

# Billing Telehealth Services for Part B Providers

3/14/2024

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# Today's Presenters

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## Objective

To educate the provider community on the proper way to bill telehealth services for 2024.



# Agenda

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2024 Telehealth Services

FAQ's

# 2024 Telehealth Services

# 2024 CMS List of Telehealth Services

- [List of Telehealth Services](#)

## List of Telehealth Services

List of services payable under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule when furnished via telehealth.

[List of Telehealth Services for Calendar Year 2024 \(ZIP\)](#) - Updated 11/13/2023

### Medicare Telehealth Originating Site Facility Fee, Q3014

Time Period	MEI (%)	Facility Fee for Q3014
2024	4.6%	\$29.96

# Telehealth Originating Site Facility Fee

- Originating sites are paid an originating site facility fee for telehealth services by billing HCPCS code Q3014
- Separately billable Part B payment
- Q3014 is not billable for telehealth services when the patient is located in their home
- 2024 fee is \$29.96



# Medicare Telehealth Services Categorized

- Category Column added 11/1/2023
  - Provisional- will remain on the list for CY 2024
  - Permanent- will remain on the list after 12/31/2024

# New Telehealth Services

- CY2024 New Additions
- Permanent Category
  - Social Determinants of Health Risk Assessments
    - ✓ HCPCS G0136
- Provisional Category
  - Health and Well-Being Coaching Services
    - ✓ CPT codes 0591T - 0593T

# New for CY2024

- Expanding the scope of telehealth originating sites for services provided via telehealth to include any site in the U.S. where the patient is at the time of the telehealth service, including a person's home
- Expanding the definition of telehealth practitioners to include qualified OTs, PTs, SLPs and audiologists
- Adding mental health counselors and marriage and family therapists as distant site practitioners for purposes of providing telehealth services

# Originating Sites

- An originating site is the location where a patient is located and receives medical services via telehealth
- Through 12/31/2024
  - Patients can get telehealth wherever they are located
  - No geographic location restrictions
- After 12/31/2024
  - For non-behavioral telehealth services, there may be originating site requirements and geographic location restrictions
  - For behavioral or mental telehealth services, all patients can continue to get telehealth wherever they are located, with no originating site requirements or geographic location restrictions

# Distant Sites

- A distant site is the location where a physician or practitioner provides telehealth
- Through 12/31/2024
  - All providers who are eligible to bill Medicare for professional services can provide distant site telehealth

# Place of Service Codes

- Dates of service for 2023
  - Continue billing telehealth claims with the POS indicator you'd bill for an in-person visit
- Starting 1/1/2024, use
  - POS 02- Telehealth to indicate you provided the billed service as a professional telehealth service when the originating site is other than the patient's home
  - POS 10- Telehealth for services when the patient is in their home
  - POS 19, 21, 22, 23
    - ✓ Use modifier 95 when the clinician is in the hospital and the patient is in the home, as well as for outpatient therapy services provided via telehealth by qualified PTs, OTs, or SLPs through 12/31/2024

# Mental Health Telehealth Services

- Mental health disorders will continue to be offered as telehealth services
- Originating sites expanded to include
  - Beneficiary Home
  - Temporary Lodging (hotels, homeless shelters, nursing homes)
  - Originating site facility fee (Q3014) does not apply
- Delaying the requirement for an in-person visit with the physician or practitioner within six months prior to the initiating mental health telehealth service until 12/31/2024

# Mental Health Telehealth Services, Cont.

- Audio only communication is permitted for **established patients** in their home if
  - They don't have the technical capacity
  - They don't have the availability of real-time audio and visual interactive telecommunication
  - They don't consent to a virtual call
- Medical record should support the reason for using audio-only communication



# Mental Health Telehealth Modifiers

- FQ – A telehealth service was furnished using real-time audio-only communication technology
  - Two exceptions
    - ✓ Beneficiary is not capable of two-way audio/video technology
    - ✓ Beneficiary does not consent to the use of two-way, audio/video technology
- FR – A supervising practitioner was present through a real-time two-way, audio/video communication technology
- MLN Matters® [MM12549 Revised: CY2022 Telehealth Update Medicare Physician Fee Schedule](#)
- FQ and FR modifiers are for mental health telehealth services only

# Major Telehealth Flexibilities

- Flexibilities will remain in place through December 2024 due to the bipartisan Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA), 2023
  - Medicare beneficiaries can
    - ✓ Access telehealth services in any geographic area in the U.S., rather than only those in rural areas
    - ✓ Stay in their homes for telehealth visits rather than traveling to a health care facility
    - ✓ Certain telehealth visits can be delivered audio-only if someone is unable to use both audio and video

# Reporting Home Address

- Reporting Home Address
  - Through 12/31/2024, CMS will allow practitioners to render telehealth services from their home without reporting their home address on their Medicare enrollment, while continuing to bill from their currently enrolled location
- Reference: [Physicians and Other Clinicians: CMS Flexibilities to Fight COVID](#) (updated 11/6/2023)

# Physician Supervision Requirements

- CMS will permit the presence and immediate availability of the supervising practitioner through real-time audio and video interactive telecommunications through 12/31/2024

# Teaching Physicians

- CMS will continue to allow teaching physicians to use audio/video real-time communications technology to be present when the resident furnishes Medicare telehealth services in all residency training locations through the end of CY 2024
  - This means MSA as well as non-MSA teaching physicians
  - This virtual presence will meet the requirement that the teaching physician be present for the key portion of the service

# Removal of Frequency Limitations on Certain Telehealth Services to Continue

- CMS removed these frequency limitations until 12/31/2024
  - A subsequent inpatient visit could be furnished via telehealth, without the limitation that the visit is once every three days (CPT codes 99231-99233)
  - A subsequent skilled nursing facility visit could be furnished via telehealth, without the limitation that the telehealth visit is once every 14 days (CPT codes 99307-99310)
  - Critical care consult codes could be furnished via telehealth beyond the once per day limitation (HCPCS codes G0508-G0509)

# Telephone Services

- 99441–99443
  - Telephone E/M service by a practitioner or qualified health care professional
  - Physicians (including Osteopaths, Podiatrists, and Optometrists), Dentists, Nonphysician Practitioners (including Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Physician Assistant, Certified Nurse Midwife) and Maxillofacial Surgeon
  - The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 provides for an extension for this flexibility through 12/31/2024
- 98966–98968
  - Telephone assessment and management service
  - Listed on the 2024 CMS list of telehealth codes as permanent codes
  - Clinical Psychologists, PT/OT/SLP, Optometrists, Nonphysician practitioners (including Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Physician Assistant, Certified Nurse Midwife), LCSWs, RDs and NPs

# Telehealth Documentation

- Same as any face-to-face patient encounter, along with
  - Statement indicating service was telehealth
  - Patient location
  - Provider location
  - Names of all persons participating in the service and their role in the encounter
- Time-based services, document start/stop time or total time





FAQs

# FAQ One

- Where can I find the HIPAA compliant platforms that can be used for Medicare telehealth services?
  - The Department of Health and Human Services HIPAA regulations require a HIPAA compliant platform be used. The [Notification of Enforcement Discretion for Telehealth](#) contains information regarding a compliant HIPAA platform.

# FAQ Two

- Is modifier FQ needed on all mental health services?
  - No, modifier FQ is used for a mental health telehealth service that was furnished using real-time audio-only communication technology.

# FAQ Three

- What are the payment rates for outpatient telehealth services in CY 2024?
  - Telehealth services performed for a patient who is located at a facility-based site (POS 02) will be paid at the facility rate.
  - Telehealth services performed for a patient who is located at a home/residential site (POS 10) will be paid at the nonfacility PFS rate.
    - ✓ The nonfacility rate allows higher reimbursement in order to encourage patient access to all approved telehealth services from home, including mental health services.

# FAQ Four

- Is there an end date to allowing the beneficiary to have telehealth sessions in their homes?
  - Based on the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023, Medicare beneficiaries can continue to receive telehealth services from their home through 12/31/2024.
    - Note: If the beneficiary is receiving the service at their home; the physician may not bill for an originating site fee (Q3014).

# FAQ Five

- How should I bill a telehealth service with a date of service in 2023?
  - For 2023, continue billing telehealth claims with the POS indicator you would bill for an in-person visit. You must use modifier 95 to identify them as telehealth through 12/31/2023.

# FAQ Six

- What is the appropriate use for modifier 95 in CY 2024?
  - For CY 2024, modifier 95 should be added to all outpatient telehealth services, by both physicians and therapists, when the physician or therapist (PT/OT/SLP) is in the hospital and the patient is at home.

# Helpful Resources

- [CMS Coronavirus waivers & flexibilities](#)
  - Includes updated provider-specific fact sheets
- MLN® Fact Sheet: [Telehealth Services](#) (Updated December 2023)
- [CMS-1784-F | CMS Final Rule](#)



# Questions?

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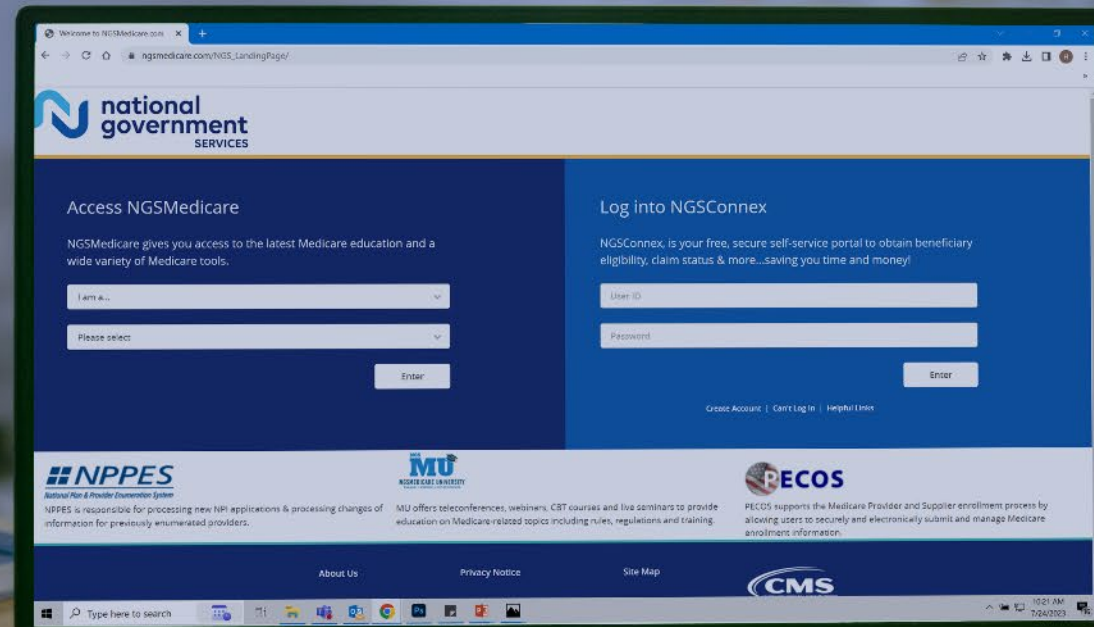
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