
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 130 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY BIZZARRO, MADDEN, KINSEY, CIRESI, VENKAT, SANCHEZ,
HILL-EVANS, OTTEN, KINKEAD, N. NELSON AND D. WILLIAMS,
MARCH 7, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS, MARCH 7, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 35 (Health and Safety) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for certification of
3 community paramedicine providers, for community paramedicine
4 service coverage by casualty insurance carriers and for
5 medical assistance reimbursement.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Title 35 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
9 Statutes is amended by adding a chapter to read:

10 CHAPTER 41

11 COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE SERVICES

12 Subchapter

13 A. Preliminary Provisions

14 B. Community Paramedicine Services

15 C. Financial Provisions

16 SUBCHAPTER A

17 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

18 Sec.

1 4101. Definitions.

2 § 4101. Definitions.

3 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
4 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
5 context clearly indicates otherwise:

6 "Community paramedicine provider." An individual who is
7 certified as an EMS provider with additional training under 28
8 Pa. Code Pt. VII (relating to emergency medical services) and
9 who has successfully completed an education program for
10 community paramedicine health care as prescribed by the
11 department by regulation. A community paramedicine provider
12 shall also be considered a "community health worker" for
13 purposes under 42 U.S.C. § 280g-11 (relating to grants to
14 promote positive health behaviors and outcomes).

15 "Community paramedicine services." Services, provided by
16 certified EMS providers acting within their scope of practice
17 under 28 Pa. Code Pt. VII, to provide outreach, injury and
18 illness prevention and assistance, based on local need, to
19 patients who do not require emergency medical transportation.

20 "Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

21 "Emergency medical services agency medical director" or "EMS
22 agency medical director." As defined in section 8103 (relating
23 to definitions).

24 "Emergency medical services provider" or "EMS provider." As
25 defined in section 8103.

26 "Health insurance policy." As follows:

27 (1) An individual or group health insurance policy,
28 subscriber contract, certificate or plan that provides
29 medical or health care coverage by any health care facility
30 or licensed health care provider that is offered by or is

1 governed under the act of May 17, 1921 (P.L.682, No.284),
2 known as The Insurance Company Law of 1921, or any of the
3 following:

4 (i) Subarticle (f) of Article IV of the act of June
5 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services
6 Code.

7 (ii) The act of December 29, 1972 (P.L.1701,
8 No.364), known as the Health Maintenance Organization
9 Act.

10 (iii) A nonprofit corporation subject to 40 Pa.C.S.
11 Ch. 61 (relating to hospital plan corporations) or 63
12 (relating to professional health services plan
13 corporations).

14 (2) The term includes a Medicare supplement policy.
15 "Physician." As defined in section 8103.

16 SUBCHAPTER B

17 COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE SERVICES

18 Sec.

19 4111. Certification.

20 4112. Status.

21 4113. Regulations.

22 § 4111. Certification.

23 An individual who is certified for any of the types of EMS
24 providers enumerated under section 8113(a) (relating to
25 emergency medical services providers) shall be permitted to
26 provide community paramedicine services, subject to disciplinary
27 action under section 8121 (relating to certification sanctions).

28 § 4112. Status.

29 A community paramedicine provider shall be deemed an
30 emergency medical services provider for purposes of Chapter 81

1 (relating to emergency medical services system).

2 § 4113. Regulations.

3 Within one year of the effective date of this section, the
4 department shall promulgate regulations to carry out the
5 provisions of this chapter. The regulations shall establish
6 certification, practice, disciplinary and other standards
7 consistent with the purposes of this chapter and with the
8 requirements applicable to EMS providers, except as necessary to
9 meet the need for community paramedicine providers.

10 SUBCHAPTER C

11 FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

12 Sec.

13 4121. Casualty insurance coverage.

14 4122. Medical assistance reimbursement.

15 § 4121. Casualty insurance coverage.

16 (a) General rule.--A health insurance policy delivered,
17 issued, executed or renewed in this Commonwealth on or after the
18 effective date of this section shall provide coverage for
19 community paramedicine services.

20 (b) Copayments, coinsurance and deductible amounts.--
21 Coverage under this chapter shall remain subject to any
22 copayment, coinsurance or deductible amounts set forth in the
23 policy.

24 (c) Prerequisites for coverage.--To qualify for coverage
25 under this chapter, community paramedicine services must be part
26 of a care plan ordered by an EMS agency medical director,
27 primary health care provider or health insurer as follows:

28 (1) The care plan should ensure that community
29 paramedicine services provided by a community paramedicine
30 provider are coordinated with other community resources where

1 available.

2 (2) Community paramedicine services shall not duplicate
3 services already provided to the patient.

4 (3) Community paramedicine services shall include the
5 following:

6 (i) Coordination of community services.

7 (ii) Health assessment.

8 (iii) Chronic disease monitoring and education.

9 (iv) Medication compliance.

10 (v) Hospital discharge follow-up care.

11 (vi) Minor medical procedures ordered by an
12 emergency medical services agency medical director or
13 primary health care provider.

14 (vii) Such other services as approved by regulation
15 of the department.

16 (d) Duty of Department of Human Services.--The Department of
17 Human Services shall seek such waivers or Federal approvals as
18 may be necessary to ensure that actions taken under this section
19 comply with applicable Federal law.

20 (e) Nonapplicability.--This section shall not apply to the
21 following types of policies:

22 (1) Limited benefit.

23 (2) Credit.

24 (3) Dental.

25 (4) Vision.

26 (5) Long-term care or disability income.

27 § 4122. Medical assistance reimbursement.

28 (a) Duty of Secretary of Human Services.--The Secretary of
29 Human Services shall, in consultation with the department and
30 representatives of emergency medical services providers,

1 physicians and local public health agencies, determine specified
2 services and payment rates for community paramedicine services
3 performed by community paramedicine providers under this chapter
4 that are to be covered by medical assistance under the laws of
5 this Commonwealth.

6 (b) Payment.--

7 (1) Payment for community paramedicine services under
8 this chapter must be part of a care plan ordered by a primary
9 health care provider or emergency medical services agency
10 medical director of an ambulance service and must be billed
11 by an eligible provider enrolled in medical assistance that
12 employs or contracts with the community paramedicine
13 provider.

14 (2) In determining the community paramedicine services
15 to include under medical assistance coverage, the Secretary
16 of Human Services shall consider the potential of hospital
17 admittance, emergency room utilization deductions, need for
18 social services and increased access to quality care.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.