

# What is Telemedicine?

Telemedicine is the use of electronic information, imaging and communication technologies, including interactive audio, video, data communications as well as store-and-forward technologies to provide and support health care delivery, diagnosis, consultation, treatment, transfer of medical data and education.

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## Common Telemedicine Terms

### **DISTANT SITE**

The location where the consulting Telemedicine provider is physically located at the time of the visit.

### **INTERACTIVE TELEHEALTH COMMUNICATION SYSTEM**

Must include both interactive audio and video and be delivered on a realtime basis at the Originating and Distant Sites.

### **MODIFIER GT**

Modifier indicating health care service performed via Synchronous Telemedicine (live interactive audio and video).

### **MODIFIER GQ**

Modifier indicating health care service performed via Store-and-Forward

### **ORIGINATING SITE**

The location of an eligible Medicaid recipient at the time the service is furnished via an interactive telemedicine communications system. The Originating Site can be any medically warranted site.

### **OUT-OF-STATE TELEMEDICINE LICENSE**

A limited medical license obtained from the New Mexico Medical Board that allows a Physician located outside New Mexico to practice medicine on Members located in New Mexico.

### **STORE-AND-FORWARD**

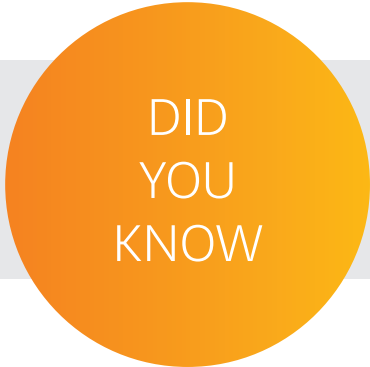
Services provided through the transference of digital images, sounds, or previously recorded video from one location to another to allow a consulting provider to obtain information, analyze it, and report back to the referring physician.

### **STORE-AND-FORWARD TELEMEDICINE**

Telemedicine encounters that do not occur in realtime and do not require a face-to-face encounter between a health care provider and a Member.

### **TELEMEDICINE/TELEHEALTH**

The terms Telemedicine and Telehealth are used interchangeably in the New Mexico Medicaid Program.



Coverage for health care services provided through Telemedicine shall be determined in a manner consistent with Medicaid coverage for health care services provided through in-person consultation. The same program restrictions, limitations and coverages apply.

# General Telemedicine Requirements

- A provider must be eligible for participation as a Medical Assistance Division (MAD) approved provider at the time services are rendered for both Originating and Distant Site.
- An Interactive Telehealth Communication System must include both interactive audio and video and be delivered on a realtime basis (occurring simultaneously) at the Originating and Distant Sites.
- Health care providers are not required to be physically present with a Member at the Originating Site unless the Consulting Telemedicine Provider deems it necessary.
- All Telemedicine prescribing must be compliant with the Ryan Haight Act.
- To qualify as a billable Telemedicine service, Telemedicine systems must meet all State and Federal requirements for interactivity using secure connection and meet HIPAA standards for privacy and security.

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# Out-of-State Telemedicine Services

- If the Originating Site is in New Mexico and the Distant Site is outside of New Mexico, the Provider at the Distant Site must be licensed for Telemedicine to the extent required by New Mexico state law and regulations or meet federal requirements for providing services to Indian Health Service facilities or Tribal contract facilities. Nonphysician practitioners at Distant Sites must be licensed in New Mexico to the extent required by their practicing boards.
- If the Originating Site is outside of New Mexico and the Distant is in New Mexico or outside of New Mexico, the Distant Site must be licensed for Telemedicine to the extent required by New Mexico state law and regulations or meet federal requirements for providing services to Indian Health Service facilities or Tribal contract facilities.

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# Telemedicine Reimbursement

- Reimbursement for Telemedicine is the same as when the service is provided face-to-face.
- The Telemedicine Originating Site Communication System Fee is covered if the Medicaid eligible recipient was present at and participated in the telemedicine visit at the Originating Site and the system in use meets the definition of an Interactive Telehealth Communication System.
- Medicaid does not cover Telemonitoring or telephone consultations between Members and their Providers.

PROCEDURE	ORIGINATING SITE	DISTANT SITE
Telemedicine	N/A	E&M Code; Modifier GT; POS 02
Store-and-Forward	N/A	E&M Code; Modifier GQ; POS 02
Originating Site Fee	Q3014	N/A
ACCESS Program	CT 95999; Modifier U1/U2; POS 02	N/A

QUESTIONS

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