

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1580

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit the use of certain psychological evaluation via telehealth for Medicare coverage of neurostimulation services for the treatment of chronic pain.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 3, 2021

Mr. LATTA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit the use of certain psychological evaluation via telehealth for Medicare coverage of neurostimulation services for the treatment of chronic pain.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Improving Access to
5 Alternative Pain Management Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PERMITTING CERTAIN PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUA-**
2 **TIONS VIA TELEHEALTH FOR MEDICARE COV-**
3 **ERAGE OF NEUROSTIMULATION SERVICES**
4 **FOR THE TREATMENT OF CHRONIC PAIN.**

5 (a) PERMITTING USE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUA-
6 TION VIA TELEHEALTH FOR PURPOSES OF CERTAIN COV-
7 ERAGE OF NEUROSTIMULATION SERVICES.—Section 1834
8 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m) is amended
9 by adding at the end the following:

10 “(z) USE OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION VIA
11 TELEHEALTH FOR PURPOSES OF COVERAGE OF
12 NEUROSTIMULATION SERVICES FOR THE TREATMENT OF
13 CHRONIC PAIN.—Notwithstanding any other provision of
14 this title, beginning January 1, 2022, for coverage under
15 this part of neurostimulation services, as identified under
16 the National Coverage Determination section 160.7, titled
17 Medicare National Coverage Determination for Electrical
18 Nerve Stimulators, as in effect on January 1, 2020, for
19 the treatment of chronic pain, any requirement for a psy-
20 chological evaluation prior to receipt of the service may
21 be satisfied through such an evaluation via telehealth.”.

22 (b) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN PSYCHOLOGICAL EVAL-
23 UATIONS AS TELEHEALTH SERVICES.—Section
24 1834(m)(4)(F)(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
25 1395m(4)(F)(i)) is amended by inserting before the period
26 at the end the following: “, and, beginning January 1,

1 2022, shall include psychological evaluations (identified by
2 CPT codes 96130, 96131, 96136, 96137, 96138, and
3 96139 and any successor codes and additional codes the
4 Secretary determines may be necessary to perform the
5 psychological evaluation furnished prior to the provision
6 of neurostimulation services) furnished prior to the provi-
7 sion of neurostimulation services (as described in section
8 1834(z)) for the purpose of treating chronic pain”.

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