

# TELEHEALTH 201: Medicaid Telehealth Policy



Center for Connected  
Health Policy

THE NATIONAL  
TELEHEALTH POLICY  
RESOURCE CENTER



## CENTER FOR CONNECTED HEALTH POLICY (CCHP)

Mei Wa Kwong, JD,  
*Executive Director, CCHP*

is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that seeks to advance state and national telehealth policy to promote improvements in health systems and greater health equity.

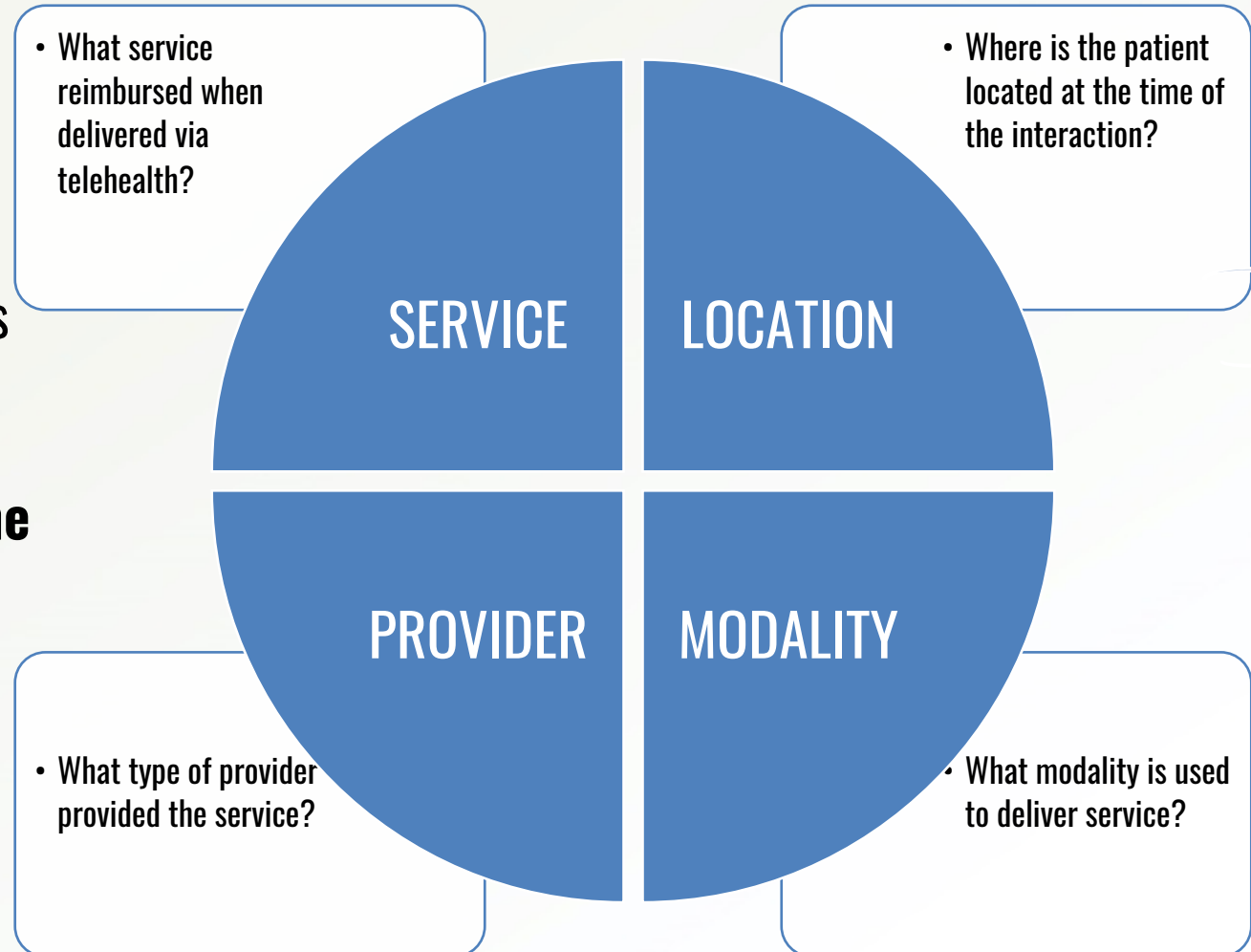
# DISCLAIMERS

- **Any information provided in today's talk is not to be regarded as legal advice. Today's talk is purely for informational purposes.**
- **Always consult with legal counsel.**
- **CCHP has no relevant financial interest, arrangement, or affiliation with any organizations related to commercial products or services discussed in this program.**



# ELEMENTS OF TELEHEALTH REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

- **Most established telehealth policies are on reimbursement**
  - 4 typical elements make up reimbursement policy
  - Most limitations are around these 4 elements
- **Medicaid reimbursement and coverage policy usually covers these elements in some way**



# MEDICAID

- **Medicaid is provides health coverage for low-income adults, children, pregnant women, elderly and people with disabilities**
  - Administered by the states, there are federal requirements
  - It is funded by both federal AND state funds
- **Medicaid Telehealth Policy**
  - States have great leeway in how they formulate their Medicaid telehealth policies
  - Medicaid reimbursement for telehealth delivered services ”must satisfy federal requirements of efficiency, economy and quality of care.”
  - States are not required to submit a state plan amendment (SPA) if they decide to reimburse for telehealth the same way as they do for in-person
  - [CMS Toolkit for Medicaid and CHIP](#)
  - [Medicaid.gov page on telehealth and state Medicaid](#)



# MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT BY SERVICE MODALITY (Fee-for-Service)



## Live Video

50 states and DC



## Store and Forward

Only in 22 states



## Remote Patient Monitoring

29 states

*As of September 2021*



# AUDIO-ONLY MEDICAID POLICY (10/1/2021)



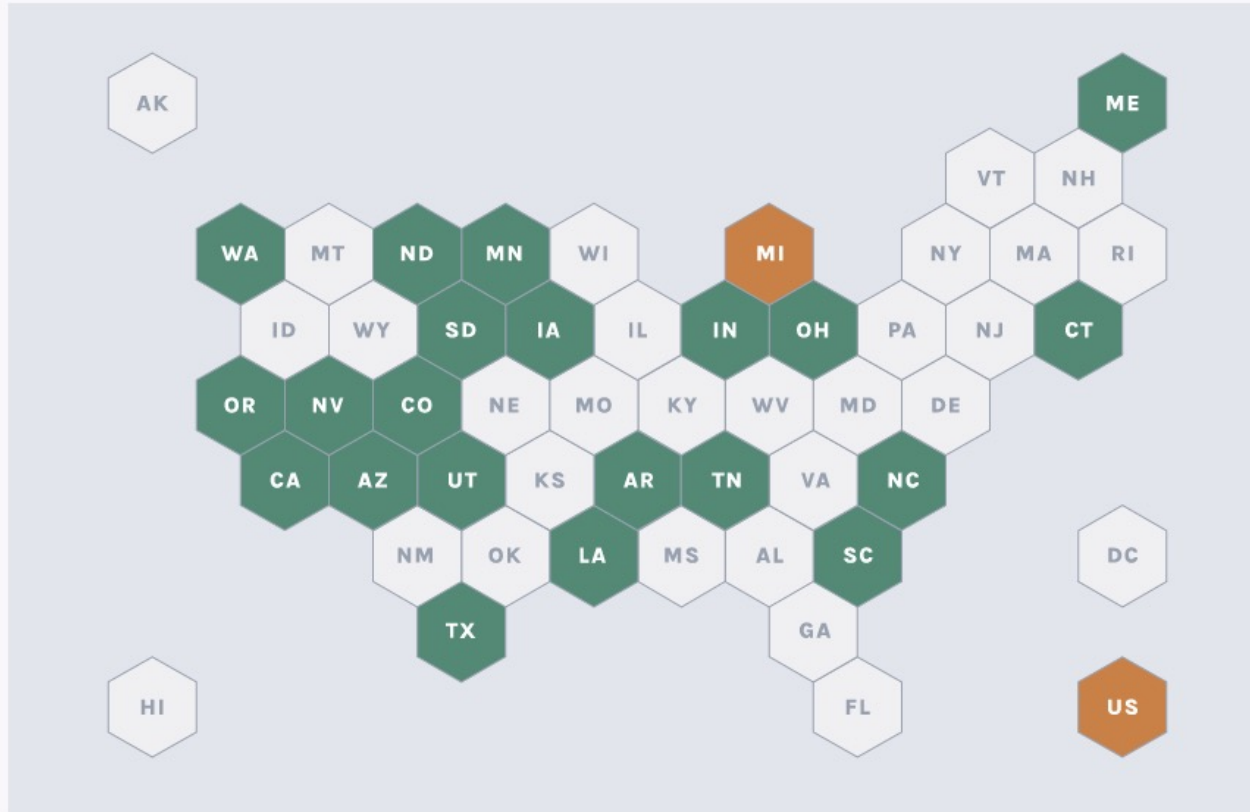
CCHP

Look up policy by:

Topic ▾

Federal

State ▾



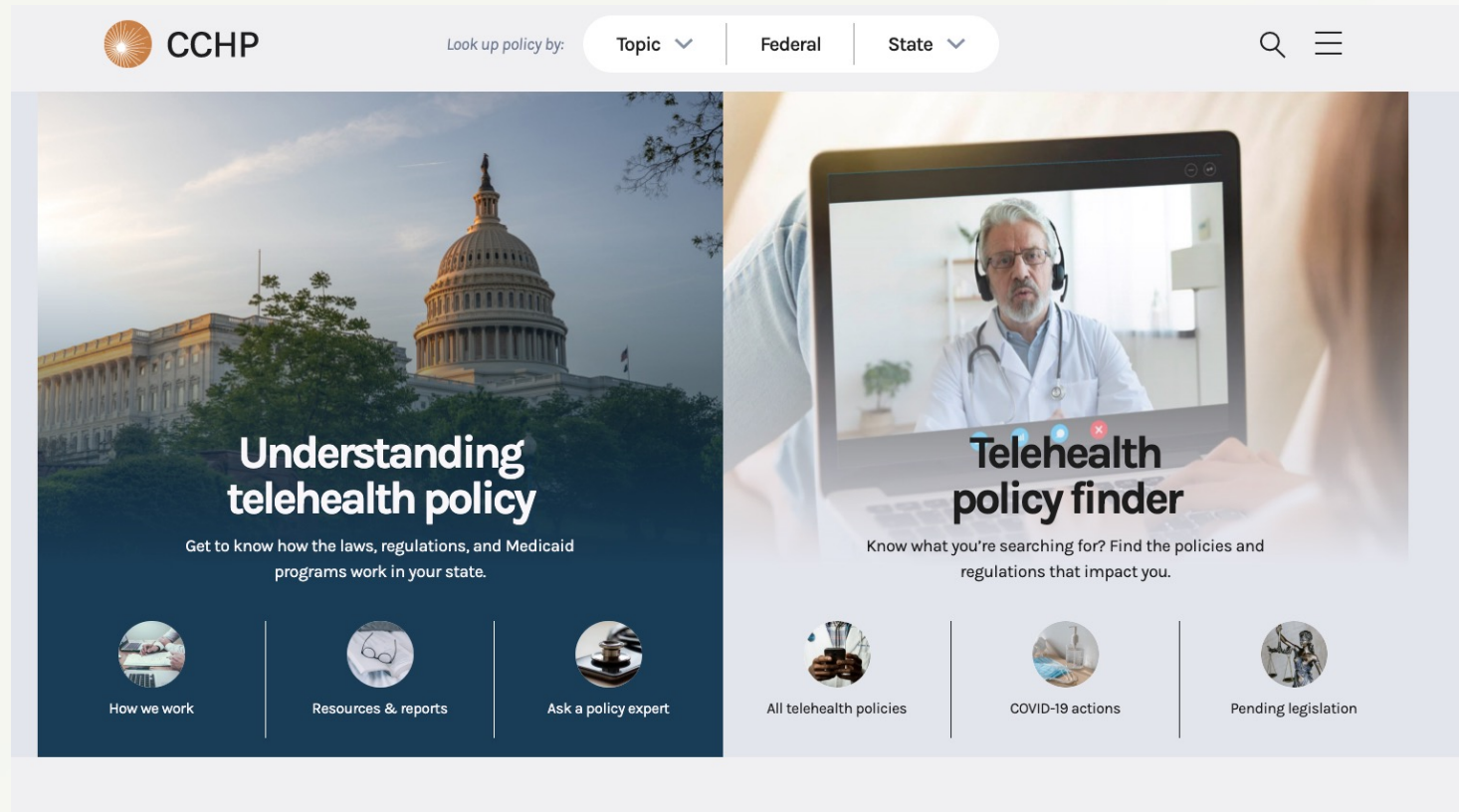
- No reimbursement for telephone
- Reimbursement for telephone
- Telephone only reimbursed through CTBS

## Telephone Medicaid Reimbursement

Eighteen state Medicaid programs now allow for telephone reimbursement in some ways. Sometimes they only reimburse specific specialties such as mental health, or for specific services such as case management. Medicare and three out of the fifteen states are counted as reimbursing for telephone as a result of reimbursement for a CTBS code that allows for audio-only interaction. Map based on research conducted between June 2021 and September 2021.



## ➤ CCHP Website – [cchpca.org](http://cchpca.org)



## ➤ Subscribe to the CCHP newsletter at [cchpca.org/contact/subscribe](http://cchpca.org/contact/subscribe)





**Center for Connected  
Health Policy**

THE NATIONAL  
TELEHEALTH POLICY  
RESOURCE CENTER

**Thank You!**

[www.cchpca.org](http://www.cchpca.org)

[info@cchpca.org](mailto:info@cchpca.org)

