

Telehealth Coding Tip Sheet

Common Terms

Distant site: where the physician or other licensed practitioner is physically located when providing telemedicine services

E-visit: A communication between a patient and their provider through an online patient portal.

Medicare Telehealth visit: A visit with a provider that uses telecommunications systems between a provider and a patient.

Originating site: where the patient is physically located when receiving telemedicine services

Telehealth: applying technologies to help patients manage their illnesses through improved self-care and access to education and support systems

Telemedicine: using technologies to diagnose, monitor, and/or treat patients remotely

Virtual check-in: A brief (5-10 minutes) check-in with your practitioner via telephone or other telecommunications device to decide whether an office visit or other service is needed. May also involve a remote evaluation of recorded video and/or images submitted by an established patient.

1135 waiver: Waiver that allows Medicare to pay for office, hospital, and other visits furnished via telehealth across the country and including in patient's places of residence starting March 6, 2020.

HHS Office of Inspector General (OIG) is also providing flexibility for healthcare providers to reduce or waive cost-sharing for telehealth visits paid by federal healthcare programs.

Equipment requirements: Interactive audio and video telecommunications system that permits real-time communication between the provider at the distant site and the patient at the originating site

Summary of Medicare Telemedicine Services we anticipate seeing a rise in

TYPE OF SERVICE	WHAT IS THE SERVICE?	HCPCS/CPT CODE	Patient Relationship with Provider
MEDICARE TELEHEALTH VISITS	A visit with a provider that uses telecommunication systems between a provider and a patient.	<p>Common telehealth services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 99201-99215 (Office or other outpatient visits) • G0425-G0427 (Telehealth consultations, emergency department or initial inpatient) • G0406-G0408 (Follow-up inpatient telehealth consultations furnished to beneficiaries in hospitals or SNFs) <p>For a complete list: https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/Telehealth/Telehealth-Codes</p>	<p>For new* or established patients.</p> <p>*To the extent the 1135 waiver requires an established relationship, HHS will not conduct audits to ensure that such a prior relationship existed for claims submitted during this public health emergency</p>
VIRTUAL CHECK-IN	A brief (5-10 minutes) check in with your practitioner via telephone or other telecommunications device to decide whether an office visit or other service is needed. A remote evaluation of recorded video and/or images submitted by an established patient.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCPCS code G2012 • HCPCS code G2010 	For established patients.
E-VISITS	A communication between a patient and their provider through an online patient portal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 99421 • 99422 • 99423 • G2061 • G2062 • G2063 	For established patients.

Modifier Use

Modifiers -95 or -GT may be appended to the code(s) reported by the distant site. Medicare does not require a modifier. Some commercial payers may.

COVID-19 Lab Testing Codes

1. Test done in a CDC laboratory: U0001
2. Test done in a non-CDC laboratory: U0002
3. Test done for payers that require CPT code instead of HCPCS: 87635

Diagnosis Coding Guidance

Effective 4/1/2020 use U07.1, COVID-19 instead of B97.29

Interim Diagnosis Coding Guidance

1. Use B97.29 for COVID-19 until the new diagnosis code is effective
2. Do not use B97.29 for suspected, possible, or probable COVID-19
3. Do not use B34.2, Coronavirus infection, unspecified
4. Pneumonia due to COVID-19: J12.89, B97.29
5. Acute bronchitis due to COVID-19: J20.8, B97.29
6. Bronchitis, nos due to COVID-19: J40, B97.29
7. Acute lower respiratory infection due to COVID-19: J22, B97.29
8. Respiratory infection, Nos due to COVID-19: J98.8, B97.29
9. Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS) due to COVID-19: J80, B97.29
10. Possible exposure to COVID-19 ruled out after evaluation: Z03.818
11. Actual exposure to someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19: Z20.828

List of additional telehealth services covered by Medicare in CY 2020

Code	Short Descriptor	Code	Short Descriptor	Code	Short Descriptor
90785	Psytx complex interactive	96116	Neurobehavioral status exam	99202	Office/outpatient visit new
90791	Psych diagnostic evaluation	96150	Assess hlth/behave init	99203	Office/outpatient visit new
90792	Psych diag eval w/med srvc	96151	Assess hlth/behave subseq	99204	Office/outpatient visit new
90832	Psytx pt&/family 30 minutes	96152	Intervene hlth/behave indiv	99205	Office/outpatient visit new
90833	Psytx pt&/fam w/e&m 30 min	96153	Intervene hlth/behave group	99211	Office/outpatient visit est
90834	Psytx pt&/family 45 minutes	96154	Interv hlth/behav fam w/pt	99212	Office/outpatient visit est
90836	Psytx pt&/fam w/e&m 45 min	90957	Esrd srv 4 vsts p mo 12-19	99213	Office/outpatient visit est
90837	Psytx pt&/family 60 minutes	90958	Esrd srv 2-3 vsts p mo 12-19	99214	Office/outpatient visit est
90838	Psytx pt&/fam w/e&m 60 min	90960	Esrd srv 4 visits p mo 20+	99215	Office/outpatient visit est
90839	Psytx crisis initial 60 min	90961	Esrd srv 2-3 vsts p mo 20+	99231	Subsequent hospital care
90840	Psytx crisis ea addl 30 min	90963	Esrd home pt serv p mo <2yrs	99232	Subsequent hospital care
90845	Psychoanalysis	90964	Esrd home pt serv p mo 2-11	99233	Subsequent hospital care
90846	Family psytx w/o patient	90965	Esrd home pt serv p mo 12-19	99307	Nursing fac care subseq
90847	Family psytx w/patient	90966	Esrd home pt serv p mo 20+	99308	Nursing fac care subseq
90951	Esrd serv 4 visits p mo <2yr	90967	Esrd home pt serv p day <2	99309	Nursing fac care subseq
90952	Esrd serv 2-3 vsts p mo <2yr	90968	Esrd home pt serv p day 2-11	99310	Nursing fac care subseq
90954	Esrd serv 4 vsts p mo 2-11	90969	Esrd home pt serv p day 12-19	99354	Prolonged service office
90955	Esrd srv 2-3 vsts p mo 2-11	90970	Esrd home pt serv p day 20+	99355	Prolonged service office
90957	Esrd srv 4 vsts p mo 12-19	96116	Neurobehavioral status exam	99356	Prolonged service inpatient
90958	Esrd srv 2-3 vsts p mo 12-19	96150	Assess hlth/behave init	99357	Prolonged service inpatient
90960	Esrd srv 4 visits p mo 20+	96151	Assess hlth/behave subseq	99406	Behav chng smoking 3-10 min
90961	Esrd srv 2-3 vsts p mo 20+	96152	Intervene hlth/behave indiv	99407	Behav chng smoking > 10 min
90963	Esrd home pt serv p mo <2yrs	96153	Intervene hlth/behave group	99495	Trans care mgmt 14 day disch
90964	Esrd home pt serv p mo 2-11	96154	Interv hlth/behav fam w/pt	99496	Trans care mgmt 7 day disch
90965	Esrd home pt serv p mo 12-19	96160	Pt-focused hlth risk assmt	99497	Advncd care plan 30 min
90966	Esrd home pt serv p mo 20+	96161	Caregiver health risk assmt	99498	Advncd are plan addl 30 min
90967	Esrd home pt serv p day <2	97802	Medical nutrition indiv in	G0108	Diab manage tm per indiv
90968	Esrd home pt serv p day 2-11	97803	Med nutrition indiv subseq	G0109	Diab manage tm ind/group
90969	Esrd home pt serv p day 12-19	97804	Medical nutrition group	G0270	Mnt subs tx for change dx
90970	Esrd home pt serv p day 20+	99201	Office/outpatient visit new	G0296	Visit to determ ldct elig

Website Resources

American Telemedicine Association
<http://www.americantelemed.org/policy-page/state-policy-resource-center>

American Health Insurance Plans – Frequently Asked Questions
<https://www.ahip.org/covid-19-coverage-frequently-asked-questions/>

Mid-Atlantic Telehealth Resource Centers Telebehavioral Health Center of Excellence
<https://tbhcoe.matrc.org>