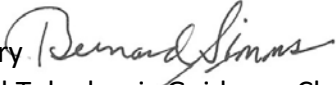




DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

To: DDA Stakeholders
From: Bernard Simons, Deputy Secretary 
Re: Nursing Services - Telehealth and Telephonic Guidance Clarification
Date: March 15, 2021
Effective: April 1, 2021

NOTE: Please inform appropriate staff members of the contents of this memorandum.

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) released [MDH COVID-19 #16: DDA Waivers Programs Telehealth and Telephonic Guidance on April 13, 2020](#). As a result, many of the DDA Case Management/Delegation (CM DN) nurses converted to doing telehealth visits primarily. This memo provides clarification to the above guidance.

The MDH's memo provided guidance that included encouraging telehealth whenever possible, but also stated that staff must continue to comply with other requirements and guidance from MDH's Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) and the Maryland Board of Nursing (MBON).

The MBON modified the language in COMAR 10.27.11.04C requiring a delegating nurse case manager to perform a supervisory **on-site** visit to the client from every 45 days to every 60 days during the state of emergency. [Maryland Board of Nursing Public Notice](#) The modification does not mention telehealth supervisory visits, and therefore must be performed in person.

Therefore, all DDA providers providing nursing services (whether as a component of meaningful day or residential services or a standalone Nursing Support Services) must comply with COMAR 10.27.11 requirements, including supervisory on-site visits, to the extent they have been suspended or amended by MBON during this pandemic. These requirements are solely under the MBON's authority, governing the delegating nurses' licensure requirements. The DDA and the OHCQ have no authority to amend or abridge these requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact Adrienne Hollimon, Director of Nursing, at adrienne.hollimon@maryland.gov

CC: Carol Fenderson, Deputy Director, Office of Health Care Quality
Patricia Sastoque, DDA Program Director
DDA Regional Directors