

COVID-19 Payer Updates

COVID-19 CMS Update

As of 12:30pm ET on March 17, 2020 CMS has sent out an official notification stating that effective for services starting March 6, 2020 (retroactive), the limitations on where Medicare patients are eligible for telehealth services has been removed during the emergency. The waiver temporarily eliminates the requirement that the originating site must be a physician's office or other authorized healthcare facility and allows Medicare to pay for telehealth services when beneficiaries are in their homes or any setting of care.

CMS will temporarily pay clinicians for certain telehealth services. Each type of service is defined by conditions and reimbursement levels are outlined in the chart below.

Medicaid Update for Infusion Centers

South Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHSS) will waive the requirement for direct supervision by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistance for care provided at infusion centers. This is effective for dates of service on or after March 15, 2020.

Read more: [SCDHHS Telehealth Policy Extension COVID-19](#)

COVID-19 Commercial Payer Updates

As of March 19, 2020, the President signed the [Families First Coronavirus Response Act](#). This Act requires health insurance issuers to provide coverage for services related to the evaluation and management of COVID-19, and additionally applies to related services which may include in-person or telehealth provider visits, among others with no cost sharing, prior authorization or medical management requirements.

Specific information regarding reimbursement varies from state to state and between insurance providers. For information regarding extension of coverage specific to insurer, please review the following resources:

[AHIP: Health Insurance Providers Respond to Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)

[South Carolina Department of Insurance: Health Insurance Issuers' Response to Coronavirus COVID-19](#)

[Blue Cross Blue Shield: COVID-19 Telehealth Policy Extension](#)

Please note this document contains general information which may not be applicable to all patients, facilities, communities and circumstances. Rheumatologists and rheumatology professionals are encouraged to check their individual contracts for details on reimbursement. The information contained within this document is accurate at the time of publication.

HCPCS/ CPT Code	Service Description	Type of Service	Medicaid Modifier	Medicare Modifier	Commercial Modifier	Medicare/ South Carolina Medicaid Reimbursement
99201	Office/outpatient visit, new	Telehealth via Audio & Video	95		95.GT, GQ	\$43.33/\$33.75
99202	Office/outpatient visit, new	Telehealth via Audio & Video	95		95.GT, GQ	\$72.25/\$56.61
99203	Office/outpatient visit, new	Telehealth via Audio & Video	95		95.GT, GQ	\$102.62/\$80.29
99204	Office/outpatient visit, new	Telehealth via Audio & Video	95		95.GT, GQ	\$157.46/\$122.59
99205	Office/outpatient visit, new	Telehealth via Audio & Video	95		95.GT, GQ	\$199.27/\$154.32
99211	Office/outpatient visit, established	Telehealth via Audio & Video	95		95.GT, GQ	\$21.78/\$16.75
99212	Office/outpatient visit, established	Telehealth via Audio & Video	95		95.GT, GQ	\$43.00/\$33.34
99213	Office/outpatient visit, established	Telehealth via Audio & Video	95		95.GT, GQ	\$71.51/\$55.27
99214	Office/outpatient visit, established	Telehealth via Audio & Video	95		95.GT, GQ	\$104.07/\$81.15
99215	Office/outpatient visit, established	Telehealth via Audio & Video	95		95.GT, GQ	\$140.08/\$108.82
POS*				02	02	
G2010	Telephone E/M, established	Telehealth via Audio only				\$11.63/-
G2012	Telephone E/M, established	Telehealth via Audio only				\$14.06/-
99441	Telephone E/M, established	Virtual Check-in, 5-10 min				Non-reimbursable
99442	Telephone E/M, established	Virtual Check-in, 11-20 min				Non-reimbursable
99443	Telephone E/M, established	Virtual Check-in, 21-30 min				Non-reimbursable
99421	Online digital E/M, established	E-visit, 5-10 min.				\$14.75/-
99422	Online digital E/M, established	E-visit, 11-20 min.				\$29.32/-
99423	Online digital E/M, established	E-visit, 21 or more minutes				\$47.37/-

**POS 02: Place of service where health services are provided via a telecommunications system.*