



**NDMA 2020 Policy Forum
October 13, 2020**

Policy No. 2

Submitted By: NDMA Commission on Legislation

Subject: Telemedicine Payment Parity

Summary:

North Dakota does not have a telemedicine payment parity law.

Relevant Information:

- Interest in and implementation of telemedicine has expanded rapidly during the crisis.
- The federal government has focused on loosening restrictions on telemedicine in the Medicare program, including allowing beneficiaries from any geographic location to access services from their homes, and reimburse for telemedicine the same way they would for in-person care.
- HHS has waived enforcement of HIPAA for telemedicine, while the DEA has loosened requirements on e-prescribing of controlled substances.
- In 2017, the North Dakota legislature passed coverage parity of telemedicine.
- The statute allows for the insurance company to negotiate with the healthcare entity for reimbursement.
- Payment parity is necessary to make the model sustainable.

Proposed Action:

NDMA should support telemedicine payment parity in the 2020 ND Legislative Session.