

COVID-19 Telehealth Updates

**State Affiliate Council Meeting
May 8, 2020**

Presentation Overview

- What led to the expansion of Telehealth?
- How has Telehealth policy changed?
- How do practitioners code and bill for Telehealth?
 - What other electronic services are available in Medicare?
- How is ASCO involved?
- What is the future of Telehealth?
- Q&A

What led to the expansion of Telehealth?



Legislative and Administration Actions

- 1/27/2020 (effective date): HHS Secretary Azar declares Public Health Emergency (PHE)
- 3/1/2020 (effective date): President Trump declares National Emergency
- 3/6/2020: Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 becomes law
 - Waives telehealth restrictions (\$500M)
- 3/30/2020: CMS published an Interim Final Rule
- 4/30/2020: CMS published a second Interim Final Rule

How has Telehealth policy changed?



Telehealth Policy Changes Effective Through the PHE

- Originating site requirement waived
- Expanded Telehealth services [list](#)
 - Audio only E&M
- New and established patients eligible
- Reimbursement changes to address payment differential
- HIPAA requirements waived
- Cost sharing can be waived or reduced
- Supervision can be provided through telehealth

How do practitioners code and bill for Telehealth?



Must Be on the CMS List of Telehealth Services

Additional 130+ [services](#) available during the PHE

- Emergency Department Visits, Levels 1-5
- Initial and Subsequent Observation and Observation Discharge Day Management
- Initial hospital care and hospital discharge day management
- Initial nursing facility visits, All levels; and nursing facility discharge day management
- Critical Care Services

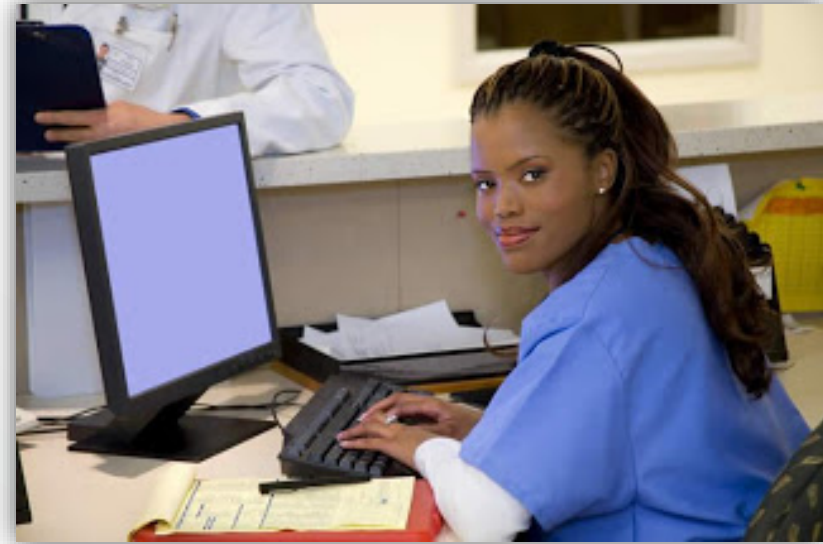
Must Be on the CMS List of Telehealth Services (2)

Additional 130+ [services](#) available during the PHE

- Domiciliary, Rest Home, or Custodial Care services, New and Established patients
- Home Visits, New and Established Patient, All levels
- Inpatient Neonatal and Pediatric Critical Care, Initial and Subsequent; Initial and Continuing Intensive Care Services
- Care Planning for Patients with Cognitive Impairment
- Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing
- Therapy Services, Physical and Occupational Therapy, All levels
- Radiation Treatment Management Services

Billing and Coding Telehealth Services

- Bill Medicare based on where you would **typically** provide the service, for example: office, outpatient hospital
- Use the corresponding POS code, for example: office – 11, outpatient hospital – 22
- Use modifier “95” to indicate the service was provided through Telehealth



E&M Code Level Determination

- Code level based on Medical Decision Making (MDM) or time as stated in the code descriptor
- A medical history and patient-assisted physical exam should be performed and documented

What other electronic services are available in Medicare?



Telephone E&M

- Not typically paid by Medicare, will be paid during the PHE
- Telephone E&M service by a physician or other qualified HCP provided to new and established patients, parents, or guardians
- Audio only communication
- Reimbursement equivalent to established patient in-person visits (99212-99214)
- Codes reflect 10-minute increments:
 - Physicians, PAs, NPs: 99441-99443
 - PT,/OT/SLP, Dieticians, Social Workers : 98966-98968



Virtual Check-Ins

- Brief (5-10 min) check-in via telephone or other communication device
- Remote evaluation of recorded video and/or images submitted by a patient
- Not related to another recent service
- New and established patients
- Codes: G2010, G2012

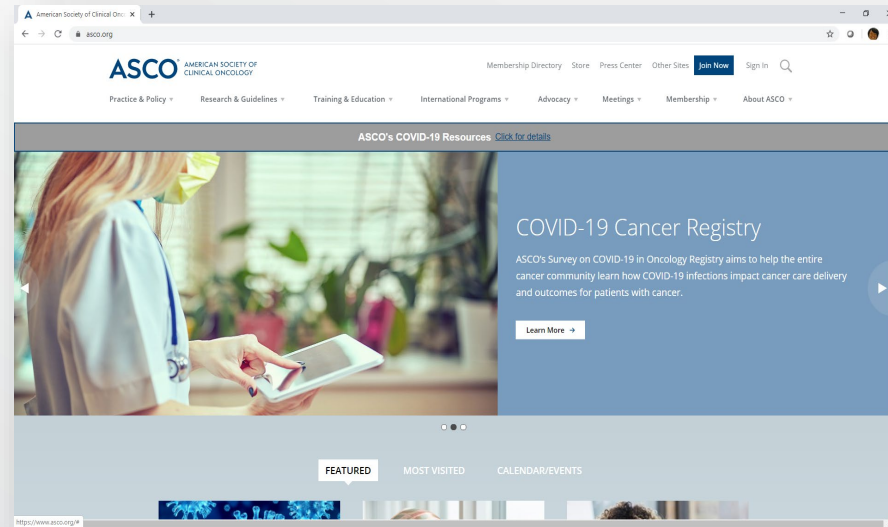


E-Visits

- Performed through patient portals, secure e-mail, telephone, and/or other digital applications
- Billed based on the length of the service within 7 days
- New and established patients
- Codes reflect 10-minute increments:
 - Physicians, NPs, PAs: 99421-99423
 - PT/OT/SLP, Dieticians, Social Workers: G2061-G2063



How is ASCO involved?



www.asco.org

Education

- [Webinars](#)
 - ASCO/ONS
- Practice Support
 - ASCO Telehealth [Guide](#)
 - Coronavirus Resource [Page](#)
 - [Private Payer Guide](#)

Advocacy

- Multiple letters requesting telehealth flexibilities and adequate reimbursement
 - CMS/Seema Verma
 - Administration and Congressional leadership
 - AHIP, BCBS
 - State Governors (ACT Network)
- Success in obtaining parity for audio-only
- Submitting comments on the CMS IFC asking for Telehealth policies to remain



What is the future of Telehealth?



The Future of Telehealth

These changes in telehealth policy resulting from legislative and regulatory actions are set to expire at the end of the Public Health Emergency.

- Telehealth Services
- Telephone E&M

Other electronic services will remain intact

- Virtual check-ins
- E-visits

The Future of Telehealth



“I think the genie's out of the bottle on this one,
"Seema [Verma](#), the CMS administrator, said.

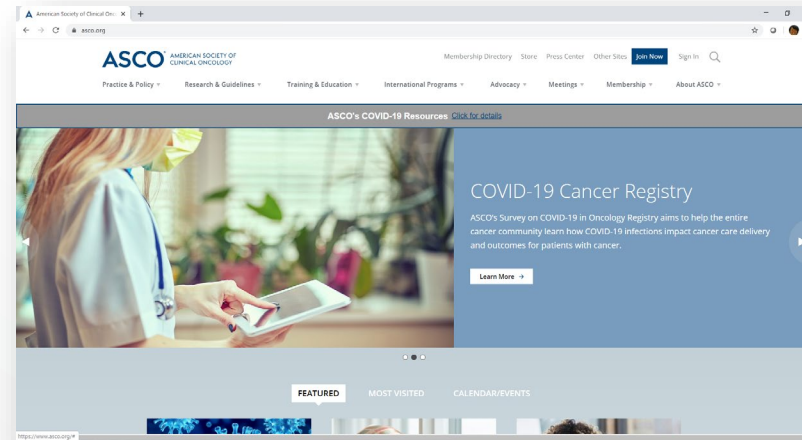
"I think it's fair to say that the advent of telehealth has been just completely accelerated, that it's taken this crisis to push us to a new frontier, but there's absolutely no going back.”

Resources

- ASCO Telehealth Resources
 - [Private Payer Guide](#)
 - [Medicare Guide](#)
 - Medicaid Guide

Other Resources

- [HHS](#) Telehealth for Providers and Patients
- [CMS](#) General Provider Telehealth Toolkit
- [Medicaid](#) Telehealth Toolkit



QUESTIONS?