

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 38.2-3407.14:1, relating to health
3 insurance; proton radiation therapy; standard of clinical evidence for benefit coverage decisions.

4 [H 1656]

5 Approved

6 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

7 1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered § 38.2-3407.14:1 as
8 follows:9 § 38.2-3407.14:1. *Standard of clinical evidence for decisions on coverage for proton radiation*
10 *therapy.*

11 A. As used in this section, unless the context requires a different meaning:

12 "Carrier" means an insurer proposing to issue individual or group accident and sickness insurance
13 policies providing hospital, medical and surgical, or major medical coverage on an expense-incurred
14 basis; a corporation providing individual or group accident and sickness subscription contracts; or a
15 health maintenance organization providing a health care plan for health care services.16 "Proton radiation therapy" means the advanced form of radiation therapy treatment that utilizes
17 protons as an alternative radiation delivery method for the treatment of tumors.18 "Radiation therapy treatment" means a cancer treatment through which a dose of radiation to induce
19 tumor cell death is delivered by means of proton radiation therapy, intensity modulated radiation
20 therapy, brachytherapy, stereotactic body radiation therapy, three-dimensional conformal radiation
21 therapy, or other forms of therapy using radiation.22 B. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 38.2-3419, each policy, contract, or plan issued or provided
23 by a carrier that provides coverage for cancer therapy shall not hold proton radiation therapy to a
24 higher standard of clinical evidence for decisions regarding coverage under the policy, contract, or plan
25 than is applied for decisions regarding coverage of other types of radiation therapy treatment.26 C. Nothing in this section shall be construed to mandate the coverage of proton radiation therapy
27 under any policy, contract, or plan issued or provided by a carrier.28 D. The requirements of this section shall apply to all insurance policies, subscription contracts, and
29 health care plans delivered, issued for delivery, reissued, or extended in the Commonwealth on and after
30 January 1, 2018, or at any time thereafter when any term of the policy, contract, or plan is changed or
31 any premium adjustment is made.32 E. This section shall not apply to policies or contracts designed for issuance to persons eligible for
33 coverage under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, known as Medicare, or any other similar
34 coverage under state or federal governmental plans.

35 2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.

ENROLLED

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