

Provider Hot Tip

COVID-19: Telehealth – REVISED March 20, 2020

The MO HealthNet Division (MHD) is responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus. The virus has been named "SARS-CoV-2" and the disease it causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19").

MO HealthNet covers Telehealth services. MO HealthNet allows any licensed health care provider, enrolled as a MO HealthNet provider, to provide telehealth services if the services are within the scope of practice for which the health care provider is licensed. The services must be provided with the same standard of care as services provided in person.

Telehealth services may be provided to a MHD participant, while at home, using their telephone. The originating site facility fee cannot be billed to MO HealthNet when the originating site is the participant's home.

There is not a separate telehealth fee schedule. Reimbursement to health care providers delivering the medical service at the distant site is equal to the current fee schedule amount for the service provided.

Please find information regarding Telehealth billing and reimbursement here: <https://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pdf/bulletin41-20-2018.pdf>. You can also view the Missouri Telehealth law here: [191.1145](#), [191.1146](#), [208.670](#), and [208.677](#).

Hospitals may bill a facility fee for distant site services provided in their facilities. The distant site service must be billed on the UB04 claim form using the GT modifier.

RHCs may use either their RHC provider number or their non-RHC provider number when operating as a distant site. Please find information regarding RHC billing for Telehealth here: <https://dss.mo.gov/mhd/providers/pdf/bulletin41-44-3-19.pdf>.

Provider based RHC's billing for distant site services on a UB04 claim form must include the GT modifier on their claim.

During this event, the MHD is:

- **Waiving the requirement that physicians must have an established relationship with the patient before providing services via telehealth.**
- **Waiving the co-payment for any services provided by means of Telehealth.**
- **Allowing quarantined providers to provide telehealth services from their homes. These services should be billed as distant site services using the clinics provider number.**

- **Waiving the requirement that, in order to treat patients in this state through the use of telemedicine or telehealth, health care providers shall be fully licensed to practice in this state. MHD will allow providers to bill for telehealth services as long as they are licensed in the state in which they practice.**

This Hot Tip also applies to providers that are contracted with the Managed Care Organizations.