

59G-1.057 Telemedicine.

(1) This rule applies to any person or entity prescribing or reviewing a request for Florida Medicaid services and to all providers of Florida Medicaid services that are enrolled in or registered with the Florida Medicaid program.

(2) Definition. Telemedicine – 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.

(3) Who Can Provide. Practitioners licensed within their scope of practice to perform the service.

(4) Coverage. Florida Medicaid reimburses for telemedicine services using interactive telecommunications equipment that includes, at a minimum audio and video equipment permitting two-way, real time, interactive communication between a recipient and a practitioner.

(5) Exclusion. Florida Medicaid does not reimburse for:

(a) Telephone conversations, chart review(s), electronic mail messages, or facsimile transmissions.

(b) Equipment required to provide telemedicine services.

(6) Reimbursement. The following applies to practitioners rendering services in the fee-for-service delivery system:

(a) Florida Medicaid reimburses the practitioner who is providing the evaluation, diagnosis, or treatment recommendation located at a site other than where the recipient is located.

(b) Providers must include modifier GT on the CMS-1500 claim form, incorporated by reference in Rule 59G-4.001, F.A.C.

Rulemaking Authority 409.919 FS. Law Implemented 409.905 FS. History–New 6-20-16.



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

ELIZABETH DUDEK
SECRETARY

March 11, 2016

Statewide Medicaid Managed Care (SMMC) Policy Transmittal

Policy Transmittal: 16-06

Applicable to:

- Comprehensive Long-term Care (LTC) Plan
- Managed Medical Assistance Health Maintenance Organization
- Managed Medical Assistance Provider Service Network
- Managed Medical Assistance Specialty Plan
- Children's Medical Services (CMS) Plan

RE: Telemedicine Services

Managed care plans may use telemedicine as specified in the contract. (Attachment II, Exhibit II-A, Section V.D.4.a.¹) The purpose of this policy transmittal is to inform managed care plans serving Managed Medical Assistance enrollees of changes in the Telemedicine Coverage Provisions. The managed care plan must submit all policies and procedures to the Agency as required by the contract (Attachment II, Section II.D.4.²), however, managed care plans are no longer required to submit telemedicine policies to the Agency for approval prior to use.

Telemedicine is now defined as the practice of health care delivery by a practitioner who is located at a site other than the site where the patient is located for the purposes of evaluation, diagnosis, or recommendation of treatment. The managed care plan may utilize telemedicine for covered services, as follows:

- (1) Telemedicine services provided under Florida Medicaid must be performed by licensed practitioners within their scope of practice;
- (2) Telemedicine services must involve the use of interactive telecommunications equipment which includes, at a minimum, audio and video equipment permitting two-way, real time, interactive communication between the enrollee and the practitioner; and
- (3) Telephone conversations, chart review, electronic mail messages, or facsimile transmissions are not considered telemedicine.

In addition to the above, managed care plans are responsible for complying with sub-items c., d., and e., of the Telemedicine Coverage Provisions. (Attachment II, Exhibit II-A, Section V.D.4.³)

¹ The citation for the CMS Plan contract is Attachment I, Section V.C.7.a.

² The citation for the CMS Plan contract is Attachment I, Section II.D.4.

³ The citations for the CMS Plan contract are Attachment I, Section V.C.7.c., d., and e.



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If you have any questions, please contact your Agency contract manager at (850) 412-4003.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth Kidder". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "K".

Beth Kidder
Assistant Deputy Secretary for
Medicaid Policy and Quality

BK/sr