

# Claims for Telephone (Audio Only) Medical Services

Information posted March 20, 2020

**Note:** *Texas Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) must provide all medically necessary, Medicaid-covered services to eligible clients. Administrative procedures such as prior authorization, pre-certification, referrals, and claims/encounter data filing may differ from traditional Medicaid (fee-for-service) and from MCO to MCO. Providers should contact the client's specific MCO for details.*

To help ensure continuity of care during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) response, HHSC is authorizing providers to bill the following procedure codes for telephone (audio only) medical (physician delivered) evaluation and management services delivered on March 20, 2020 through April 30, 2020:

Description of Services	Procedure Codes
Evaluation and Management (E/M)	99201, 99202, 99203, 99204, 99205, 99211, 99212, 99213, 99214, 99215

Providers should continue to use the 95 modifier to indicate the occurrence of remote delivery.

Telephonic evaluation and management services must not be billed if it is determined that an in-person or telemedicine (video) office visit is needed within 24 hours or at the next available appointment. In those cases, the telephone service will be considered a part of the subsequent office visit.

If the telephone call follows an office visit performed and reported within the past seven calendar days for the same diagnosis, then the telephone services are considered part of the previous office visit and are not billed separately.

Providers can refer to the *Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual*, *Telecommunication Services Handbook* for additional information about the Texas Medicaid telemedicine services benefit.

For more information, call the TMHP Contact Center at 800-925-9126.