

Massachusetts

Medicaid Program: MassHealth

Program Administrator: MA Dept. of Health and Human Services

Regional Telehealth Resource Center:

Northeast Telehealth Resource Center

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Recent Policy Developments:

Massachusetts passed SB 2400 in 2012, which requires the MA Division of Insurance and Board of Registration in Medicine to review out-of-state physician issues and develop recommendations for legislation to permit use of out-of-state physicians for telemedicine.

STATE LAW/REGULATIONS	MEDICAID PROGRAM
Definition of telemedicine/telehealth	
<p>“Telemedicine as it pertains to the delivery of health care services, shall mean the use of interactive audio, video or other electronic media for the purpose of diagnosis, consultation or treatment. ‘Telemedicine’ shall not include the use of audio-only telephone, facsimile machine or e-mail.”</p> <p><i>Source: Annotated Laws of MA. Chapter 175, Sec. 47BB.</i></p>	No reference found.
Live Video Reimbursement	
<p>Private payers may provide coverage of telemedicine services (subject to contract terms and conditions), which includes live video.</p> <p><i>(See “Private Payers” section).</i></p> <p><i>Source: MA Session Laws: Acts of 2012. Chapter 224, S.B. 2400.</i></p>	No reference found.
Store and Forward Reimbursement	
No reference found.	No reference found.
Remote Patient Monitoring Reimbursement	
No reference found.	<p>In the FY 2014 State Budget, MA appropriates funds for the reimbursement of telehealth remote patient monitoring provided by home health agencies as a service to clients reimbursable through Medicaid, as long as it is for short term reimbursement.</p> <p><i>Source: MA EOHHS and MassHealth. 4000-300.</i></p>
Email/Phone/FAX Restrictions	
No Reimbursement for email.	No reimbursement for telephone. No reference to email

STATE LAW/REGULATIONS	MEDICAID PROGRAM
<p>No reimbursement for telephone. No reimbursement for FAX.</p> <p><i>Source: MA Session Laws: Acts of 2012. Chapter 224, S.B. 2400.</i></p>	<p>or fax found.</p> <p><i>Source: Acute Outpatient Hospital Manual Transmittal Letter AOH-31. December 2013; Chronic Disease and Rehabilitation Outpatient Hospital Manual Transmittal Letter COH-9. Jan. 2, 2015; Psychiatric Outpatient Hospital Manual Transmittal Letter POH 4 12/26/08; Podiatrist Manual Transmittal Letter POD-60 11/15/08. (Accessed Jul. 2015).</i></p> <p>Psychotherapy in crisis services is limited to face-to-face contacts; services via telephone are not reimbursable.</p> <p><i>Source: Mental Health Center Manual Transmittal Letter MHC-47. 1/1/14. (Accessed Jul. 2015).</i></p>
Online Prescribing	
<p>Prior to any e-prescribing, there must be a physician-patient relationship that conforms to certain minimum norms and standards of care, which includes taking a medical history and conducting an appropriate exam.</p> <p><i>Source: "Internet Prescribing," MA Board of Registration in Medicine. Dec. 17, 2003. (Accessed Jul. 2015).</i></p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
Consent	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
Location	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
Cross-State Licensing	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
Private Payers	
<p>Private payers may provide coverage of telemedicine services, subject to contract terms and conditions, and must be consistent with coverage for health care services provided through in-person consultations.</p> <p><i>Source: MA Session Laws: Acts of 2012. Chapter 224, S.B. 2400.</i></p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
Site/Transmission Fee	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
Miscellaneous	

COMMENTS: The 2016 MA State Budget requires the health policy commission to implement a one year regional pilot program to further the development and utilization of telemedicine in the commonwealth.

Source: MA Bill H 3650 (2015).

