

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
Definition of telemedicine/telehealth	
<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 http://www.health.ri.gov/healthcare/about/telemedicine/</i></p>	<p>No reference found.</p>
Live Video Reimbursement	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>Rhode Island Medicaid's fee schedule lists several telehealth service CPT codes related to follow-up inpatient telehealth consultations.</p> <p><i>Source: RI Department of Health. Medicaid Fee Schedule Rates. Accessed Apr. 2018.</i></p>
Store and Forward Reimbursement	
<p>No reference found.</p>	<p>No reference found.</p>

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Remote Patient Monitoring Reimbursement	
No reference found.	No reference found.
Email/Phone/FAX	
<p>Telemedicine does not include an audio-only telephone conversation, email message or facsimile transmission between the provider and patient.</p> <p><i>Source: RI General Law, Sec. 27-81-3(12).</i></p>	No reference found.
Online Prescribing	
No reference found.	No reference found.
Consent	
<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 http://www.health.ri.gov/healthcare/about/telemedicine/</i></p>	No reference found.
Location	
No reference found.	No reference found.
Cross-State Licensure	
<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>	No reference found.
Private Payers	
<p>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>	No reference found.
Site/Transmission Fee	
No reference found.	No reference found.
Miscellaneous	
See Department of Health Policy for Department of Health Telemedicine Guidelines for other requirements on RI providers.	

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<p><i>Source: RI Department of Health. Telemedicine. Accessed Oct. 2017 http://www.health.ri.gov/healthcare/about/telemedicine/</i></p> <p>Legislative Commission established to examine the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.</p> <p><i>Source: S. 1002 (2017).</i></p>	