March 30, 2020

Guidance for Out-of-State Health Care Providers using Telehealth Services in Illinois

On March 19, 2020, Governor Pritzker issued Executive Order 2020-9 on telehealth services (Executive Order to Expand Telehealth Services and Protect Health Care Providers in Response to COVID-19). The Executive Order recognized that "the CDC, taking note of a need to reduce unnecessary healthcare visits and prevent transmission of respiratory viruses at healthcare facilities, currently recommends that healthcare providers increase the use of telehealth systems, formal or otherwise, to access and care for patients to decrease the volume of persons seeking care in facilities." The Executive Order further noted the need to "take measures to ensure the provision and coverage of health care services while the public and health care providers are subject to quarantine."

The Department interprets Executive Order 2020-9 to permit an out-of-state health care provider not licensed in Illinois to continue to provide health care services to an Illinois patient via telehealth where there is a previously established provider/patient relationship. The Department deems such a provider to be "authorized to practice in the State of Illinois" pursuant to Section 5 of the Executive Order without further need to obtain licensure in Illinois.