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Telemonitoring Benefit Changes for Texas Medicaid

Background:

Home telemonitoring services are currently a benefit of Texas Medicaid for clients diagnosed with diabetes or hypertension. Per House Bill 1063, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, the home telemonitoring benefit has been expanded to include services for pediatric clients with specific conditions. Documentation and prior authorization requirements have also been updated.

Key Details:

Effective October 1, 2020, telemonitoring services are now a benefit for clients who are 20 years of age and younger, with one or more of the following conditions:

- End-stage solid organ disease
- Organ transplant recipient
- Requiring mechanical ventilation

Documentation Requirement Updates

The client's medical record must include data transmission information that demonstrates the use of monitoring equipment, such as:

- Date of transmission
- Frequency of transmission
- Clinical data provided to the client's primary care physician, or his or her designee

The telemonitoring equipment must be capable of measuring and transmitting client weight, oxygen levels in blood, glucose levels in blood, or blood pressure data.

The registered nurse, nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant in a licensed home health agency or a hospital is responsible for reporting data to the prescribing physician. Scheduled periodic reporting of the client data to the physician is required at least once every 30 days.

Documentation supporting medical necessity for telemonitoring services must be maintained in the client's medical record by the entity providing the service (home health agency or hospital) and is subject to retrospective review. All paid telemonitoring services not supported by documentation of medical necessity are subject to recoupment.

Additional Information:

A provider notice was also released and is available on the TMHP website.

Contact:

carina.luther@hhs.texas.gov

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