

Ethicon Telehealth Reimbursement Guide

During COVID-19 Pandemic

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The growth of telehealth within the U.S. Health Care System enables providers to continue to provide efficient operations, create staffing efficiencies and expand specialty capacity. We are committed to working with you to provide access for patients in the delivery of high-quality healthcare in the right place, at the right time for the right patient.

Under the current environment, telehealth is allowing providers to continue to treat patients. Coverage, coding and payment related to telehealth and telemedicine is complex, changes in Medicare and Commercial coverage policies are happening very quickly. As such, outlined below are common telehealth codes and national payment information. This guide was developed to share current information on Coverage, Coding and Payment for telehealth.

Coverage

CMS is providing flexibility for healthcare providers to reduce or waive cost-sharing for telehealth visits paid by federal healthcare programs. CMS has also made several related changes to improve access to virtual care. For question and updates related to Medicare coverage check with your local Medicare Administrative Contractor or the national CMS website.

For commercial payers, verify coverage for telehealth services directly with the patient's health plan. Telehealth benefits can vary within individual plan designs.

State regulations may exist in your area, check with your local state medical association or society for more information on coverage for telehealth services.

Coding and Payment

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Telehealth Visits

CPT® Code	Description	2021 Medicare National Unadjusted Payment			
				Non-Facility	Facility
99201-99205 POS 02 for Telehealth (Medicare) Modifier- 95 (Commercial Payers)	Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a new patient.	99201	Level 1	N/A	N/A
		99202	Level 2	\$73.97	\$49.09
		99203	Level 3	\$113.75	\$84.44
		99204	Level 4	\$169.93	\$137.48
		99205	Level 5	\$224.36	\$186.68
99211-99215 POS 02 for Telehealth (Medicare) Modifier- 95 (Commercial Payers)	Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an established patient.	99211	Level 1	\$23.03	\$9.07
		99212	Level 2	\$56.88	\$36.29
		99213	Level 3	\$92.47	\$68.04
		99214	Level 4	\$131.20	\$100.49
		99215	Level 5	\$183.19	\$147.95

Online Digital Visits

CPT® Code	Description	2021 Medicare National Unadjusted Payment			
				Non-Facility	Facility
99421-99423	Online digital evaluation and management service, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, cumulative time during the 7 days.	99421	5-10 Minutes	\$15.00	\$12.91
		99422	11-20 Minutes	\$30.01	\$26.17
		99423	21 or More Minutes	\$47.45	\$41.17
98970-98972	Qualified nonphysician health care professional online digital assessment and management, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, cumulative time during the 7 days.	98970	5-10 Minutes	\$11.86	\$11.51
		98971	11-20 Minutes	\$20.94	\$20.59
		98972	21 or More Minutes	\$32.80	\$32.80

*The current 2021 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule does not price these CPT codes, no RVUs have been established.

POS 02:Telehealth indicates the location where health services and health related services are provided or received, through a telecommunication system. (Effective January 1, 2017)

Modifier -95: Indicates Synchronous Telemedicine Service Rendered via Real-Time Interactive Audio and Video telecommunications System.

Remote Patient Monitoring

CPT® Code	Description	2021 Medicare National Unadjusted Payment	
		Non-Facility	Facility
99453	Remote monitoring of physiologic parameter(s) (e.g., weight, blood pressure, pulse oximetry, respiratory flow rate), initial; set-up and patient education on use of equipment. (Initial set-up and patient education of monitoring equipment)	\$19.19	Practice Expense Only
99454	Device(s) supply with daily recording(s) or programmed alert(s) transmission, each 30 days. (Initial collection, transmission, and report/ summary services to the clinician managing the patient)	\$63.16	Practice Expense Only
99457	Remote physiologic monitoring treatment management services, clinical staff/physician/other qualified health care professional time in a calendar month requiring interactive communication with the patient/ caregiver during the month; first 20 minutes	\$50.94	\$31.75
99458	Each additional 20 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)	\$41.17	\$31.75
99091	Collection and interpretation of physiologic data (e.g., ECG, blood pressure, glucose monitoring) digitally stored and/or transmitted by the patient and/or caregiver to the physician or other qualified health care professional, qualified by education, training, licensure/ regulation (when applicable) requiring a minimum of 30 minutes of time, each 30 days)	\$56.88	\$56.88

Telephone Evaluation & Management Services

CPT® Code	Description		2021 Medicare National Unadjusted Payment		
			Non-Facility	Facility	
99441-99443	Telephone evaluation and management service by a physician or other qualified health care professional who may report evaluation and management services provided to an established patient, parent, or guardian not originating from a related E/M service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an E/M service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment	99441	5-10 Minutes	\$56.88	\$36.29
		99442	11-20 Minutes	\$92.82	\$68.39
		99443	21-30 Minutes	\$131.55	\$100.84

Sources

CY 2021 Revisions to Payment Policies under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Revisions to Part B (CMS-1734-F); Addendum B. All MPFS Fee Schedules calculated using CF of \$32.41 effective January 2021

At Ethicon, we are dedicated to providing healthcare providers with information to help address your reimbursement questions. Our Reimbursement Support Team is here to help answer your reimbursement and coding questions regarding:

- Minimally Invasive Procedures
- General Surgical Procedures
- Bariatric Surgical Procedures

If you have any questions or need assistance, just give us a call at 880-750-1242

Ethicon Reimbursement Support Services 880-750-1242

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