



Policy Clarification: Medicaid Telemedicine Coverage

Alaska Medicaid covers a wide range of services when conducted through a telemedicine mode of delivery when that service is provided in accordance with all standards set out in AS 47.07 and 7 AAC 105-106.

Covered Telemedicine Modes of Delivery:

- Live or interactive; to be eligible for payment under this paragraph, the service must be provided through the use of camera, video, or dedicated audio conference equipment on a real-time basis; medical services provided by a telephone that is not part of a dedicated audio conference system or by a facsimile machine are not eligible for payment under this paragraph;
- Store-and-forward; to be eligible for payment under this paragraph, the service must be provided through the transference of digital images, sounds, or previously recorded video from one location to another to allow a consulting provider to obtain information, analyze it, and report back to the referring provider;
- Self-monitoring or testing; to be eligible for payment under this paragraph, the services must be provided by a telemedicine application based in the recipient's home, with the provider only indirectly involved in the provision of the service.

Allowed Services through Telemedicine:

- Evaluation and management services for initial and follow up exams
- Consultations made to confirm a diagnosis
- Diagnostic, therapeutic, or interpretive services
- Psychiatric or substance abuse assessment
- Psychotherapy
- Pharmacological management services on an individual recipient basis

Services Excluded from Telemedicine:

- Home and community-based waiver services
- Pharmacy services
- Durable medical equipment services
- Transportation services
- Accommodation services
- End-stage renal disease services
- Direct-entry midwife services
- Private-duty nursing services
- Personal care assistant services
- Visual care, dispensing, or optician services

Office Consultations:

Additional policy guidance on office consultations via telemedicine application can be found at:

http://manuals.medicaidalaska.com/docs/dnld/Update_Telemedicine_Applications_Policy_Clarification.pdf

Billing for Telemedicine:

Telemedicine is considered a mode of delivery and is reimbursed at the same rate as if done in person. To bill for services, the distant site provider must bill the applicable procedure code along with the following:

Live interactive mode: Add modifier GT or 95

Store-and-forward mode: Add modifier GQ

Place of Service: Use place of service 02

If a provider is at the originating site, and a separately identifiable service is performed then that service should be billed as normal, no telemedicine modifier or place of service should be utilized.

Providers enrolled as a behavioral health provider may bill a telemedicine originating site facilitation fee if performed utilizing code Q3014.

Telemedicine Registry

Information on requirements for the Telemedicine Business Registry License can be found at the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development at: [Telemedicine Business Registry](#)

Definitions:

- Telemedicine means practice of health care delivery, evaluation, diagnosis, consultation, or treatment, using the transfer of medical data, audio, visual, or data communications that are performed over two or more locations between providers who are physically separated from the recipient or from each other.
- Originating site means the location of member
- Distant site means the location of the provider utilizing a telemedicine mode to deliver a service