

Summary

Home-based care options are not restricted to those offered by hospital systems. In recent years, particularly during the COVID19 pandemic, several innovative models have come to the forefront. With advancements in medical technology, patients can receive a broad range of health services in their home, including acute care, post-acute care, primary care, behavioral health care, palliative care, dialysis and infusion therapies, and behavioral health services.

As regulators consider extensions of waivers and regulations created during the PHE, it will be important to embrace proven models operating today that are providing cost effective high value care while also creating an environment that promotes further innovation. These new models can add value to our overall public health system and offer relief when the more traditional systems of care are challenged.

Policy Recommendations

- Reduce barriers to obtaining **Certificates of Need** for new home care models.
- **Extend the CMS Hospital at Home Waiver** beyond the Public Health Emergency.
- Support **value-based care and other payment models** to offer patients care outside of the hospital.
- Support sustainable policies to **support a skilled workforce.**
 - **Amend scope of practice laws**
 - **Invest in Home Care Training**
- Expand and improve **broadband access** for rural and underserved communities.

Highlights of Home-based Care



Home-based care advances person-focused care by equipping providers with a layer of insight to the social drivers that contribute to a patient's health.



Home-based care reduces hospital acquired infections, decreases risk of exposure to other illnesses, and reduces other clinical complications.



Home-based care improves patient satisfaction, reduces readmission rates, and lowers costs when compared to facility-based care.

Policy Recommendations

1) **Reform Certificates of Need for New Home Care Models.**

- Reform Certificate of Need processes (legislative and/or regulatory) to reduce approval timelines and limit the ability of legacy facility-based providers to use the process to delay projects and limit competition.

2) **Extend the CMS Hospital at Home Waiver beyond the Public Health Emergency.**

- Ensure patients continue to have access to safe and effective inpatient-level care available in their homes.

3) **Site of Care Collaboration**

- Support value-based care and payment models – an alternative that can offer patients better, more convenient, and more affordable care outside of the hospital.

4) **Support a Skilled Workforce**

- Support legislative efforts to expand/amend scope of practice laws, allowing non-physicians to practice at the top of their licenses. Promote state efforts to invest in home care training

5) **Expand and Improve Broadband Access.**

- Promote legislative efforts to invest in health care infrastructure by expanding access to virtual care technologies and rural broadband.