

S.234

An act relating to Medicaid coverage for home telemonitoring services

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 1901g is added to read:

§ 1901g. MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR HOME TELEMONITORING
SERVICES

(a) The Agency of Human Services shall provide Medicaid coverage for home telemonitoring services performed by home health agencies or other qualified providers as defined by the Agency of Human Services for Medicaid beneficiaries who have serious or chronic medical conditions that can result in frequent or recurrent hospitalizations and emergency room admissions. The Agency shall use evidence-based best practices to determine the conditions or risk factors to be covered.

(b) A home health agency or other qualified providers as defined by the Agency of Human Services shall ensure that clinical information gathered by the home health agency or other qualified providers as defined by the Agency of Human Services while providing home telemonitoring services is shared with the patient's treating health care professionals. The Agency of Human Services may impose other reasonable requirements on the use of home telemonitoring services.

(c) As used in this section:

(1) “Home health agency” means an entity that has received a certificate of need from the State to provide home health services and is certified to provide services pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1395x(o).

(2) “Home telemonitoring service” means a health service that requires scheduled remote monitoring of data related to a patient’s health, in conjunction with a home health plan of care, and access to the data by a home health agency or other qualified providers as defined by the Agency of Human Services.

Sec. 2. GRANT FUNDING

The Department of Vermont Health Access and home health agencies shall seek to maximize opportunities for grant funding to offset start-up, equipment, technology, maintenance, and other costs related to home telemonitoring in order to minimize the expense to the Medicaid program.

Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.