

Wisconsin

Medicaid Program: Forward Medicaid

Program Administrator: Wisconsin Dept. of Health Services

Regional Telehealth Resource Center: Great Plains Telehealth Resource and Assistance Center

Covers the States of: Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin

<https://www.gptrac.org>

Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement

Summary

Forward Medicaid allows reimbursement for live video under some circumstances. There is no reimbursement for store-and-forward or remote patient monitoring as services must be delivered at the same functional equivalency as face-to-face care.

Definitions

Telehealth enables a provider who is located at a distant site to render the service remotely to a member located at an originating site using a combination of interactive video, audio, and externally acquired images through a networking environment.

Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).

“Telehealth” is a service provided from a remote location using a combination of interactive video, audio, and externally acquired images through a networking environment between an individual at an originating site and a provider at a remote location with the service being of sufficient audio and visual fidelity and clarity as to be functionally equivalent to face-to-face contact. “Telehealth” does not include telephone conversations or Internet-based communications between providers or between providers and individuals.

Source: Wisconsin Statute 49.45 (29w)(b)1.b (Accessed Aug. 2019).

“Telehealth” means a service provided from a remote location using a combination of interactive video, audio, and externally acquired images through a networking environment between an individual or a provider at an originating site and a provider at a remote location with the service being of sufficient audio and visual fidelity and clarity as to be functionally equivalent to face-to-face contact; or, in circumstances determined by the department, an asynchronous transmission of digital clinical information through a secure electronic communications system from one provider to another provider. “Telehealth” does not include telephone conversations or Internet-based communications between providers or between providers and individuals.

Source: Wisconsin Statute 49.45 (29w)(b)1.b (SB – 59) (Accessed Aug. 2019).

Live Video

Policy

ForwardHealth allows for certain covered services to be provided via telehealth.

Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).



See Manual for covered telehealth CPT and HCPCS codes.

Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).

Mental health services provided through telehealth are reimbursable by the Medical Assistance program if the provider of the service satisfies the following criteria:

- The provider is a certified provider of mental health services under the Medical Assistance program and is an agency that is certified by the department as an emergency mental health service program, a comprehensive community services program, a mental health day treatment services program for children, a program organized under s. , , or , an outpatient psychotherapy clinic, or a community support program or that is certified by the department to perform a community substance abuse prevention and treatment service, except for narcotic treatment service for opiate addiction.
- The provider and the individual providing the service comply with all Medical assistance coverage policies and standards.
- The provider is certified for telehealth by the department.
- The individual who is providing the service is licensed or registered and in good standing with the appropriate state board.
- The provider is located in the United States.
- The provider is not required to be located in the state.

Source: Wisconsin Statute 49.45 (29w)(b)(2). (Accessed Aug. 2019).

ForwardHealth reimburses providers for telestroke services.

Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).

Allowable providers:

- Audiologists
- Nurse midwives
- Nurse practitioners
- Ph.D. psychologists
- Physician assistants
- Physicians
- Psychiatrists
- Professionals providing services in mental health or substance abuse programs certified by the DQA (Division of Quality Assurance)

Ancillary Providers

Claims for services provided via telehealth by distant site ancillary providers should be billed under the supervising physician’s NPI using the lowest appropriate level office or outpatient visit procedure code. These services must be supervised by an onsite physician.

Certified Mental Health And Substance Abuse Treatment Providers

Required to meet telehealth certification requirements to provide telehealth.

Community Health Centers, Tribal FQHCs and RHCs

They may serve as a distant site provider for telehealth services. See manual for details.

Tribal FQHCs and RHCs may report services provided via telehealth on the cost settlement report when the FQHC or RHC served as the distant site and the member is an established patient of the tribal FQHC or RHC at the time of the telehealth service.

CHCs may not report services provided via telehealth as an encounter. Instead, CHCs should submit claims for distant site services on a professional claim form and will be reimbursed in accordance with the maximum allowable fee schedule

Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).



Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement

Live Video	Eligible Sites	<p>Allowable originating sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitals, including emergency departments • Office/clinic • Skilled nursing facility • Community Health Centers (CHC) • Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) • Rural Health Clinics (RHC) <p>Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>
	Geographic Limits	No reference found.
	Facility/Transmission Fee	<p>Reimbursement for facility fee using HCPCS procedure code Q3014. Modifier GT should not be included with procedure code Q3014</p> <p>An originating site fee is not a tribal FQHC or RHC reportable encounter.</p> <p>CHCs serving as originating sites should bill for originating site services, however no reimbursement will be issued as all costs are incorporated into the prospective payment system (PPS).</p> <p>Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>
Store-and-Forward	Policy	<p>No reimbursement. Services must be functionally equivalent to face-to-face.</p> <p>Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>
	Eligible Services/Specialties	No reference found.



Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement

Store-and-Forward	
Geographic Limits	No reference found.
Transmission Fee	No reference found.
Remote Patient Monitoring	
Policy	<p>No reimbursement. Services must be functionally equivalent to face-to-face.</p> <p>Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>
Conditions	No reference found.
Provider Limitations	No reference found.
Other Restrictions	No reference found.



Medicaid Telehealth Reimbursement	Email / Phone / Fax	<p>No reimbursement for telephone No reimbursement for written electronic communication (text, email)</p> <p>Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>
	Consent	<p>Informed consent required.</p> <p>Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>
	Out of State Providers	<p>Out-of-state providers who do not have border status enrollment with WI Medicaid are required to obtain prior authorization (PA) before providing services. WI Medicaid is prohibited from paying providers located outside of the US, the District of Columbia and its territories.</p> <p>Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>
	Miscellaneous	<p>POS code 02 required.</p> <p>Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p> <p>Services provided via telehealth may qualify for pediatric or Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA) enhanced reimbursement. Pediatric and HPSA-eligible providers must indicate POS code 02 along with modifier GT and the applicable pediatric or HPSA modifier.</p> <p>Source: WI ForwardHealth Online Handbook. Topic #510 Telehealth. (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>
Private Payer Laws	Definitions	No reference found.
	Requirements	No reference found.



Private Payer Laws	Parity	Service Parity	No reference found.
		Payment Parity	No reference found.
Professional Regulation/Health & Safety	Definitions	<p>Telemedicine means the practice of medicine when patient care, treatment or services are provided through the use of medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications. Telemedicine does not include the provision of health care services only through an audio only telephone, email messages, text messages, facsimile transmission, mail or parcel service or any combination thereof.</p> <p>Source: WI Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.02 (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>	
	Consent	<p>Informed consent required.</p> <p>Source: WI Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.07(c). (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>	
	Online Prescribing	<p>When a physician uses a website to communicate with a patient located in this state, the physician may not provide treatment recommendations, including issuing a prescription unless the following requirements are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The physician shall be licensed in the state; • The physician’s name and contact information must be made available to the patient; • Informed consent is required; • A documented patient evaluation performed; • A patient health care record is prepared and maintained. <p>Prescribing based on a static electronic questionnaire does not meet the minimum standard of competent medical practice.</p> <p>Source: WI Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.07 (Accessed Aug. 2019).</p>	



Cross-State Licensing

WI medical license required.

Source: *WI Admin. Code MED Ch. 24.04 (Accessed Aug. 2019).*

Member of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

Source: *Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. (Accessed Aug. 2019).*

Member of the Nurse Licensure Compact

Source: *Nurse Licensure Compact (Accessed Aug. 2019).*

Miscellaneous

Professional Board Telehealth-Specific Regulations

- Medical Examining Board (**Source:** *MED Ch. 24) (Accessed Aug. 2019).*

