

Florida

Medicaid Program: Florida Medicaid

Program Administrator: Florida Dept. of Children and Families

Regional Telehealth Resource Center: Southeast Telehealth Resource Center

Covers the States of: Alabama, Florida, Georgia & South Carolina

www.setrc.us

Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement	Summary	FL Medicaid reimburses for real time interactive telemedicine according to administrative code, but Medicaid Manuals only indicate reimbursement in Community Behavioral Health Services. No reference was found in regards to reimbursement for store-and-forward or remote patient monitoring.
	Definitions	<p>Telemedicine is “the use of telecommunication and information technology to provide clinical care to individuals at a distance, and to transmit the information needed to provide that care.”</p> <p>Source: FL Dept. of Health, Child Protection Team Program, Program Handbook, p.69 (Jun. 28, 2019). (Accessed Sept. 2019).</p> <p>Telemedicine is “the practice of health care delivery by a practitioner who is located at a site other than the site where a recipient is located for the purposes of evaluation, diagnosis, or treatment.</p> <p>Source: FL Admin Code 59G-1.057.</p> <p>Community Behavioral Health Services Telemedicine: The practice of health care delivery using telecommunication equipment by the treating provider (at the spoke site) for the provision of approved covered services by the consulting provider (at the hub site) for the purpose of evaluation, diagnosis, or treatment.</p> <p>Source: FL Agency for Health Care Administration. Community Behavioral Health Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook. March 2014. P. 1-3. (Accessed Sept. 2019).</p>
	Live Video Policy	<p>Some telemedicine services are reimbursed for Community Behavioral Health Services, per the Fee Schedule.</p> <p>Source: Community Behavioral Health Services Fee Schedule. Jan. 1, 2017. (Accessed Sept. 2019).</p> <p>FL Medicaid reimburses for real time, two-way, interactive telemedicine.</p> <p>Providers must include the GT modifier.</p> <p>Source: FL Admin Code 59G-1.057. (Accessed Sept. 2019).</p>



Eligible Services / Specialties

Child Protective Team (CPT) Services

Real-time CPT telemedicine services for the evaluation of children suspected to be abused or neglected has been implemented in rural or remote areas.

Source: CFL Dept. of Health, Child Protection Team Program, Program Handbook, p. 24 (Jun. 28, 2019). (Accessed Sept. 2019).

Community Behavioral Health Services

Services that can be provided through telemedicine are listed in the Procedure Codes and Fee Schedule, found in the provider manual appendix.

Source: FL Agency for Health Care Administration. Community Behavioral Health Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook. March 2014. P. 2-5 & Community Behavioral Health Services Fee Schedule. Jan. 1, 2017. (Accessed Sept. 2019).

Eligible Providers

Telemedicine is available for use by all providers of Florida Medicaid services that are enrolled in or registered with the Florida Medicaid program and who are licensed within their scope of practice to perform the service.

Source: FL Admin Code 59G-1.057. (Accessed Sept. 2019).

Child Protective Team (CPT) Services

Real-time CPT telemedicine services for the evaluation of children suspected to be abused or neglected has been implemented in rural or remote areas. Only CPT medical providers approved as CMS medical providers and are specifically trained to do telemedicine exams can perform exams at the hub site. Only registered nurses trained to assist in telemedicine exams can participate in the CPT medical exam at the remote site. All persons at remote site must act under the direct supervision of the telemedicine physician or physician extender.

Source: FL Dept. of Health, Child Protection Team Program, Program Handbook, p. 24 (Jun. 28, 2019). (Accessed Sept. 2019).

Community Behavioral Health Services

Services must be delivered from a facility that is enrolled in Medicaid as a community behavioral health services provider for Medicaid to reimburse for services delivered through telemedicine.

Source: FL Agency for Health Care Administration. Community Behavioral Health Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook. March 2014. P. 2-5. (Accessed Sept. 2019).

Eligible Sites

No reference found.

Geographic Limits

No reference found.



Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement

Store-and-Forward	Live Video	Facility/Transmission Fee	No reference found.
	Store-and-Forward	Policy	<p>Community Behavioral Health Services No reimbursement for store-and-forward.</p> <p><i>Source: FL Agency for Health Care Administration. Community Behavioral Health Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook. March 2014. P. 2-5. (Accessed Sept. 2019).</i></p>
		Eligible Services/Specialties	No reference found.
		Geographic Limits	No reference found.
		Transmission Fee	No reference found.
Remote Patient Monitoring	Policy	No reference found.	



Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement

Remote Patient Monitoring	Conditions	No reference found.
	Provider Limitations	No reference found.
	Other Restrictions	No reference found.
Email / Phone / Fax	<p>No reimbursement for telephone, chart review, electronic mail messages or facsimile transmissions.</p> <p>Source: <i>FL Admin Code 59G-1.057. (Accessed Sept. 2019)</i></p> <p>Community Behavioral Health Services No reimbursement for telephone conversations; video cell phone interactions; e-mail; facsimile transmission.</p> <p>Source: <i>FL Agency for Health Care Administration. Community Behavioral Health Services Coverage and Limitations Handbook. March 2014. P. 2-5. (Accessed Sept. 2019).</i></p>	
Consent	No reference found.	
Out of State Providers	No reference found.	



Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement

Miscellaneous

Florida created a Telehealth Advisory Council for purpose of making recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature about telehealth.

The state's Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of Health (DOH) and the Office of the Insurance Regulation was also required to survey FL providers on their utilization of telehealth.

Source: *FL Report on Telehealth Utilization and Accessibility. Dec. 2016. (Accessed Sept. 2019).*

Florida Children's Medical Services (CMS) is a collection of programs for special needs children. CMS' Telemedicine Program services are provided by approved CMS Network providers to Medicaid children enrolled in CMS. Eligible sites are limited.

Source: *Florida Children's Medical Services, Families, Health Services (Accessed Sept. 2019).*

No reimbursement for equipment used to provide telemedicine services.

Source: *FL Admin Code 59G-1.057. (Accessed Sept. 2019).*

Private Payer Laws

Definitions

Recently Passed Legislation (Now Effective)

"Telehealth" means the use of synchronous or asynchronous telecommunications technology by a telehealth provider to provide health care services, including, but not limited to, assessment, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, and monitoring of a patient; transfer of medical data; patient and professional health-related education; public health services; and health administration. The term does not include audio-only telephone calls, e-mail messages, or facsimile transmissions.

Source: *FL Statute 456.47. HB 23 (2019 Session). (Accessed Sept. 2019).*

Requirements

Recently Passed Legislation (Now Effective)

Contracts between health insurers or health maintenance organizations and telehealth providers must be voluntary and must establish mutually acceptable payment rates or payment methodologies for services provided through telehealth. Any contract provision that distinguishes between payment rates or payment methodologies for services provided through telehealth and the same service provided without telehealth must be initialed by the telehealth provider.

Source: *FL Statute 641.31. HB 23 (2019 Session). (Accessed Sept. 2019).*

Parity

Service Parity

Recently Passed Legislation (Now Effective)

Insurers and providers must mutually agree on payment rates and payment methodologies for telehealth delivered services.

Source: *FL Statute 641.31. HB 23 (2019 Session). (Accessed Sept. 2019).*

Payment Parity

Recently Passed Legislation (Now Effective)

Payment initialed between telehealth delivered services and in-person services can differ, but it must be initialed in the contract between the insurer and telehealth provider.

Source: *FL Statute 641.31. HB 23 (2019 Session). (Accessed Sept. 2019).*



Definitions

“Telehealth” means the use of synchronous or asynchronous telecommunications technology by a telehealth provider to provide health care services, including, but not limited to, assessment, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, and monitoring of a patient; transfer of medical data; patient and professional health-related education; public health services; and health administration. The term does not include audio-only telephone calls, e-mail messages, or facsimile transmissions.

Source: *FL Statute 456.47. HB 23 (2019 Session). (Accessed Sept. 2019).*

“Telemedicine means the practice of medicine by a licensed Florida physician or physician assistant where patient care, treatment, or services are provided through the use of medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications. Telemedicine shall not include the provision of health care services only through an audio only telephone, email messages, text messages, facsimile transmission, U.S. Mail or other parcel service, or any combination thereof.”

Source: *FL Admin Code 64B15-14.0081 (Accessed Sept. 2019).*

“Telehealth” means the mode of providing care, treatment, or services by a Florida qualified professional, as defined under subsection 397.311(34), F.S., within the scope of his or her practice, through the use of clinical and medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communication. Telehealth does not include the provision of health services only through an audio only telephone, email messages, text messages, facsimile transmission, U.S. mail or other parcel service, or any combination thereof.

Source: *FL Admin Code 64D-30.0002. (Accessed Sept. 2019).*

Consent

No reference found.

Online Prescribing

Controlled substances shall not be prescribed through the use of telemedicine, except for the treatment of psychiatric disorders.

Exception: physicians can order controlled substances through the use of telemedicine for patients hospitalized in a facility licensed pursuant to Ch. 395, F.S.

Prescribing medication solely on the basis of an electronic medical questionnaire is not allowed.

A physician-patient relationship may be established through telemedicine.

Source: *FL Admin Code 64B15-14.0081. (Accessed Sept. 2019).*

A telehealth provider may use telehealth to perform a patient evaluation. If a telehealth provider conducts a patient evaluation sufficient to diagnose and treat the patient, the telehealth provider is not required to research a patient’s medical history or conduct a physical examination of the patient before using telehealth to provide health care services to the patient.

A telehealth provider may not use telehealth to prescribe a controlled substance unless the controlled substance is prescribed for the following:

1. The treatment of a psychiatric disorder;
2. Inpatient treatment at a hospital licensed under chapter 395;
3. The treatment of a patient receiving hospice services as defined in s. 400.601; or
4. The treatment of a resident of a nursing home facility as defined in s. 400.021.

Source: *FL Admin Code 64D-30.0002. (Accessed Sept. 2019).*



Online Prescribing

A health care professional not licensed in this state may provide health care services to a patient located in this state using telehealth if the health care professional registers with the applicable board, or the department if there is no board, and provides health care services within the applicable scope of practice established by Florida law or rule. See law for specific provider requirements.

An out-of-state provider must have professional liability coverage or financial responsibility that includes coverage for telehealth services provided to patients not located in the provider's home state. A health care professional registered under this section may not open an office or provide in-person services. The Department is required to publish all registrants on its website with specific requirements outlined in the law.

Source: FL Statute 456.47. HB 23 (2019 Session). (Accessed Sept. 2019).

Cross State Licensing

Member of the Nurses Licensure Compact.

Source: Current NLC States & Status. Nurse Licensure Compact. (Accessed Sept. 2019).

The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability is required to research and analyze the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and the relevant requirements and provisions of general law and the State Constitution and develop a report and recommendations addressing the state's prospective entrance into the compact.

Source: FL Statute 627.42393. (Accessed Sept. 2019).

Miscellaneous

At the time of license renewal all practitioners must fill out a Telehealth Practitioner Survey.

Source: FL Admin Code 64B8-9.008. (Accessed Sept. 2019).

Professional Board Telehealth-Specific Regulations

- FL Board of Medicine (**Source:** Florida Admin Code 64B15-14.0081) (Accessed Sept. 2019).
- FL Board of Osteopathic Medicine (**Source:** Florida Admin Code 64B15-14.0081) (Accessed Sept. 2019).

