Abstract

The State of Alaska operates a Medicaid funded Personal Care Assistance (PCA) program through which personal care services are authorized and provided. Problems with obtaining timely and accurate medical information have caused delays in services and increased costs. Training medical providers on Medicaid and the PCA program has been proposed. A needs assessment was conducted by surveying medical providers. The three-part survey included a self-assessment of Medicaid and PCA program training, a test of knowledge, and a survey of training preferences. Survey results indicated that medical providers had little training in Medicaid or the PCA program. Respondents did not score well on the test of knowledge of Medicaid and the PCA program. Respondents generally indicated a need and willingness for additional training in Medicaid and the PCA program. Results indicated that patients would likely benefit from their medical providers’ getting additional training. Results supported the need for the proposed training.