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UPDATED: Physical, Occupational, Speech Therapy Groups Accessing Telehealth Services End Dates Extended in Response to COVID-19

What is New?

Effective December 14, 2020, the [Texas Health and Human Services Commission \(HHSC\)](#) has issued there is not an end date on this notice and remains in effect until rescinded. HHSC guidance may be found on TMHP website.

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.

Will you cover telehealth for PT/OT/ST?

Yes, beginning March 18, 2020 Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX) Medicaid will allow physical, occupational, and speech therapy services to provide telehealth during COVID-19. If there are changes, BCBSTX will provide additional communications. We will process services in accordance with the member’s benefit plan. This applies to existing members who have accessed service with the practice/provider within the last 24 months. State laws and regulations apply

Which telehealth methodologies can PT/OT/ST providers use?

All telehealth methodologies apply including, telehealth visit (audio or video), virtual check-ins and e-visits.

Will providers need additional credentialing/criteria?

No, providers may provide services based on their current licensure’s requirements and enrollment with HHSC.

Which CPT codes should be billed for telehealth?

BCBSTX Medicaid will reimburse for these specific Medicaid physical, occupational, and speech therapy codes for telehealth.

Category	CPT Code	Definition
Physical Therapy	97110	Therapeutic procedure, one or more areas, each 15 minutes
Physical Therapy	97112	Therapeutic procedure, one or more areas, each 15 minutes
Physical Therapy	97116	Gait training
Physical Therapy	97161	Physical therapy evaluation - low complexity
Physical Therapy	97162	Physical therapy evaluation - moderate complexity
Physical Therapy	97163	Physical therapy evaluation - high complexity
Physical Therapy	97164	Physical therapy re-evaluation
Physical Therapy	97530	Therapeutic activities, one-to-one patient contact, each 15 minutes
Physical Therapy	97535	Self-care/home management training, each 15 minutes
Occupational Therapy	97110	Therapeutic procedure, one or more areas, each 15 minutes



Category	CPT Code	Definition
Occupational Therapy	97112	Therapeutic procedure, one or more areas, each 15 minutes
Occupational Therapy	97165	Occupational therapy evaluation - low complexity
Occupational Therapy	97166	Occupational therapy evaluation - moderate complexity
Occupational Therapy	97167	Occupational therapy evaluation - high complexity
Occupational Therapy	97168	Occupational therapy re-evaluation
Occupational Therapy	97530	Therapeutic activities, one-to-one patient contact, each 15 minutes
Occupational Therapy	97535	Self-care/home management training, each 15 minutes
Speech Therapy	92507	Treatment of speech, language, voice, communication, and/or auditory processing disorder
Speech Therapy	92521	Evaluation of speech fluency
Speech Therapy	92522	Evaluation of speech sound production
Speech Therapy	92523	Evaluation of speech sound production
Speech Therapy	92526	Treatment of swallowing dysfunction and/or oral function for feeding
Speech Therapy	96105	Assessment of Aphasia and Cognitive Performance Testing
Speech Therapy	97129	Therapeutic interventions that focus on cognitive function
Speech Therapy	97130	Each additional 15 minutes (use in conjunction with 97129)

Are there specific billing requirements?

Billing requirement include:

- Place of Service 02
- Appropriate modifier GP/GO/GN in the primary position
- Modifier 95 following the primary modifier


***Note:** All claims are subject to a post claims review.

Are new authorizations required?

No, existing authorizations for services do not require an update.

Have questions?

Contact our BCBSTX Medicaid provider call center at (877) 560-8055 or contact your BCBSTX Medicaid Provider Network Representative at (855) 212-1615.

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