



# The importance of using correct terminology in home care programs

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# What's wrong with this picture?

I am the PCA  
for my 12 year  
old child

MY PCA set up my  
medicine wrong

The check I  
wrote my PCA  
bounced

# What is a Personal Care Assistant?

## In general conversation

Someone who provides support with activities of daily living (ADLs) and other similar tasks.

## When DHS says PCA

Someone who provides covered personal care assistance (PCA) services through the state and federally funded PCA program described in M.S. §256B.0659.

# Example 1: What's wrong with this picture?

I am the PCA  
for my 12 year  
old child

PCA does not allow parents to be the PCA for their minor children. This person is likely providing supports through Consumer Directed Community Supports (CDCS) the Consumer Support Grant (CSG).

## Example 2: What's wrong with this picture?

My PCA set up my  
medicine wrong

PCAs are not allowed to setup medications. This person was likely talking about a 245D licensed personal support worker

## Example 3: What's wrong with this picture?

The check I  
wrote my PCA  
bounced

If someone is paying a  
worker themselves, that  
is not through the PCA  
program.

# Who cares though?

I am the PCA for my 12 year old child

DHS cannot answer a question correctly without knowing which program the question is about.

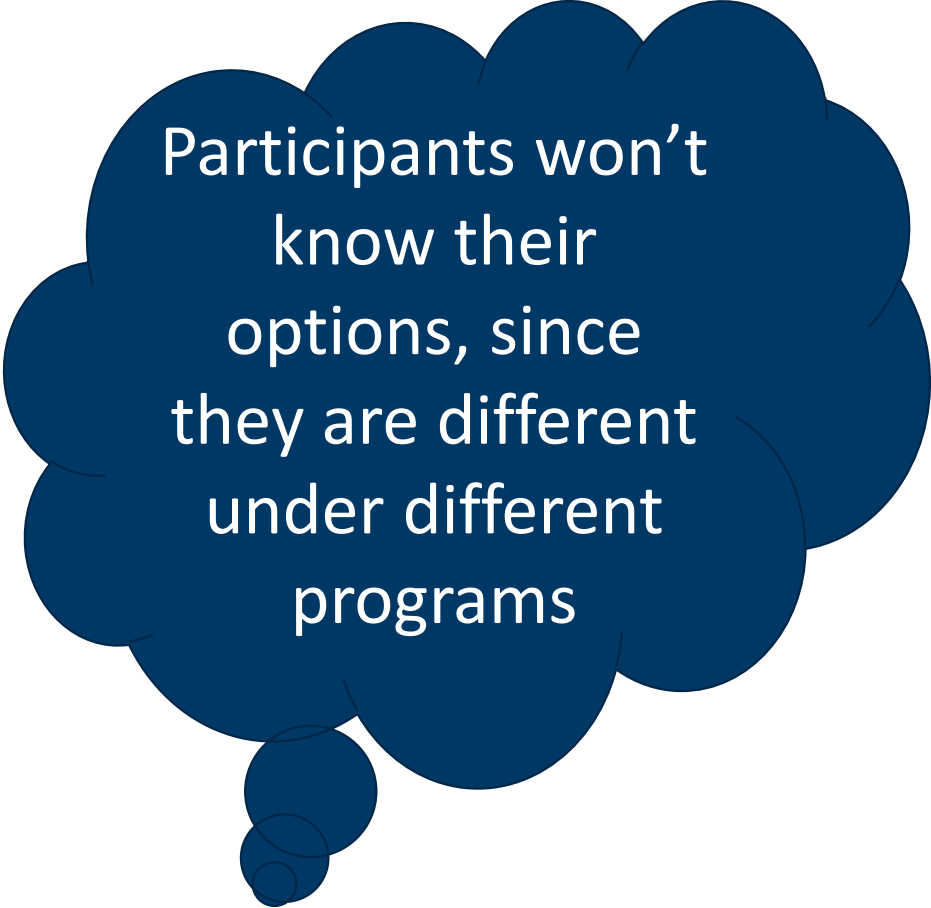
My PCA set up my medicine wrong

DHS cannot answer a question correctly without knowing which program the question is about.

The check I wrote my PCA bounced

DHS refers questions about private pay to the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). The licensing requirement for private pay is under the jurisdiction of MDH.

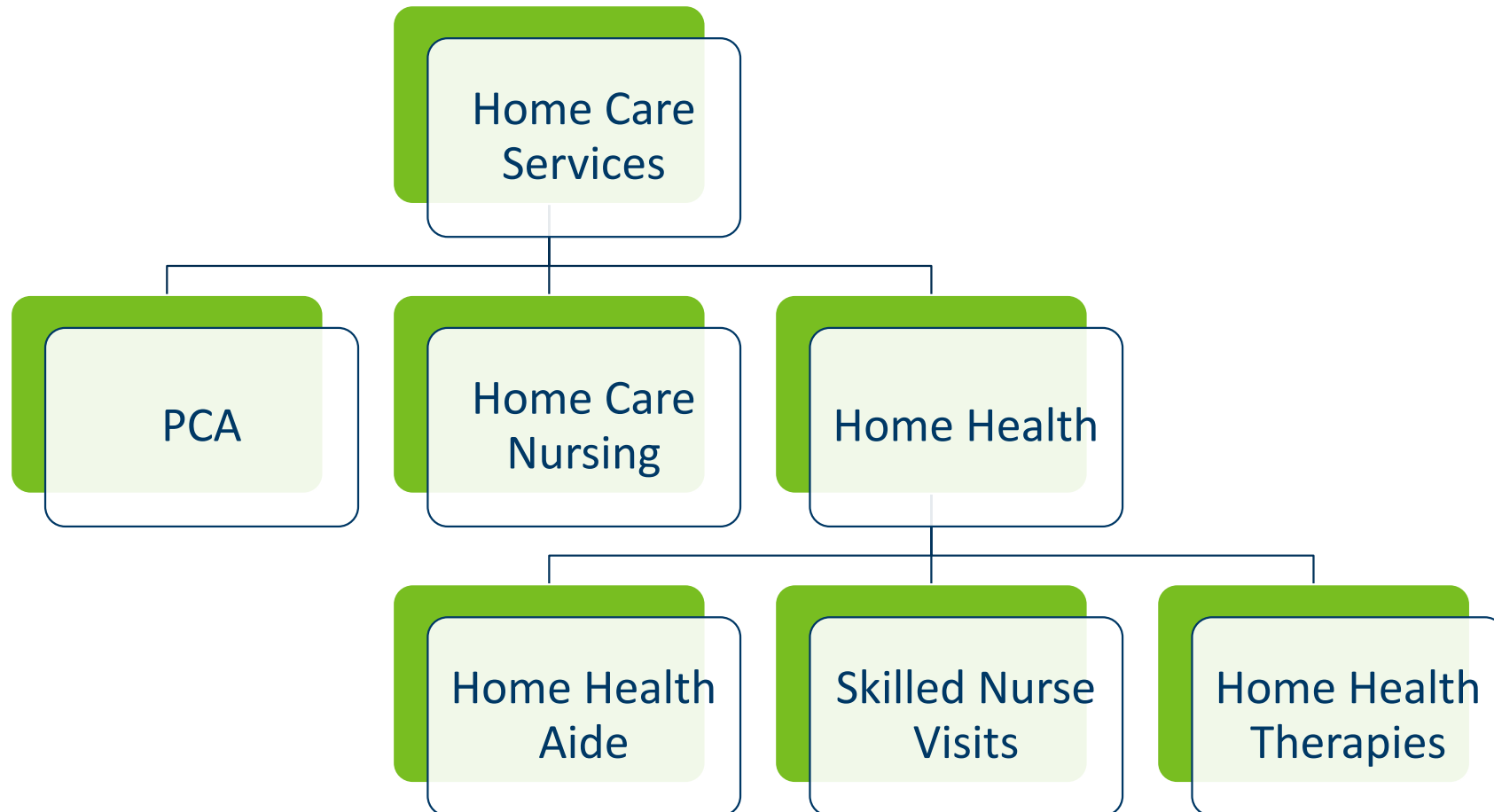
Alright, DHS cares . . . but should I?



Participants won't  
know their  
options, since  
they are different  
under different  
programs



# Ok, so what do these home care terms mean?



# Licensing requirements?

## PCA Agency

No license  
required

## Home Health Agency

Medicare  
certification  
and MDH  
comprehensive  
license  
required

## Home Care Nursing Agency

MDH  
comprehensive  
license  
required

# Other home care term: Responsible party (RP)

The individual who makes decisions for a person using PCA who is unable to direct their own care.

This term only applies to PCA.

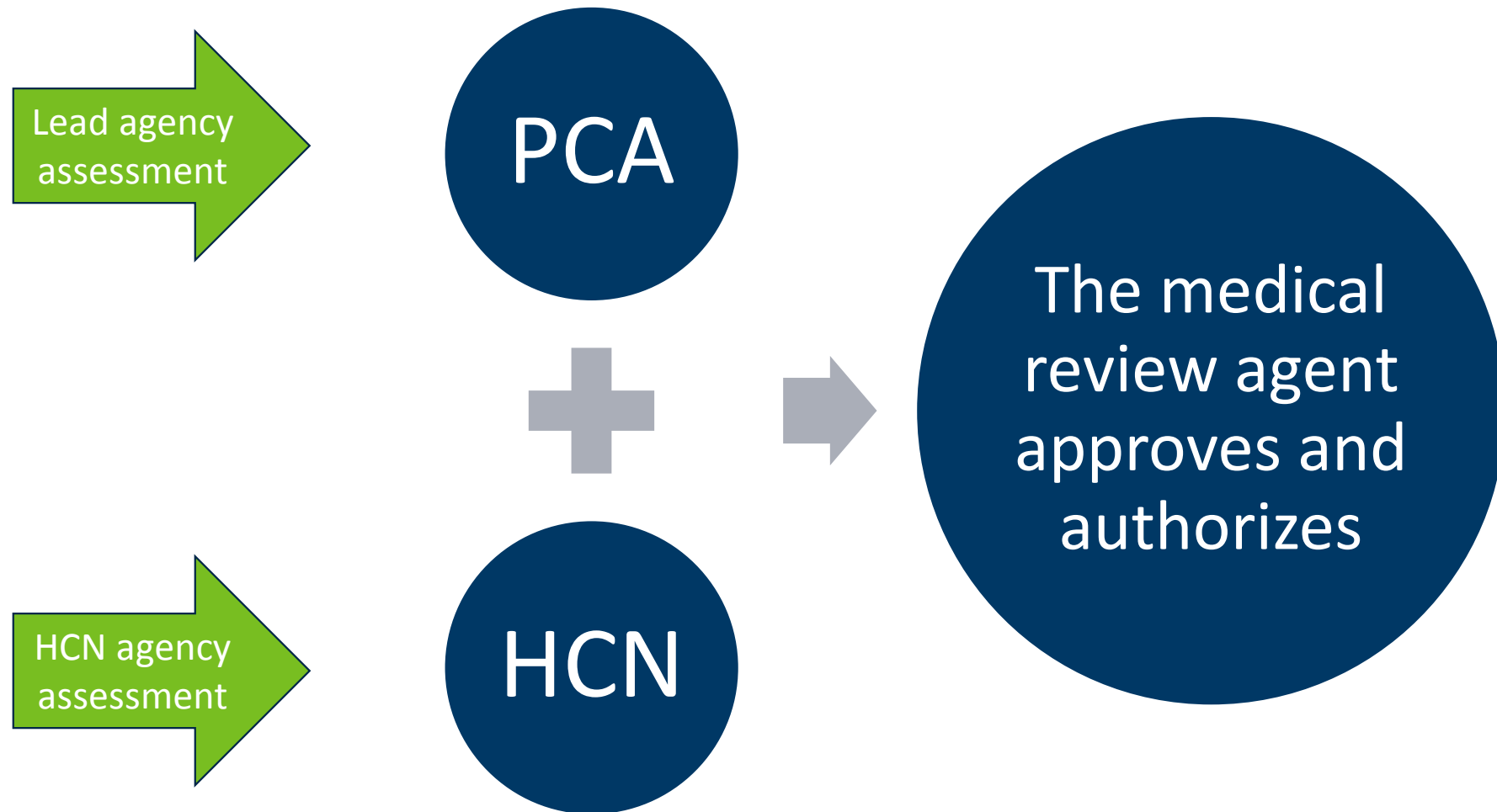
The RP is not necessarily the person's guardian and visa versa.

# Other home care term: Qualified professional (QP)

The individual that supervises PCA workers and the delivery of services in the PCA program

Note that a QP cannot perform nursing tasks that require physicians orders while acting as a QP.

# Role of the medical review agent in combinations



Questions?



Thank You!