



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5445

February Session, 2014



**AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID COVERAGE OF
TELEMONITORING SERVICES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2014*) (a) For purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Department" means the Department of Social Services.

4 (2) "Evidence-based best practices" means the integration of the best
5 available research with clinical expertise in the context of patient
6 characteristics and preferences.

7 (3) "Home health care agency" has the same meaning as provided in
8 section 19a-490 of the general statutes.

9 (4) "Home telemonitoring service" means a health service included
10 in an integrated plan of care written by a treating physician that
11 requires (A) scheduled remote monitoring of data related to a patient's
12 health, (B) interpretation of transmitted data by a home health care
13 agency licensed pursuant to chapter 368v of the general statutes, (C)
14 dissemination of such data by such home health care agency to a
15 treating physician, and (D) follow-up by a health care professional in
16 the home or referrals for care as determined medically necessary by a
17 treating physician. Scheduled remote monitoring of data may include,

18 but not be limited to, monitoring of the patient's blood pressure, heart
19 rate, weight and oxygen level.

20 (b) To the extent permissible under federal law, the department
21 shall provide Medicaid coverage for services performed by a home
22 health care agency using a home telemonitoring service for a Medicaid
23 beneficiary with (1) serious or chronic medical conditions that may
24 result in frequent or recurrent hospitalizations and emergency room
25 admissions, (2) a documented history of poor adherence to ordered
26 medication regimes, (3) a documented history of falls in the six-month
27 period prior to evaluation of the need for telemonitoring, (4) limited or
28 absent informal support systems, (5) a documented history of
29 challenges with access to care, or (6) a history of living alone or being
30 home alone for extended periods of time. The department shall
31 establish coverage criteria for home telemonitoring based on evidence-
32 based best practices.

33 (c) The department shall ensure that clinical information gathered
34 by a home health care agency while providing home telemonitoring
35 services is shared with the patient's treating physician and may impose
36 other reasonable requirements on the use of home telemonitoring
37 services. The Commissioner of Social Services shall adopt regulations,
38 in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the
39 provisions of this section.

40 (d) Pursuant to section 17b-8 of the general statutes, the
41 Commissioner of Social Services may seek a waiver from federal
42 Medicaid requirements or an amendment to the Medicaid state plan if
43 necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

44 (e) The transmission, storage and dissemination of data and records
45 related to telemonitoring services shall be in accordance with federal
46 and state laws and regulations concerning the privacy, security,
47 confidentiality and safeguarding of individually identifiable
48 information.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2014</i>	New section
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HS *Joint Favorable Subst.*