



Telehealth Tips | rev. 05.06.20

Expanded Medicare Coverage During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency



Regulations will be effective until the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency declared on 1/31/20 by the Secretary of HHS ends

Under the emergency declaration and waiver, **ALL Medicare beneficiaries** can receive telehealth services from their home. This is important for everyone, especially the Medicare population, who are most at risk for adverse outcomes if exposed to the coronavirus.

WHO Can Provide Telehealth Services?

Physicians (MD, DO, DDS, DDM, DPM, OD, DC), nurse practitioners, physician assistants, certified nurse midwives, physical therapists, occupational therapists and speech language pathologists can provide telehealth services to both new and established patients. Other professionals (certified registered nurse anesthetist, licensed clinician social worker, clinical psychologist, registered dietician and nutrition professional) can provide telehealth services within their scope of practice, consistent with Medicare benefit rules.

HOW Do I Provide Telehealth Services?

During this public health emergency, you can use any mobile computing device or technology such as a smart phone, tablet or laptop that has audio and video capabilities for two-way real-time interactive communication. FaceTime and Skype are examples of approved technology. Telehealth technology platforms offered by IT vendors can also be used. Medicare beneficiaries may not have access to a smart phone or computer to obtain a telehealth service. Encourage your elderly patients to ask a family member or friend for assistance. **HIPAA violation penalties will be waived when everyday communication technology is used and providers exercise good faith.*

WHAT is the Beneficiary's Cost?

Beneficiary out of pocket costs (deductible and coinsurance) apply to telehealth services; however, healthcare providers have the flexibility to reduce or waive those fees.

HOW Do I Bill and Get Paid for Telehealth Services?

Telehealth services are paid the same amount as in-person services under the Physician Fee Schedule. Bill Medicare as if the service is furnished in-person and include modifier 95, indicating that the service rendered was actually performed via telehealth.

WHAT Services Can Be Provided?

The following list includes services that can be provided via telehealth. On 4/30/20, CMS added 80 new service codes, bringing the total to 238. The table identifies which codes are temporary during the COVID-19 public health emergency as well as which services can now be provided using AUDIO ONLY.

<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/Telehealth/Telehealth-Codes>

List of Medicare Telehealth Services for CY 2020 | updated 5/6/20

Code	Short Description	Temporary for COVID PHE	Audio Only Allowed	Code	Short Description	Temporary for COVID PHE	Audio Only Allowed
77427	Radiation tx management x5	Temp PHE		96137	Psycl/nrpsyc tst phy/qhp ea	Temp PHE	Audio only
90785	Psych tx complex interactive		Audio only	96138	Psycl/nrpsyc tech 1st	Temp PHE	Audio only
90791	Psych diagnostic evaluation		Audio only	96139	Psycl/nrpsyc test tech ea	Temp PHE	Audio only
90792	Psych diag eval w/med services		Audio only	96156	Hlth behav assmt/reassessment		Audio only
90832	Psych tx w pt 30 minutes		Audio only	96158	Hlth behav ivntj indiv 1st 30	Temp PHE	Audio only
90833	Psych tx w pt w E&M 30 min		Audio only	96159	Hlth behav ivntj indiv ea addl		Audio only
90834	Psych tx w pt 45 minutes		Audio only	96160	Pt-focused health risk assmt		Audio only
90836	Psych tx w pt w E&M 45 min		Audio only	96161	Caregiver health risk assmt		Audio only
90837	Psych tx w pt 60 minutes		Audio only	96164	Hlth behav ivntj grp 1st 30		Audio only
90838	Psych tx w pt w E&M 60 min		Audio only	96165	Hlth behav ivntj grp ea addl		Audio only
90839	Psych tx crisis initial 60 min		Audio only	96167	Hlth behav ivntj fam 1st 30		Audio only
90840	Psych tx crisis each addl 30 min		Audio only	96168	Hlth behav ivntj fam ea addl		Audio only
90845	Psychoanalysis		Audio only	96170	Hlth behav v ivntj fam wo pt 1st	Temp PHE	
90846	Family psych tx w/o pt 50 min		Audio only	96171	Hlth behav ivntj fam w/o pt ea	Temp PHE	
90847	Family psych tx w/pt 50 min		Audio only	97110	Therapeutic exercises	Temp PHE	
90853	Group psychotherapy	Temp PHE	Audio only	97112	Neuromuscular reeducation	Temp PHE	
90875	Psychophysiological therapy	Temp PHE		97116	Gait training therapy	Temp PHE	
90951	ESRD serv 4 visits p mo <2yr			97150	Group therapeutic procedures	Temp PHE	
90952	ESRD serv 2-3 visits p mo <2yr	Temp PHE		97151	Bhv id assmt by phys/qhp	Temp PHE	
90953	ESRD serv 1 visit p mo <2yr	Temp PHE		97152	Bhv id suprt assmt by 1 tech	Temp PHE	
90954	ESRD serv 4 visits p mo 2-11			97153	Adaptive behavior tx by tech	Temp PHE	
90955	ESRD serv 2-3 vsts p mo 2-11			97154	Group adapt behav tx by tech	Temp PHE	
90956	ESRD serv 1 visit p mo 2-11	Temp PHE		97155	Adapt behavior tx phys/qhp	Temp PHE	
90957	ESRD serv 4 vsts p mo 12-19			97156	Fam adapt behv tx gdn phy/qhp	Temp PHE	
90958	ESRD serv 2-3 vsts p mo 12-19			97157	Mult fam adapt bhv tx gdn	Temp PHE	
90959	ESRD serv 1 vst p mo 12-19	Temp PHE		97158	Grp adapt behav tx by phy/qhp	Temp PHE	
90960	ESRD serv 4 visits p mo 20+			97161	PT eval low complex 20 min	Temp PHE	
90961	ESRD serv 2-3 vsts p mo 20+			97162	PT eval mod complex 30 min	Temp PHE	
90962	ESRD serv 1 visit p mo 20+	Temp PHE		97163	PT eval high complex 45 min	Temp PHE	
90963	ESRD home pt serv p mo <2yrs			97164	PT re-eval est plan care	Temp PHE	
90964	ESRD home pt serv p mo 2-11			97165	OT eval low complex 30 min	Temp PHE	
90965	ESRD home pt serv p mo 12-19			97166	OT eval mod complex 30 min	Temp PHE	
90966	ESRD home pt serv p mo 20+			97167	OT eval high complex 30 min	Temp PHE	
90967	ESRD svc pr day pt <2			97168	OT re-eval est plan care	Temp PHE	
90968	ESRD svc pr day pt 2-11			97530	Therapeutic activities	Temp PHE	
90969	ESRD svc pr day pt 12-19			97535	Self-care management training	Temp PHE	Audio only
90970	ESRD svc pr day pt 20+			97542	Wheelchair managemt training	Temp PHE	
92002	Eye exam new patient	Temp PHE		97750	Physical performance test	Temp PHE	
92004	Eye exam new patient	Temp PHE		97755	Assistive technology assess	Temp PHE	
92012	Eye exam establish patient	Temp PHE		97760	Orthotic mgmt&training 1st enc	Temp PHE	
92014	Eye exam & tx estab pt 1/>vst	Temp PHE		97761	Prosthetic training 1st enc	Temp PHE	
92507	Speech/hearing therapy	Temp PHE	Audio only	97802	Medical nutrition indiv in		Audio only
92508	Speech/hearing therapy	Temp PHE	Audio only	97803	Med nutrition indiv subseq		Audio only
92521	Evaluation of speech fluency	Temp PHE	Audio only	97804	Medical nutrition group		Audio only
92522	Evaluate speech production	Temp PHE	Audio only	99201	Office/outpatient visit new		
92523	Speech sound lang comprehen	Temp PHE	Audio only	99202	Office/outpatient visit new		
92524	Behavioral qualit analys voice	Temp PHE	Audio only	99203	Office/outpatient visit new		
92601	Cochlear implt f/up exam <7	Temp PHE		99204	Office/outpatient visit new		
92602	Reprogram cochlear implt <7	Temp PHE		99205	Office/outpatient visit new		
92603	Cochlear implt f/up exam 7/>	Temp PHE		99211	Office/outpatient visit est		
92604	Reprogram cochlear implt 7/>	Temp PHE		99212	Office/outpatient visit est		
94002	Vent mgmt inpt initialday	Temp PHE		99213	Office/outpatient visit est		
94003	Vent mgmt inpt subq day	Temp PHE		99214	Office/outpatient visit est		
94004	Vent mgmt nf per day	Temp PHE		99215	Office/outpatient visit est		
94005	Home vent mgmt supervision	Temp PHE		99217	Observation care discharge	Temp PHE	
94664	Evaluate pt use of inhaler	Temp PHE		99218	Initial observation care	Temp PHE	
96110	Developmental screen w/score	Temp PHE		99219	Initial observation care	Temp PHE	
96112	Devel test phys/qhp 1st hr	Temp PHE		99220	Initial observation care	Temp PHE	
96113	Devel test phys/qhp ea addl hr	Temp PHE		99221	Initial hospital care	Temp PHE	
96116	Nubhvl xm phys/qhp 1st hr		Audio only	99222	Initial hospital care	Temp PHE	
96121	Nubhvl xm phy/qhp ea addl hr	Temp PHE	Audio only	99223	Initial hospital care	Temp PHE	
96127	Brief emotional/behav assmt	Temp PHE	Audio only	99224	Subsequent observation care	Temp PHE	

Code	Short Description	Temporary for COVID PHE	Audio Only Allowed	Code	Short Description	Temporary for COVID PHE	Audio Only Allowed
96130	Psycl test eval phys/qhp 1st	Temp PHE	Audio only	99225	Subsequent observation care	Temp PHE	
96131	Psycl test eval phys/qhp ea	Temp PHE	Audio only	99226	Subsequent observation care	Temp PHE	
96132	Nrpsyc test eval phys/qhp 1st	Temp PHE	Audio only	99231	Subsequent hospital care		
96133	Nrpsyc test eval phys/qhp ea	Temp PHE	Audio only	99232	Subsequent hospital care		
96136	Psycl/nrpsyc test phy/qhp 1st	Temp PHE	Audio only	99233	Subsequent hospital care		
99234	Observ/hosp same date	Temp PHE		99472	Ped critical care subsq	Temp PHE	
99235	Observ/hosp same date	Temp PHE		99473	Self-meas BP pt educaj/train	Temp PHE	
99236	Observ/hosp same date	Temp PHE		99475	Ped crit care age 2-5 init	Temp PHE	
99238	Hospital discharge day	Temp PHE		99476	Ped crit care age 2-5 subsq	Temp PHE	
99239	Hospital discharge day	Temp PHE		99477	Init day hosp neonate care	Temp PHE	
99281	Emergency dept visit	Temp PHE		99478	LC lbw inf < 1500 gm subsq	Temp PHE	
99282	Emergency dept visit	Temp PHE		99479	LC lbw inf 1500-2500 g subsq	Temp PHE	
99283	Emergency dept visit	Temp PHE		99480	LC inf pbw 2501-5000 g subsq	Temp PHE	
99284	Emergency dept visit	Temp PHE		99483	Assmt & care plan pt cog imp	Temp PHE	
99285	Emergency dept visit	Temp PHE		99495	Trans care mgmt 14 day disch		
99291	Critical care first hour	Temp PHE		99496	Trans care mgmt 7 day disch		
99292	Critical care addl 30 min	Temp PHE		99497	Advanced care plan 30 min		Audio only
99304	Nursing facility care init	Temp PHE		99498	Advanced care plan addl 30 min		Audio only
99305	Nursing facility care init	Temp PHE		0373T	Adapt bhv tx ea 15 min	Temp PHE	
99306	Nursing facility care init	Temp PHE		S9152	Speech therapy, re-eval	Temp PHE	
99307	Nursing facility care subseq			0362T	Bhv id suprt assmt ea 15 min	Temp PHE	
99308	Nursing facility care subseq			90785	Psych tx complex interactive		Audio only
99309	Nursing facility care subseq			G0108	Diabetes manage trn per indiv		Audio only
99310	Nursing facility care subseq			G0109	Diabetes manage trn ind/group		Audio only
99315	Nursing facility discharge day	Temp PHE		G0270	Mnt subs tx for change dx		Audio only
99316	Nursing facility discharge day	Temp PHE		G0296	Visit to determine ldct elig		Audio only
99324	Domicile/r-home visit new pat	Temp PHE		G0396	Alcohol/subs interv 15-30mn		Audio only
99325	Domicile/r-home visit new pat	Temp PHE		G0406	Inpt/tele follow up 15		Audio only
99326	Domicile/r-home visit new pat	Temp PHE		G0407	Inpt/tele follow up 25		Audio only
99327	Domicile/r-home visit new pat	Temp PHE		G0408	Inpt/tele follow up 35		Audio only
99328	Domicile/r-home visit new pat	Temp PHE		G0410	Grp psych partial hosp 45-50	Temp PHE	
99334	Domicile/r-home visit est pat	Temp PHE		G0420	Educ svc ckd ind per session		Audio only
99335	Domicile/r-home visit est pat	Temp PHE		G0421	Educ svc ckd grp per session		Audio only
99336	Domicile/r-home visit est pat	Temp PHE		G0425	Inpt/ed teleconsult 30		Audio only
99337	Domicile/r-home visit est pat	Temp PHE		G0426	Inpt/ed teleconsult 50		Audio only
99341	Home visit new patient	Temp PHE		G0427	Inpt/ed teleconsult 70		Audio only
99342	Home visit new patient	Temp PHE		G0436	Tobacco-use counsel 3-10 min		Audio only
99343	Home visit new patient	Temp PHE		G0437	Tobacco-use counsel >10min		Audio only
99344	Home visit new patient	Temp PHE		G0438	Ppps, initial visit		Audio only
99345	Home visit new patient	Temp PHE		G0439	Ppps, subseq visit		Audio only
99347	Home visit est patient	Temp PHE		G0442	Annual alcohol screen 15 min		Audio only
99348	Home visit est patient	Temp PHE		G0443	Brief alcohol misuse counsel		Audio only
99349	Home visit est patient	Temp PHE		G0444	Depression screen annual		Audio only
99350	Home visit est patient	Temp PHE		G0445	High inten beh couns std 30m		Audio only
99354	Prolong E&M/psycx serv o/p		Audio only	G0446	Intens behave ther cardio dx		Audio only
99355	Prolong E&M/psycx serv o/p		Audio only	G0447	Behavior counsel obesity 15m		Audio only
99356	Prolonged service inpatient		Audio only	G0459	Telehealth inpt pharm mgmt		Audio only
99357	Prolonged service inpatient		Audio only	G0506	Comp asses care plan ccm svc		Audio only
99406	Behav chng smoking 3-10 min		Audio only	G0508	Crit care telehea consult 60		
99407	Behav chng smoking > 10 min		Audio only	G0509	Crit care telehea consult 50		
99441	Phone E&M phys/qhp 5-10 min	Temp PHE	Audio only	G0513	Prolong prev svcs, first 30 m		Audio only
99442	Phone E&M phys/qhp 11-20 min	Temp PHE	Audio only	G0514	Prolong prev svcs, addl 30 m		Audio only
99443	Phone E&M phys/qhp 21-30 min	Temp PHE	Audio only	G2086	Off base opioid tx 70 min		Audio only
99468	Neonate crit care initial	Temp PHE		G2087	Off base opioid tx, 60 min		Audio only
99469	Neonate crit care subsq	Temp PHE		G2088	Off base opioid tx, add 30		Audio only
99471	Ped critical care initial	Temp PHE		G9685	Acute nursing facility care	Temp PHE	

Virtual Check-In

- **Patient-initiated** communication to a healthcare provider to determine whether an office visit or remote evaluation of a recorded video and/or image is needed
- Communication can be provided via telephone, secure text messaging, e-mail or a patient portal
- The check-in should not be related to a medical visit within the previous 7 days and cannot lead to a medical visit within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment
- The patient can be new or have an established relationship with the provider and must verbally consent to receive the virtual services
- Medicare coinsurance and deductible apply
- Billing:
 - Use code G2010 for remote evaluation of a recorded video and/or image, including interpretation and follow-up with patient within 24 business hours
 - Use code G2012 for a brief communication technology-based service



E-Visit

- **Patient-initiated** digital communication, using a patient portal, that can occur over a 7-day period
- The patient must have an established relationship with the provider and verbally consent to receive the virtual services
- Medicare coinsurance and deductible apply
- Codes for practitioners who can independently bill Medicare for E/M visits:

99421:	Online digital evaluation and management service, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, with a cumulative time with a cumulative time during the 7 days of 5-10 minutes
99422	Online digital evaluation and management service, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, with a cumulative time with a cumulative time during the 7 days of 11-20 minutes
99423	Online digital evaluation and management service, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, with a cumulative time with a cumulative time during the 7 days \geq 21 minutes

- Codes for clinicians who cannot independently bill Medicare for E/M visits (PT, OT, SLP, clinical psychologists):

G2061	Qualified nonphysician healthcare professional online assessment, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, with a cumulative time during the 7 days of 5-10 minutes
G2062	Qualified nonphysician healthcare professional online assessment, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, with a cumulative time with a cumulative time during the 7 days of 11-20 minutes
G2063	Qualified nonphysician healthcare professional online assessment, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, with a cumulative time with a cumulative time during the 7 days \geq 21 minutes

Sources:

- <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/press-releases/trump-administration-issues-second-round-sweeping-changes-support-us-healthcare-system-during-covid>
- <https://telehealth.hhs.gov/>

