

# School-Based Telehealth Workgroup

*October 29, 2018*

## *Meeting Summary*

Key discussion items include:

- The workgroup reviewed version 3 of the information gathering tables (tables) designed to collect information about benefits, barriers/challenges, and solutions on topic areas relevant to school-based telehealth. The MHCC plans to use these tables as the foundation for drafting recommendations.
- The workgroup reviewed tables 1 through 5. These tables focused on implementation, building awareness, ensuring the continuum of care and care coordination, technology, and the administrative components of telehealth in schools.
- The workgroup identified the benefits, barriers/challenges, and solutions for tables 6 to 8. Table 6 discussion focused on expanding telehealth in schools within existing telehealth compliance requirements, including the school-based health center (SBHC) application process, standards, and reporting. Some benefits identified were consistency for monitoring, reporting, and evaluating telehealth programs, as well as child and provider protection. Barriers/challenges included lack of statute/regulations for SBHCs, school's technical infrastructure, and using telehealth as a completely separate service offering from the services currently being delivered in schools through a SBHC. Possible solutions identified included creating policy for the use of telehealth in schools including school health services and determining the core competencies needed for the team establishing the telehealth program.
- Discussions of tables 7 and 8 focused on funding and reimbursement models. Benefits included cost savings to the school/school districts by augmenting/expanding services with telehealth versus hiring additional staff. Barriers/challenges include services to support students with Individualized Education Programs are not reimbursable by Medicaid through telehealth, as they are in person, resulting in a school district losing funding if services are delivered via telehealth. Additional barriers regarding Medicaid provider types and commercial payor reimbursement for out of network providers were also discussed. Solutions discussed were developing a cost-sharing model for telehealth encounters, increasing services and provider types reimbursable through Medicaid, and commercial carriers adding more SBHCs as in-network providers.
- *The workgroup is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm EST at MHCC. The workgroup will continue to discuss the informational gathering tables and initial recommendations. Meeting materials will be posted to the workgroup [webpage](#) prior to the meeting.*