

School-Based Telehealth Workgroup

August 22, 2018

Meeting Summary

Key discussion items included:

- The Hilltop Institute presented an overview of school-based telehealth/teletherapy administrative and reimbursement policies. The presentation highlighted the distinction between school health services and school-based health centers (SBHCs) in Maryland as it relates to staffing models, services provided, requirements for individualized education program (IEP) services, and third party reimbursement requirements and funding mechanisms for telehealth and teletherapy services in schools.
- Workgroup members discussed the different models of school health services and SBHCs, funding challenges for SBHCs, and the current use of telehealth services in schools. Workgroup members also discussed some of the challenges under the current regulatory environment, including the absence of standards or a model for billing for telehealth through school health services, scope of practice requirements for originating site billing, and the lack of third party reimbursement for teletherapy for IEP services.
- The MHCC outlined the approach for guiding future workgroup deliberations. The MHCC developed a set of information-gathering tables on three key discussion categories: engagement, finance and sustainability, and care delivery and coordination. The tables are designed to gather benefits, barriers, challenges, and solutions for each discussion item. The tables are organized by school setting: school health services, SBHCs, and IEP/special education services, as each setting has its own policy considerations. The goal is to develop recommendations by summer 2019.
- *The MHCC intends to distribute the information-gathering document to workgroup members, as well as guidance for providing feedback.*
- *The MHCC intends to host a webinar for a more in-depth discussion around Medicaid reimbursement for telehealth services in schools, including originating and distant site provider requirements and managed care organization policies in response to workgroup inquiries.*
- *The workgroup is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at MHCC. Meeting materials will be posted to the workgroup [webpage](#) prior to the meeting.*