather than the duration of the therapy.*
- [PC v SSWP \[2015\] UKUT 622](#) – Assistance to apply an emollient cream can be considered either assistance with medication or therapy and there was no hard boundary between the two. This is a question of fact that must be established in the individual case.
- [FD v DfC \(PIP\) \[2018\] NICom 24](#) – Dosette box is an aid. However, using one does not score the points if the claimant does not need to use it.
- [EH-v-DfC \(PIP\) \[2018\] NICom 55](#) - "Manage medication" is defined as "take medication where a failure to do so is likely to result in a deterioration in C's health" – At paragraph 27 the Commissioner states it does not apply to the converse situation where deterioration in health is likely to result from an individual taking an overdose of tablets.

However, may be further question if someone in danger of overdose, is able to take medication safely where a failure to do so is likely to result in deterioration.

- [TK v SSWP \(PIP\): \[2020\] AACR 18](#)– For this Activity even if the claimant is not restricted by physical or mental disability from performing their own therapy, if they factually require the assistance with the health condition then they should

score the points. For example, someone who needs dialysis due to a physical condition is not expected to perform their own dialysis even if they were theoretically capable.