

# Rhode Island

**Medicaid Program:** Rhode Island Medical Assistance Program

**Medicaid Program Administrator:** Rhode Island Dept. of Human Services

**Regional Telehealth Resource Center:**

Northeast Telehealth Resource Center

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STATE LAW/REGULATIONS	MEDICAID PROGRAM
<b>Definition of telemedicine/telehealth</b>	
<p>"Telemedicine" means the delivery of clinical health care services by means of real time two-way electronic audiovisual communications, including the application of secure video conferencing or store-and-forward technology to provide or support health care delivery, which facilitate the assessment, diagnosis, treatment, and care management of a patient's health care while such patient is at an originating site and the health care provider is at a distant site, consistent with applicable federal laws and regulations. Telemedicine does not include an audio-only telephone conversation, email message or facsimile transmission between the provider and patient, or an automated computer program used to diagnose and/or treat ocular or refractive conditions.</p> <p><i>Source: RI General Law, Sec. 27-81-3(12).</i></p> <p>Telemedicine is defined very generally as the delivery of healthcare where there is no in-person exchange. Telemedicine, more specifically, is a mode of delivering healthcare services and public health utilizing information and communication technologies to enable the diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, care management, and self-management of patients at a distance from health care providers.</p> <p><i>Source: RI Department of Health. Telemedicine. Accessed Oct. 2017 <a href="http://www.health.ri.gov/healthcare/about/telemedicine/">http://www.health.ri.gov/healthcare/about/telemedicine/</a></i></p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
<b>Live Video Reimbursement</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.
<b>Store and Forward Reimbursement</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.
<b>Remote Patient Monitoring Reimbursement</b>	
No reference found.	No reference found.
<b>Email/Phone/FAX</b>	

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<b>Online Prescribing</b>	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
<b>Consent</b>	
<p>Informed consent should be employed for the use of patient-physician email and other text based communications.</p> <p><i>Source: RI Department of Health. Telemedicine. Accessed Oct. 2017 <a href="http://www.health.ri.gov/healthcare/about/telemedicine/">http://www.health.ri.gov/healthcare/about/telemedicine/</a></i></p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
<b>Location</b>	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
<b>Cross-State Licensure</b>	
<p>RI allows physicians who have a license in good standing in another state to consult with RI licensed physicians or provide teaching assistance.</p> <p>Physicians not present in RI may not provide consultation to a patient without an established physician-patient relationship, unless that patient is in the physical presence of a physician licensed in RI.</p> <p><i>Source: RI General Law, Sec. 5-37-14.</i></p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
<b>Private Payers</b>	
<p><b><u>Recently Passed Legislation (Effective Jan. 1, 2018)</u></b>  A health insurer shall not exclude a health care service for coverage solely because the health care service is provided through telemedicine and is not provided through in-person consultation or contact, subject to the terms and conditions of a telemedicine agreement between the insurer and provider.</p> <p><i>Source: RI General Law, Sec. 27-81-4.</i></p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
<b>Site/Transmission Fee</b>	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	
<p>See Department of Health Policy for Department of Health Telemedicine Guidelines for other requirements on RI providers.</p> <p><i>Source: RI Department of Health. Telemedicine. Accessed Oct. 2017 <a href="http://www.health.ri.gov/healthcare/about/telemedicine/">http://www.health.ri.gov/healthcare/about/telemedicine/</a></i></p> <p>Legislative Commission established to examine the</p>	

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Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.  <i>Source: S. 1002 (2017).</i>	