



Telemedicine: Regulatory Current & Future State

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Telemedicine: The use of medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications to improve patients' health status.¹

Asynchronous
Provider to
Provider



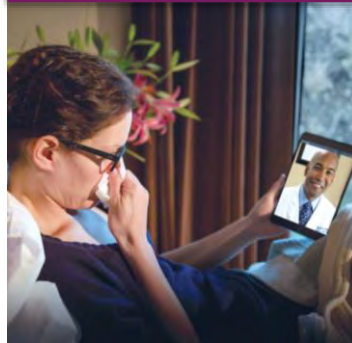
eConsults

Asynchronous
Patient to
Provider



eDermatology

Synchronous
Provider to Patient



Home Video Visit

Synchronous
Provider to
Provider/Patient



Telestroke

Remote
Patient
Monitoring



CHF Monitoring

UPMC LIFE
CHANGING
MEDICINE



Public Health Emergency: Current State

COVID-19 Affects Telemedicine Billing & Reimbursement

- Beginning in mid-March, Medicare made significant, temporary changes to telemedicine reimbursement due to the COVID-19 crisis.
- Many payers followed Medicare's changes with similar policy updates, but coding and billing requirements across payers still have considerable variation.

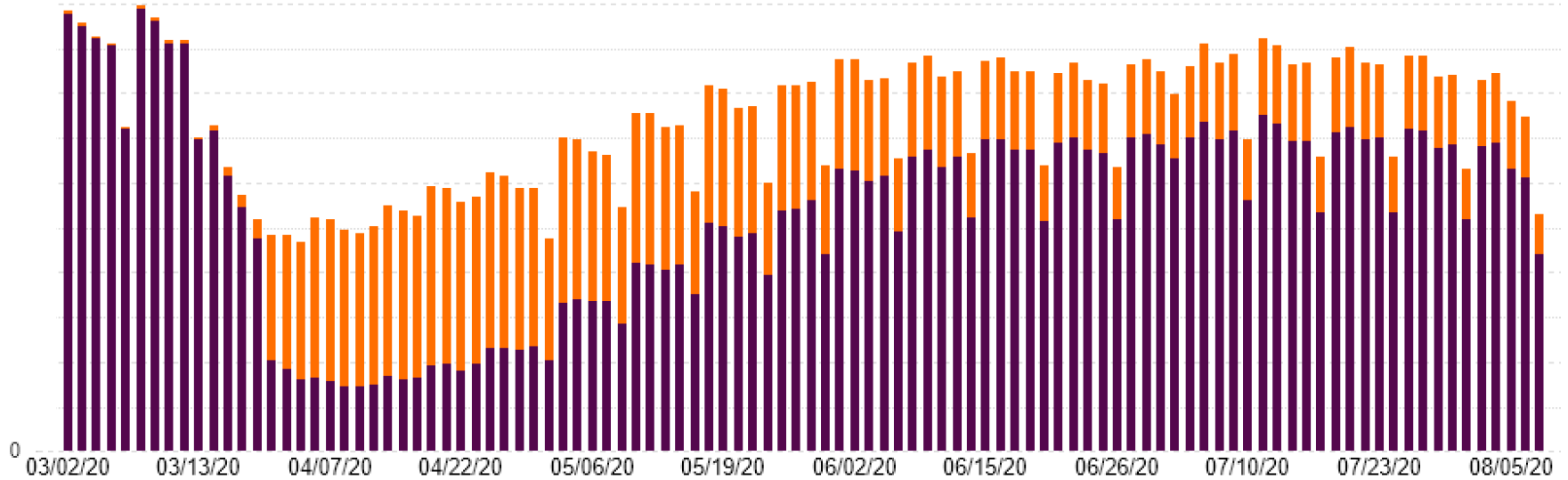
CMS Temporary Changes

- Patient Home is now a billable originating site
- Geographic restrictions removed
- Additional 82 billable services added to list of Telehealth services
- Non-HIPAA compliant technologies including FaceTime and Skype may be used (Office of Civil Rights, look the other way)
- Audio-only (telephone) codes expanded and reimbursement parity with Video visits
- Expanded Medical Decision Making to be utilized for E&M services, enhancing reimbursement opportunities

Significant Temporary Regulatory Changes

- Federal Public Health Emergency has been extended through October 23, 2020 (and likely to be extended at least for an additional 90-day period)
- States have relaxed provider licensure requirements for providers located outside of the state where the patient is treated via telemedicine technologies
- Pennsylvania currently allowing APPs and several licensed providers to treat patients via telemedicine even without published standards of care for the remote practice of medicine
- More opportunities to treat our established patients that are located outside of Pennsylvania

UPMC Ambulatory Face-to-Face & Telemedicine



Encounter Grouping

Telemedicine/Virtual Visit Face-to-Face Office Visit



Future Telemedicine Outlook

The Future of Telemedicine Billing & Reimbursement: President Trump's Executive Order of August 3, 2020

Trump gives the HHS Secretary 60 days to improve telehealth coverage and access, particularly to Medicare beneficiaries and those living in rural areas, and “propose a regulation to extend these measures, as appropriate, beyond the duration” of the public health emergency.

https://mhealthintelligence.com/news/how-cms-changes-trumps-executive-order-affect-telehealth-coverage?eid=CXTEL000000267579&elqCampaignId=15488&utm_source=nl&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletter&elqTrackId=697ebc8d8d144ba9918fa3fddecf039b&elq=1a0e621b1bf0467db109fc098b1880b5&elqaid=16242&elqat=1&elqCampaignId=15488

The Future of Telemedicine Billing & Reimbursement: The Proposed 2021 CMS Physician Fee Schedule

Proposed changes are meant to expand the use of telemedicine to Medicare beneficiaries during and after the pandemic

- Add Medicare-reimbursable telemedicine services
 - Increase the frequency of telemedicine at SNFs
 - Clarify which medical professionals can provide telemedicine
 - Allow supervising physicians to be remote rather than in-house
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Public comments on the proposed rule are due by October 5, 2020



May we answer any questions?