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COVID-19: Healthy Texas Women (HTW) Claims for Telemedicine (Physician -delivered) and Telephone (Audio Only) – Texas Medicaid

In continued response to COVID-19, the <u>Texas Health and Human Services Commissions (HHSC)</u> is extending the authorization of the below procedure codes **through January 31, 2023**, **unless the federal public health emergency ends sooner**. We are authorizing providers to bill the following procedure codes for medical evaluation and management services delivered by a physician by telephone (audio only):

Description of Services	Procedure Codes
Evaluation and Management (E/M)	90791, 90792, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215

When is this effective?

Providers can bill the above procedure codes for telephone (audio only) medical (physician delivered) evaluation and management services delivered March 20, 2020, through **January 31, 2023, unless the federal public health emergency ends sooner.**

Note: End date is subject to change.

We are continuing to evaluate the evolving state and federal legislative and regulatory landscape relating to COVID-19 and will continue to update our practices accordingly.

The telephone call is considered part of the next office visit and cannot be submitted using the telephonic e/m codes if:

- The call is less than 24 hours after an in-person or telemedicine (video) visit
- The call follows the next available appointment

The telephone call is considered part of the previous office visit and cannot be billed separately if:

• The call is less than seven days after an office visit for the same diagnosis

Should a modifier be billed?

Yes, providers should use the 95 modifier to indicate the occurrence of remote delivery when delivering service.

As a reminder, effective February 1, 2022, all HTW service procedure codes included in the *Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual, Telecommunication Services Handbook* will be made permanent for HTW reimbursement when delivered through synchronous audiovisual telemedicine or telehealth. Providers can refer to the *Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual, Telecommunication Services Handbook* for additional information about the Texas Medicaid telemedicine services benefit.

Have questions?

Contact our BCBSTX Medicaid provider call center at 1-877-560-8055 or contact your <u>BCBSTX Medicaid Provider Network Representative</u>.

For more information about this notice and other changes to Texas Medicaid due to COVID-19, go to http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/COVID-19/COVID-19-HOME.aspx.

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