



State of New Jersey  
Department of Human Services  
Division of Medical Assistance & Health Services

# NEWSLETTER

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**TO:** Independent Clinic Mental Health and Hospital Providers – **For Action**  
Health Maintenance Organizations – **For Information Only**

**SUBJECT:** **Temporary Partial Care and Partial Hospitalization Guidelines**

**EFFECTIVE:** 03/21/2020

**PURPOSE:** To Announce Temporary Changes in the Provision of Partial Care and Partial Hospitalization Services via Telecommunication Devices

**BACKGROUND:** As a result of the ongoing public health emergency related to the outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19), partial care and partial hospitalization care providers are encouraged to provide their mental health services via telehealth. The use of telehealth will reduce unnecessary contact and exposure to individuals who may be infected with COVID-19. Since partial care and partial hospitalization programs are group based services, the provision of telehealth services requires a modification in the how these services are provided and billed.

On March 19, 2020, Governor Murphy signed legislation expanding access to telehealth services. For the duration of the public health emergency, any healthcare practitioner is authorized to provide and bill for services using telehealth to the extent appropriate under their standard of care. Providers should ensure that the services patients receive using telehealth are appropriate, medically necessary, and meet current quality of care standards. For services that require a signature, verbal approvals may be obtained and documented. It is recommended that actual signatures be obtained as soon as possible.

The legislation also authorizes certain State agencies to waive requirements in State law or regulation to facilitate the use of telehealth during the COVID-19 emergency. The legislation and corresponding waivers allow providers of partial care and partial hospitalization services to provide those services described in N.J.A.C. 10:37F-2.5, on an individual or group basis, via telecommunication devices. All prior authorization of partial care and partial hospitalization services are suspended until the current state of emergency is lifted. Providers are required to meet the same documentation standards and provide services identified in the individual treatment plans. Any newly identified needs associated with the COVID-19 state of emergency that are expected to be ongoing shall be added to the individualized treatment plan. One time or short term interventions shall be documented in the progress notes.

## **Billing Procedures**

Effective March 21, 2020 and throughout the COVID-19 state of emergency, partial care or partial hospitalization services that are provided via a telecommunication device shall be reimbursed with a per diem rate. Partial Care services shall initially be billed using 5 units of H0035GTUC to receive the per diem rate and are limited to 25 units (5 days) per calendar week. Hospitals shall bill using 5 units of REV code 912 or 913 and are limited to 25 units (5 days) per calendar week. Effective 5/15/20, for partial care only, H0035GTUC shall be billed with 1 unit per day and shall be limited to 5 units per calendar week. The per diem reimbursement rate for H0035GTUC shall not change. Hospitals shall continue to bill using 5 units per day. All billing changes shall continue for the duration of the COVID-19 state of emergency. Services may be provided on Saturday or Sunday as long as service dates do not exceed the equivalent of 5 days per calendar week.

**Partial care providers shall bill a per diem rate for telehealth services utilizing HCPCS code H0035UCGT. From 3/21/20 through 5/14/20, partial care providers shall bill 5 units per day. From 5/15/20 through the end of the COVID-19 state of emergency, partial care providers shall bill 1 unit per day.**

If partial care or partial hospitalization services are provided face-to-face, services shall be billed using the normal billing codes and hourly rates. Ancillary services such as administering injections or providing a medical exam for the prescription of medication are outside of the bundled rate and shall be billed utilizing the appropriate E/M code in addition to the partial care or partial hospitalization services. All bundled services included in partial care and partial hospitalization, when provided via telehealth, shall be cumulative and included in a single per diem payment.

If you have any question concerning this Newsletter, please contact the DMAHS Office of Customer Service at 609-631-4641.

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