

03/22/20

CLARIFYING EMAIL IN RESPONSE TO “FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION – COVID19”

Dear Licensee,

A few questions have been sent in response to the initial email sent with the Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION: COVID19. This is to provide clarification for others who may have the same questions:

1. The Order issued by LDH “directs” that you go immediately to a telehealth model where possible and if it is appropriate. Section II of the Order speaks clearly to this.
2. Neither LDH’s Order nor LSBEP’s email imply in any way that you should stop patient care, or only administer patient care in an emergency via telehealth. Again, refer to Section II of the Order. You must use your clinical judgment on a case by case to consider the following:
 - a. Can telepsychology be implemented safely and meet the same standard of care as an in-person visit? (see LSBEP WEBSITE for guidelines Telepsychology and HIPPA standards in response to COVID19)
 - b. What cases can be safely postponed for 30 days if telepsychology cannot be implemented safely and meet the same standard of care as an in-person visit?
 - c. Should in person treatment continue (case by case basis) if the licensee is not able to move toward a telehealth platform; or if based on the definition of “emergency medical condition” it is determined that in person treatment is in the best interest of the patient?