



# MEMO

**To:** TennCare Managed Care Organizations (MCOs)  
**From:** Keith Gaither, Managed Care Operations Director  
**Date:** July 2, 2020  
**Subject:** COVID-19 Guidance

On June 29, 2020, Governor Bill Lee signed Executive Order No. 50 which extends the State of Emergency related to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic to August 29, 2020. In response to Executive Order No. 50, TennCare and our Managed Care Organizations are extending the all current telehealth coverage policies through August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020. This telehealth extension also includes extending coverage of telehealth for skilled therapies (physical therapy, speech therapy, and occupational therapy). Executive Order No. 50 does extend the authorization of providers previously prohibited from practicing telemedicine under state law to be able to do so through August 29, 2020.

As August 29, 2020 approaches, TennCare and our MCOs will re-evaluate our telehealth policy and will provide additional guidance closer to this time. We recognize that these temporary telehealth policy changes need to be continued for a longer period and hope that the continued coverage of telehealth will allow you to provide safe and effective care to our members. Each MCO will continue to evaluate its telehealth policies through August 29<sup>th</sup> and provide further guidance at that time regarding any further new changes in telehealth coverage policy.