

Current Rules for the Provision of Care during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Higher payments for care equipment

€60 instead of €40 until 12/31/2021.

The recent care reform includes a permanent increase in the payment for care aids, rising from €40 to €60. This development resulted from a change to paragraph 2 sentence 1 of § 40 Book XI of the Social Code (SGB XI).

Care consultations in accordance with § 37

Those in receipt of care insurance payments who do not commission a care service are required to undergo consultation on a half-yearly or quarterly basis in accordance with § 37 para. 3 Book XI of the Social Code (SGB XI). The consultations have been resumed in the intended rhythm since 10/01/2020. If requested by the person requiring care, the consultation can be conducted by telephone, digitally or via video conference up to and including 06/30/2021.

Assessment appointments

Assessments through house visits will resume in March. Up to 06/30/2021, those requiring care can also request that the assessments performed by the medical services of the social and private care insurers be conducted via telephone; existing documentation can also be incorporated into the decision-making process.

Relief payment

In response to the current pandemic, those classified as requiring degree 1 care can use the relief payment of €125 to pay for services (e.g. cleaners) which are not usually intended to be covered by this payment. This exception will last until 06/30/2021.

Unused relief payments from 2019 and 2020 can be used until 09/30/2021. This applies to those requiring all degrees of care.

10-Day leave of absence

Care support benefit will be paid up to 06/30/2021 even if a care shortfall develops in domestic care, for example, if a care service is forced to close for a short period, or through the absence of a carer.

Care support benefit will be paid for up to 20 days up to 06/30/2021. During this period, an employee has the right to a leave of absence of up to 20 days to perform care duties for family members in cases of acute need.

Sources:

<https://pflege-dschungel.de/a-leistungen-der-pflegeversicherung/4-h-pflegehilfsmittel/>

<https://www.pflegeberatung.de/corona>