



March 6, 2018

To Members of the New York State Legislature:

The organizations represented above strongly support and ask for your support for the inclusion in the enacted 2018-2019 Enacted State Budget of Part S, Subpart A of the Article VII budget bill, S.7507/A9507 2805-z: Community Paramedicine (CP) Collaboratives. This provision would allow hospitals, physicians, home care agencies, and emergency medical services agencies to create collaboratives to allow emergency medical services personnel to provide care in circumstances other than the initial emergency medical care and transportation of the sick and injured to the hospital.

New York's health care system is in a period of rapid and comprehensive transformational change precipitated by the implementation of the Federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the New York State Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT), as well as New York's 1115 Medicaid DSRIP waiver. These initiatives are all directed to achievement of the "Triple Aim" (improving care quality and the experience of care while lowering the per capita cost of care). The State's plan to reach the "Triple Aim" is to redesign its health care system focused on population health and patient-centered care accompanied by value-based payment (VBP).

The CP Collaborative can be a key strategy to achieve this goal by serving to assist at-risk individuals living in the community to reduce preventable hospital admissions, readmissions, and hospital emergency department visits. Furthermore, CP Collaboratives offer the opportunity for improved integration of care across the continuum and early identification of patient need and referral for care leading to life and health saving interventions. Experience in other states has shown cost savings to the health care system and progress toward the Triple Aim from the implementation of CP while delivering quality appropriate health care. There is no reason to expect that New York State will not have the same result.

It is essential that New York State's health care providers be given the tools and the flexibility to achieve the goals that have been laid out at both the Federal and State level. We appreciate the Governor's inclusion of the CP Collaborative initiative in his proposed budget and ask again for your support to assure that it is included in the final enacted 2018-2019 State Budget.

Sincerely,

Iroquois Healthcare Alliance
Greater New York Hospital Association
Healthcare Association of New York State
United New York Ambulance Network
1199SEIU
New York Mobile Integrated Healthcare Association
New York State Volunteer Ambulance and Rescue Association
Primary Care Development Corporation
New York Chapter American College of Emergency Physicians