

Virginia

Medicaid Program: Virginia Medicaid

Medicaid Program Administrator: State Dept. of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)

Regional Telehealth Resource Center:

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| Definition of telemedicine/telehealth | |
| <p>Telemedicine services means the use of electronic technology or media, including interactive audio or video for the purpose of diagnosing or treating a patient or consulting with other health care providers regarding a patient’s diagnosis or treatment. ‘Telemedicine services’ does not include an audio-only telephone, electronic mail message, facsimile transmission, or online questionnaire.</p> <p><i>Source: VA Code Annotated Sec. 38.2-3418.16 & Senate Bill 1227, House Bill 2063 (2015).</i></p> | <p>“Telemedicine is the real-time or near real-time exchange of information for diagnosing and treating medical conditions. Telemedicine utilizes audio/video connections linking medical practitioners in one locality with medical practitioners in another locality.”</p> <p><i>Source: VA Dept. of Medical Assistant Svcs., Medicaid Provider Manual, Physician/Practitioner Manual, Covered Svcs. and Limitations, p. 25 (Apr. 2, 2012).</i></p> <p>“Telemedicine is the real-time or near real-time exchange of information for diagnosing and treating medical conditions.”</p> <p><i>Source: VA Dept. of Medical Assistant Svcs., Medicaid Provider Manual, Psychiatric Services Provider Manual, Covered Svcs. and Limitations, p. 36 (Dec. 30, 2013).</i></p> <p>Telemedicine service providers provide real-time two-way transfer of medical data and information using an interactive audio/video connection for the purposes of medical diagnosis and treatment.</p> <p><i>Source: Physician Provider Manual. Ch II: Provider Participation Requirements (Jul., 18, 2014) pg. 11.</i></p> |
| Live Video Reimbursement | |
| <p>Virginia statute requires coverage of telemedicine (which includes live video) by private insurers, subject to their terms and conditions.</p> <p><i>Source: VA Code Annotated Sec. 38.2-3418.16 (2012).</i></p> | <p>Yes, for all Medicaid recipients irrespective of fee-for-service or managed care organization coverage.</p> <p>Eligible services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office visits; • Individual psychotherapy; • Psychiatric diagnostic interview examinations; • Pharmacologic management; • Colposcopy; • Obstetric ultrasound; • Fetal echocardiography; |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiography interpretation and report only; • Echocardiography; • Speech therapy services. <p>Eligible providers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physicians; • Nurse practitioners; • Nurse midwives; • Clinical nurse specialists; • Clinical psychologists; • Clinical social workers; • Licensed professional counselors; • Speech pathologists (speech therapy only). <p><i>Source: VA Dept. of Medical Assistant Svcs., Medicaid Provider Manual, Physician/Practitioner Manual, Covered Svcs. and Limitations, p. 25 (Apr. 2, 2012).</i></p> <p>Speech therapy reimbursement for the speech-language pathologist at the remote location and a qualified school aide with the child during the tele-practice session.</p> <p><i>Source: VA Dept. of Medical Assistant Svcs., Medicaid Provider Manual, Local Education Agency Provider Manual, Covered Svcs. and Limitations, p. 11 (May 12, 2014).</i></p> |
| Store and Forward Reimbursement | |
| No reference found. | <p>CCHP has been informed by a source in Virginia's Department of Medical Assistance Services that they do cover diabetic retinopathy screening and dermatology by store and forward. Additionally, radiology will be added shortly.</p> <p>A telemedicine coverage memo to providers is expected to be released in the coming months.</p> |
| Remote Patient Monitoring Reimbursement | |
| No reference found. | No reference found. |
| Email/Phone/FAX | |
| <p>No reimbursement for email. No reimbursement for telephone. No reimbursement for FAX.</p> <p><i>Source: VA Code Annotated Sec. 38.2-3418.16 (2012).</i></p> | No reference found. |
| Online Prescribing | |
| <p>Practitioners prescribing controlled substances must have a "bona fide" relationship with the patient.</p> <p>Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining a medical or drug history; | No reference found. |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Informing the patient about the benefits and risks of the drug; Conducting a patient exam, either physically or by the use of instrumentation and diagnostic equipment, through which images and medical records may be transmitted electronically. <p>Additional requirements apply for the prescription of Schedule VI controlled substances via telemedicine.</p> <p><i>Source: VA Code Annotated Sec. 54.1-3303 & Senate Bill 1227, House Bill 2063 (2015).</i></p> <p>Also see Comment section.</p> | |
| Consent | |
| See Comments section. | No reference found. |
| Location | |
| No reference found. | <p>Providers must be physically present in Virginia during the telemedicine encounter.</p> <p><i>Source: VA Dept. of Medical Assistant Svcs., Medicaid Provider Manual, Psychiatric Services Provider Manual, Covered Svcs. and Limitations, p. 36 (Dec. 30, 2013).</i></p> |
| Cross-State Licensing | |
| No reference found. | <p>Providers must be licensed in Virginia and enrolled in the state Medicaid program in which they practice medicine.</p> <p><i>Source: Physician Provider Manual. Ch II: Provider Participation Requirements (Jul., 18, 2014) pg. 11.</i></p> |
| Private Payers | |
| <p>Requires coverage of telemedicine services, subject to contract terms and conditions.</p> <p>Reimbursement must be the same as in-person services.</p> <p><i>Source: VA Code Annotated Sec. 38.2-3418.16 (2012).</i></p> | No reference found. |
| Site/Transmission Fee | |
| <p>Reimbursement allowed, but not required.</p> <p><i>Source: VA Code Annotated Sec. 38.2-3418.16 (2012).</i></p> | Reimburses a facility fee. |
| Miscellaneous | |
| | |

Comments: **Newly Adopted Telemedicine Guidance from VA Medical Board**

- Prescribing via telemedicine is at the discretion of the prescribing practitioner.
- Informed consent must be obtained and maintained.
- See guidance for additional requirements.

Source: Telemedicine Guidance. Doc. # 85-12. VA Board of Medicine.