Recent Telemedicine Services Guidance for Licensed Health Care Practitioners (Podiatry Included) During Coronavirus Emergency

New Telemedicine Services guidance recently issued applies to PODIATRY as well as other specialty boards. To view these guidelines provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services CLICK TELEHEALTH.

Health care professionals licensed under any of the Department of State’s Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA) licensing boards can provide services to patients via telemedicine during the coronavirus emergency. Currently, no Pennsylvania law prohibits the practice of telemedicine.

1) All practitioners using telemedicine in Pennsylvania must remain informed on all federal and state laws, regulations and guidance regarding telemedicine, including a practitioner’s obligations under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

2) Note that authorization to engage in telemedicine from a professional licensing standpoint is separate and apart from any insurance coverage/payment issues that fall under the Department of Health, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Insurance, or any other state or federal agency.

“Telemedicine provides healthcare professionals flexibility to continue treating their patients while following best practices on social distancing as outlined by the Department of Health,” Secretary Boockvar said. “The department requested, and Governor Wolf granted us, the authority to allow health care professionals from out-of-state to treat Pennsylvania residents using telemedicine, when appropriate, due to COVID-19.”