



To: All Medicaid Provider Types, Medicaid Managed Care Organizations, Optum Behavioral Health ASO

From: Robert R. Neall, Secretary 

Re: COVID-19 #6: Temporary Expansion of Remote Patient Monitoring Services

Effective Date: March 27, 2020

NOTE: Please ensure appropriate staff members in your organization are informed of the contents of this guidance document.

Background

On March 5, 2020, Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., declared a state of emergency due to disease (“COVID-19”) caused by the novel coronavirus. An outbreak of disease due to COVID-19 first occurred in the Hubei Province, China, in late 2019, and has currently been detected in more than 109 countries, including the United States. COVID-19 is a severe respiratory disease, resulting in illness or death, caused by person-to-person spread of the novel coronavirus.

The measures outlined in this document are restricted to use during the emergency declared by Governor Hogan to deal with the threat of COVID-19 and will expire immediately at the end of the declared emergency or as revised by additional orders such that the Secretary’s authority to issue this guidance no longer exists.

This expansion applies to somatic services delivered to a Medicaid participant via fee-for-service (FFS) or through a HealthChoice Managed Care Organization (MCO). Delivery of behavioral health services is not impacted.

Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM)

Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) is a service which uses digital technologies to collect medical and other forms of health data from individuals and electronically transmits the information securely to health care providers for assessments, recommendations, and interventions. Providers should order RPM when it is medically necessary to improve chronic disease control and it is expected to reduce potentially preventable hospital admissions.

During the state of emergency, the Department is expanding access to RPM services and waiving certain regulatory requirements.