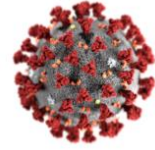




# Wyoming Department of Health:



## Special coding advice for Wyoming Medicaid providers during COVID-19 public health emergency\*

- \*The Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) based this document on that of the same title from the American Medical Association (AMA) (<https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2020-04/covid-19-coding-advice.pdf>), and modified it where necessary in order to be consistent with the rules and standards of the Wyoming Medicaid Program.
- The coding scenarios in this document are designed to apply best coding practices. The AMA and WDH are working to ensure that all payors are applying the greatest flexibility to our physicians in providing care to their patients during this public health crisis.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) lifted Medicare restrictions on the use of telehealth services during the COVID-19 emergency. Key changes include:
  - Effective March 6 and throughout the national public health emergency, Medicare will pay physicians for telehealth services at the same rate as in-person visits for all diagnoses, not just services related to COVID-19.
  - Patients can receive telehealth services in all areas of the country and in all settings, including at their home.
  - CMS will not enforce a requirement that patients have an established relationship with the physician providing telehealth.
  - Physicians can reduce or waive cost-sharing for telehealth visits.
  - Physicians licensed in one state can provide services to Medicare beneficiaries in another state. State licensure laws still apply.
  - HHS Office for Civil Rights offers flexibility for telehealth via popular video chat applications, such as FaceTime or Skype, during the pandemic.
  - AMA's telemedicine quick guide has detailed information to support physicians and practices in expediting implementation of telemedicine.
- Disclaimer: Information provided by the AMA contained within this Guide is for medical coding guidance purposes only. It does not (i) supersede or replace the AMA's Current Procedural Terminology® manual ("CPT Manual") or other coding authority, (ii) constitute clinical advice, (iii) address or dictate payer coverage or reimbursement policy, and (iv) substitute for the professional judgement of the practitioner performing a procedure, who remains responsible for correct coding.

To learn more about CPT licensing [click here](#).

## Scenario 1: Patient comes to office for E/M visit, is tested for COVID-19 during the visit.

Action	In-office E/M visit	Patient swab sample collected	COVID-19 test performed
Who is performing	Physician/QHP	Clinical staff (e.g., RN/LPN/MA)	Laboratory
Applicable CPT Codes	99201-99205 (New Patient) 99212-99215 (Established Patient)	Included in E/M	87635 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique
Applicable ICD-10 codes	Possible exposure to COVID-19 Z03.818 Actual exposure to COVID-19 Z20.828		
Place of Service (POS)	11 Physician Office	N/A	11 Physician office 19 Off Campus Outpatient Hospital 22 On Campus Outpatient Hospital 81 Independent Laboratory

## Scenario 2: Patient comes to office for E/M visit re: COVID-19 and is directed to testing site

Action	In-office E/M visit	COVID-19 test performed
Who is performing	Physician/QHP	Laboratory
Applicable CPT Codes	99201-99205 (New Patient) 99212-99215 (Established Patient)	87635 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique
Applicable ICD-10 codes	Possible exposure to COVID-19 Z03.818 Actual exposure to COVID-19 Z20.828	
Place of Service (POS)	11 Physician Office	11 Physician office 19 Off Campus Outpatient Hospital 22 On Campus Outpatient Hospital 81 Independent Laboratory

### Scenario 3: Patient received telehealth visit re: COVID-19, and is directed to come to physician office or physician's group practice site for testing

Action	Patient evaluated for COVID-19 testing need: E/M telehealth OR telephone visit <i>(Flexibility: permit audio only for E/M Telehealth)</i>	Pt goes to office	Throat swabs taken in office	Swab sent to lab	COVID-19 test performed																
Who is performing	Physician / QHP		Clinical Staff (e.g., RN/LPN/MA)		Laboratory team																
Applicable CPT Code(s)	<p>New Patient: E/M Telehealth*</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>99201</td> <td>99203</td> <td>99205</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99202</td> <td>99204</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Established Patient: E/M Telehealth OR Telephone Evaluation (independent of E/M)*</i></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>99212 (typical time 10 min)</td> <td>99441 (5-10 min)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99213 (typical time 15 min)</td> <td>99442 (11-20 min)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99214 (typical time 25 min)</td> <td>99443 (21-30 min)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>99215 (typical time 40 min)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>GT Modifier</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	99201	99203	99205	99202	99204		99212 (typical time 10 min)	99441 (5-10 min)	99213 (typical time 15 min)	99442 (11-20 min)	99214 (typical time 25 min)	99443 (21-30 min)	99215 (typical time 40 min)		GT Modifier		Patient directed to proceed to office for COVID-19 testing	99211		87635 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique
99201	99203	99205																			
99202	99204																				
99212 (typical time 10 min)	99441 (5-10 min)																				
99213 (typical time 15 min)	99442 (11-20 min)																				
99214 (typical time 25 min)	99443 (21-30 min)																				
99215 (typical time 40 min)																					
GT Modifier																					
Applicable ICD-10 codes	Possible exposure to COVID-19 - Z03.818 Actual exposure to COVID-19 - Z20.828																				
Place of Service (POS)	02 Telehealth		11 Physician Office		11 Physician office 19 Off Campus Outpatient Hospital 22 On Campus Outpatient Hospital 81 Independent Laboratory																
Notes	<p>*Payers may require the use of Modifier GT for telehealth services</p> <p><a href="#">Office for Civil Rights at HHS provides flexibility on audio/visual tools</a></p> <p><a href="#">Medicare will pay telehealth at office visit rates and not conduct audits to ensure prior relationship with patient</a></p>		<p><i>Add modifier 25 if same date of service as Physician/QHP assessment</i></p>																		

## Scenario 4: Patient received telehealth visit re: COVID-19, and is directed to unaffiliated testing site

Action	Patient Evaluated for COVID-19 testing need: E/M telehealth OR telephone visit <i>(Flexibility: permit audio only for E/M telehealth)</i>	Pt goes to testing site	Coronavirus test performed
Who is performing/reporting	Physician / QHP		Laboratory team
Applicable CPT Code(s)	<i>New Patient: E/M Telehealth*</i> 99201    99203    99205 99202    99204		87635 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique
	<i>Established Patient: E/M Telehealth OR Telephone Evaluation (independent of E/M)*</i>		
	99212 (typical time 10 min)	99441 (5-10 min)	
	99213 (typical time 15 min)	99442 (11-20 min)	
	99214 (typical time 25 min)	99443 (21 – 30 min)	
	99215 (typical time 40 min)		
	GT Modifier		
Applicable ICD-10 codes	Possible exposure to COVID-19 - Z03.818 Actual exposure to COVID-19 - Z20.828		
Place of Service	02 Telehealth		11 Physician office 19 Off Campus Outpatient Hospital 22 On Campus Outpatient Hospital 81 Independent Laboratory
Notes	<p>*Payors may require the use of Modifier GT for telehealth services <a href="#">Office for Civil Rights at HHS provides flexibility on audio/visual tools</a></p> <p><a href="#">Medicare will pay telehealth at office visit rates and not conduct audits to ensure prior relationship with patient</a></p> <p>**COVID-19 test orders given to patient**</p>		

**Scenario 5: Patient receives virtual check-in/online visit re: COVID-19 (not related to E/M visit), and is directed to come to physician office for testing**

Action	Patient evaluated for COVID-19 testing need: Online digital E/M	Pt goes to office	Throat swab taken in office	Swab sent to lab	COVID-19 test performed
Who is performing	Physician / QHP		Clinical Staff (e.g. RN/LPN/MA)		Laboratory team
Applicable CPT Code(s)	New Patient: N/A  Established Patient: 99421 (5-10 min) 99422 (11-20 min) 99423 (21 or more min)  GT Modifier	Patient directed to proceed to office for COVID-19 testing	99211		87635 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique
Applicable ICD-10 codes	Possible exposure - Z03.818 Actual exposure - Z20.828				
Place of Service (POS)	11 Physician Office		11 Physician Office		11 Physician office 19 Off Campus Outpatient Hospital 22 On Campus Outpatient Hospital 81 Independent Laboratory
Notes	- For Established Patients - Patient Initiates communication		<i>Add modifier 25 if same date of service as Physician/QHP assessment</i>		

## Scenario 6: Patient receives virtual check-in/online visit re: COVID-19 (not related to E/M visit) and is directed to unaffiliated testing site

Action	Patient evaluated for COVID-19 testing need: Online digital E/M	Pt goes to testing site	COVID-19 test performed
Who is performing	Physician / QHP		Laboratory team
Applicable CPT Code(s)	New Patient: N/A  Established Patient: 99421 (5-10 min) 99422 (11-20 min) 99423 (21 or more min)  GT Modifier		87635 Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique
Applicable ICD-10 codes	Possible exposure - Z03.818 Actual exposure - Z20.828		
Place of Service	11 Physician Office		11 Physician office 19 Off Campus Outpatient Hospital 22 On Campus Outpatient Hospital 81 Independent Laboratory
Notes	- For Established Patients - Patient Initiates communication **COVID-19 test orders given to patient**		

## Scenario 7: Telehealth visit for a COVID-19 diagnosed patient

Action	Communication method	Patient assessed: E/M telehealth, telephone assessment ( <i>Flexibility: permit audio only for E/M telehealth</i> )
Who is performing		Physician / QHP
Applicable CPT Code(s)	<b>Audio</b>	<i>New Patient: E/M Telehealth*</i> 99201 99202 99203 99204 99205
	<i>or</i>	<i>Established Patient: E/M Telehealth OR Telephone Evaluation (independent of E/M)*</i>
		99212 (typical time 10 min)                      99441 (5-10 min)
		99213 (typical time 15 min)                      99442 (11-20 min)
	<b>Audio/Video</b>	99214 (typical time 25 min)                      99443 (21-30 min)
		99215 (typical time 40 min)
		GT Modifier
Applicable ICD-10 codes		U07.1, COVID-19 <i>Effective April 1, 2020</i> <a href="#">CDC Announcement</a>
Place of Service		02 Telehealth
Notes		*Payors may require the use of Modifier 95 for telehealth services



**Scenario 8:** Patient with COVID-19 receives virtual check-in **OR** on-line visits via patient portal/e-mail (not related to E/M visit) **OR** telephone call from qualified nonphysician (those who may not report E/M)

Action	Communication method	Patient evaluated	
Who is performing		Physician / QHP	Qualified nonphysician (may not report E/M)
	Online Visits (eg EHR portal, secure email; allowed digital communication)	99421 (5-10 min) 99422 (11-20 min) 99423 (21 or more min)	GT Modifier
Applicable ICD-10 codes		U07.1, COVID-19 <i>Effective April 1, 2020</i> <a href="#">CDC Announcement</a>	
Place of Service		11 Physician Office or other applicable site of the practitioner's normal office location	
<p><u>A virtual check-in pays professionals for brief (5-10 min) communications that mitigate the need for an in-person visit, whereas a visit furnished via Medicare telehealth is treated the same as an in-person visit</u></p>			

# Scenario 9: Physician orders remote physiologic monitoring following patient quarantined at home after receiving COVID-19 diagnosis

Action	Patient receives initial set-up of monitoring device and education on its use	Remote physiologic monitoring treatment management services (First 20 minutes)	Remote physiologic monitoring treatment management services (Each additional 20 minutes)
Who is performing	Physician/QHP/Clinical Staff	Physician/QHP	Physician/QHP
Applicable CPT Code(s)	99453 – Not allowed for WY Medicaid. Remote monitoring of physiologic parameter(s) (e.g., weight, blood pressure, pulse oximetry, respiratory flow rate), initial; set-up and patient education on use of equipment  GT Modifier	99457-Not allowed for WY Medicaid. Remote physiologic monitoring treatment management services, clinical staff/physician/other qualified health care professional time in a calendar month requiring interactive communication with the patient/caregiver during the month; first 20 minutes  GT Modifier	99458 Remote physiologic monitoring treatment management services, clinical staff/physician/ other qualified health care professional time in a calendar month requiring interactive communication with the patient/caregiver during the month; each additional 20 minutes (List separately in addition to code for primary procedure)  GT Modifier
Place of Service	11 Physician Office	11 Physician Office	11 Physician Office
Notes	Do not report 99453 for monitoring of less than 16 days	Bill once per calendar month, regardless of number of parameters monitored	Use 99458 in conjunction with 99457

## Scenario 10 – (Non-COVID-19 case):Telehealth visit for a non-COVID-19 patient

Action	Communication method	Patient assessed: E/M telehealth, telephone assessment ( <i>Flexibility: Permit audio only for E/M telehealth</i> )
Who is performing		Physician / QHP
Applicable CPT Code(s)	<b>Audio</b>	<i>New Patient: E/M Telehealth*</i> 99201 99202 99203 99204 99205
	<i>or</i>	GT Modifier
	<b>Audio/Video</b>	<i>Established Patient: E/M Telehealth OR Telephone Evaluation (independent of E/M)*</i> 99212 (typical time 10 min)      99441 (5-10 min) 99213 (typical time 15 min)      99442 (11-20 min) 99214 (typical time 25 min)      99443 (21-30 min) 99215 (typical time 40 min)
		GT Modifier
Applicable ICD-10 codes		Report relevant ICD-10 code(s) related to reason for call or online interaction
Place of Service		02 Telehealth
Notes		*Payors may require the use of Modifier GT for telehealth services

**Scenario 11 – (Non-COVID-19 case): Patient receives virtual check-in Or on-line visits via patient portal/e-mail (not related to E/M visit) OR telephone call from qualified nonphysician (those who may not report E/M)**

Action	Communication method	Patient evaluated	
Who is performing		Physician / QHP	Qualified nonphysician (may not report E/M)
Applicable CPT Code(s)	Virtual Check-Ins Other Phone Call	GT Modifier	Not allowed for WY Medicaid.
	Online Visits (eg EHR portal, secure email; allowed digital communication)	99421 (5-10 min) 99422 (11-20 min) 99423 (21 or more min)	GT Modifier
Applicable ICD-10 codes		Report relevant ICD-10 code related to reason for call or online interaction	
Place of Service		11 Physician Office or other applicable site of the practitioner’s normal office location	
<p><u><a href="#">A virtual check-in pays professionals for brief (5-10 min) communications that mitigate the need for an in-person visit, whereas a visit furnished via Medicare telehealth is treated the same as an in-person visit</a></u></p>			

\*The Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) based this document on that of the same title from the American Medical Association (AMA) (<https://www.ama-assn.org/system/files/2020-04/covid-19-coding-advice.pdf>), and modified it where necessary in order to be consistent with the rules and standards of the Wyoming Medicaid Program.

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