



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

November 10, 2021

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Bldg.
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass
Chair, House Health and Governmental
Operations Committee
241 House Office Bldg.
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Chapter 480/479 of the Acts of 2019 (SB 524/HB 605) – Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Telemedicine – Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners and Psychiatrists (MSAR # 12021)

Dear Chairs Kelley and Pendergrass:

In keeping with the requirements of Senate Bill (SB) 524/House Bill (HB) 605 (Chapter 480/479 of the Acts of 2019), the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this report to provide the committees with information on Medical Assistance Program general fund expenditures related to the implementation of Section 1 of this Act.

Section 1 of SB 524/HB 605 requires that the types of providers eligible to receive reimbursement for Medicaid services delivered via telehealth must include the provision of assertive community treatment (ACT) or mobile treatment services (MTS) in a home- or community-based setting by psychiatric nurse practitioners. The bill also requires MDH to report on the effect on Medicaid general fund expenditures of reimbursing for services delivered via telehealth from psychiatric nurse practitioners providing ACT or MTS. The bill sunsetted on September 30, 2021.

MDH implemented this coverage expansion effective October 1, 2018. Since that time, MDH has not observed a substantial expansion-related increase in service utilization or general fund expenditures for psychiatric nurse practitioners who provide ACT or MTS in a home- or community-based setting via telehealth.

If you have questions about this report, please contact Heather Shek, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs, at 410-767-5282 or heather.shek@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Dennis R. Schrader
Secretary

Cc: Steven R. Schuh, Deputy Secretary, Health Care Financing and Medicaid
Heather Shek, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs
Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies) MSAR # 12021