



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES  
Bureau for Medical Services

Bill J. Crouch  
Cabinet Secretary

Cynthia E. Beane  
Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

TO: WV Medicaid Community Psychiatric Support Treatment Providers

FROM: Cynthia Beane, MSW, LCSW  
Commissioner

DATE: March 26, 2020

SUBJECT: Community Psychiatric Support Treatment Providers (CSU)

Due to the World Health Organization declaring Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) a pandemic, the West Virginia Bureau for Medical Services (BMS) effective March 27, 2020, and concerning the requirements in Chapter 503 under section 503.21.2 starting on pg. 37 as stated below:

1. *"There must be a minimum of two staff present onsite when Community Psychiatric Supportive Treatment is provided, one of which must have at least high school degree or equivalency, trained in systematic de-escalation, and must have training related to the targeted population being treated (i.e. substance abuse, mental health). The other staff must have an LPN or higher degree in the medical field (See Glossary for further clarifications)."*

BMS is waiving the requirement that the one of the two staff required must be an LPN or higher degree in the medical field. You may utilize the high school degree or equivalency trained as stated above; also known as Behavioral Health Technicians to fulfill the second required staff present at the CSU.

2. *"**Telehealth:** Available with GT Modifier for medical services provided by a physician, PA, or APRN only in extenuating circumstances. Daily face to face meeting with physician must be in person."*

BMS is considering the COVID-19 pandemic an extenuating circumstance. Medical and Clinical Staff may utilize Telehealth or Telephonic Modalities if needed to render services. Please utilize H0036 with a Place of Service 02 for these services.

BMS will continue to monitor the situation and work closely with our state and federal partners gathering further information and directives and will provide further notification if an extension of these suspended requirements is received.