



Expand Access to Services through Telehealth Services and Integrated Care

Telehealth: Support Expanded Definition of “Originating Site”

- The Executive Budget proposes expanding the Medicaid reimbursement definition of “telehealth originating site,” which refers to the site where a patient is located.
 - Currently, providers can only be reimbursed by Medicaid for telehealth services if the patient is located at a licensed medical facility, private physician or dentist office, adult day care facility, or school.
 - The proposed change provides payment for telehealth services when the patient is in a variety of locations, including his or her home.
- Expanded access to telehealth services benefits both patients and providers by increasing access to care and addressing workforce shortages.
- Permitting patients to receive telehealth services in their own homes will vastly increase access for those who live in rural areas, have limited access to transportation, and/or have physical disabilities that may make travel difficult.

CHCANYS urges the Legislature to support the expanded definition of “originating site” for purposes of Medicaid reimbursement.

Integrated Care: Support Elimination of Limits on Volume of Care

- The Executive Budget proposes eliminating the limits on the volume of substance use and mental health services provided in a primary care setting.
 - Currently, primary care providers must obtain separate operating licenses from both the Office of Mental Health and the Office of Alcoholism and Substance and Abuse Services in order to provide mental health and substance use disorder services above a certain volume threshold.
- Eliminating the volume threshold would eliminate the administrative burden and additional expense of obtaining additional operating licenses and promote greater integration of care.
- This is the first step in the State’s efforts to create a more flexible model for integrated licensure.

CHCANYS urges the Legislature to support the elimination of volume limits on services provided in a primary care setting.