



Waisman WIN: Wellness Inclusion Nursing Program
University of Wisconsin – Madison
122 E. Olin Ave, Ste.100
Madison, WI 53713
Phone: (608) 265-9440 Fax: (608) 263-4681

A Quick Guide to Including WIN Services in your IRIS Plan/Budget

WIN nurses are knowledgeable in working with adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. They work as pro-active nurse consultants with individuals, family members, home and day program staff around complex health issues that are complicated by or can contribute to behavior challenges, communication barriers, loss of function and safety risks. WIN nurses provide unique nursing services that are not available through primary care providers and the Medicaid State plan. Often WIN consultations are crucial in preventing symptoms from worsening, lessening the frequency of clinic appointments and preventing health crises/hospitalizations.

Medicaid Personal Care nurses play a different role. They oversee the training of supported living staff on Activities of Daily Living (ADLs) and nurse delegated tasks. They verify the competencies of personal care workers and manage the required documentation.

To successfully explain the need for WIN nursing in an IRIS budget it is important to clearly spell out difficulties with clinic appointments related to:

- No or poor communication ability
- Inability to get on an exam table without a Hoyer lift (many clinics have no Hoyer lifts)
- Mental health issues and/or dementia, including severe anxiety, psychosis, hallucinations
- Sensitivities to lights, sounds, smells and new people that are in clinics
- Challenging behaviors such as harm to self and others or destroying property
- Loud vocalizations or repetitive behaviors that are disruptive in clinics

Explain clearly how WIN nurses assist in helping each individual achieve their personalized outcomes

- Maintain and establish a living arrangement of one's own
- Maintain and/or obtain community employment
- Maintain or establish community inclusion
- Ensuring health and safety
- Building positive relationships
- Having control of and access to transportation

Answer these questions regarding WIN services:

- Why does the person need WIN services?
- What are they going to get from WIN nurses that they won't get from anyone else?
- If they don't get WIN services, what will happen?