



## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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**Broadcast Msg#209**

Wednesday, August 26, 2015

**TO:** Executive Directors, Behavioral Health Directors, and Utilization Managers  
Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs)  
North Texas Behavioral Health Authority (NTBHA)  
ValueOptions

**FROM:** Mary Sowder, Director   
Program Services Section  
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Division

**RE:** Update for Children's Mental Health Service Array in regards to telemedicine school-based settings as an allowed patient site

The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is updating the Children's Mental Health service array for Fiscal Year 2016, following the passing of HB 1878 in the 84<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session. HB 1878 relates to the provision of telemedicine medical services in a school-based setting as an allowed patient site, including the reimbursement of providers under the Medicaid program for those services.

### Summary of HB 1878 amendments

HB 1878 allows for the provision of telemedicine medical services in a school-based setting, **effective September 1, 2015**. HB 1878 amends Section 531.0217, Government Code, adding Subsections (c-4) and (g-1) and amending Subsection (g) to read as follows:

(c-4) The commission shall ensure that Medicaid reimbursement is provided to a physician for a telemedicine medical service provided by the physician, even if the physician is not the patient's primary care physician or provider, if:

- (1) the physician is an authorized health care provider under Medicaid;
- (2) the patient is a child who receives the service in a primary or secondary school-based setting;
- (3) the parent or legal guardian of the patient provides consent before the service is provided; and
- (4) a health professional is present with the patient during the treatment.

(g) If a patient receiving a telemedicine medical service has a primary care physician or provider and consents or, if appropriate, the patient's parent or legal guardian consents to the notification, the commission shall require that the primary care physician or provider be notified of the telemedicine medical service for the purpose of sharing medical information. In the case of a service provided to a child in a school-based setting as described by Subsection (c-4), the notification, if any, must include a summary of the service, including exam findings, prescribed or administered medications, and patient instructions.

(g-1) If a patient receiving a telemedicine medical service in a school-based setting as described by Subsection (c-4) does not have a primary care physician or provider, the commission shall require that the patient's parent or legal guardian receive:

(1) the notification required under Subsection (g); and

(2) a list of primary care physicians or providers from which the patient may select the patient's primary care physician or provider.

Summary of Changes to the Service Array:

The Children's Mental Health service array will be updated to reflect these legislative changes. The changes are effective on September 1, 2015. The array change log is posted on the Mental Retardation and Behavioral Health Outpatient Warehouse (MBOW) homepage. The log has been updated to correspond with the amendments of HB 1878 that address a school-based setting as a patient site location for telemedicine services.

DSHS is expanding the following base PROCEDURE\_CDs to include telemedicine services provided in a school-based setting, SVC\_LOCATION\_CD = SC (i.e., School Setting): psychiatric diagnostic interview examination (90791, 90792), pharmacological management psychotherapy add-on (90833, 90836, 90838) and pharmacological management (99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215, 99241, 99242, 99243, 99244, 99245).

For questions regarding the change to the service array, please e-mail Rosa Hernandez at [Rosa.Hernandez@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:Rosa.Hernandez@dshs.state.tx.us).

For questions regarding this broadcast message, please contact Brettany Boozer at [Brettany.Boozer@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:Brettany.Boozer@dshs.state.tx.us).