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# **Medicaid Telemedicine, Telehealth, and Home Telemonitoring**

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**Telehealth at the Crossroads**

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# Overview

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- Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual (TMPPM)
- Telemedicine and telehealth services
- Home telemonitoring services
- Benefit change process



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# Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual

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## Medicaid reimbursement information

- The Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual (TMPPM) outlines the Medicaid medical and dental benefits.
- Contains procedure codes, places of service, provider types, and any benefit restrictions.
- Available through the Texas Medicaid & Healthcare Partnership (TMHP).

[http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/Medicaid/Medicaid\\_Publications\\_Provider\\_manual.aspx](http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/Medicaid/Medicaid_Publications_Provider_manual.aspx)



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# Telemedicine vs. Telehealth

## Distant site providers

### Telemedicine

- Physicians or providers under a physician's delegation or supervision, including:
  - Physician assistants
  - Nurse practitioners
  - Clinical nurse specialists
  - Multispecialty groups
  - Hospitals

### Telehealth

- Licensed professional counselors
- licensed marriage and family counselors
- licensed clinical social workers
- psychologists
- registered nurses, midwives, and dietitians



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# Telemedicine vs. Telehealth

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Distant and patient site reimbursement.

## Telemedicine

- Distant site provider is reimbursed.
- Some patient site providers are also reimbursed.

## Telehealth

- Distant site provider is reimbursed.
- Patient site providers are not reimbursed.



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# Coverage in Managed Care

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**Telemedicine and telehealth services delivery modalities may differ between fee-for-service Medicaid and Medicaid managed care.**

- Managed care organizations are not required to provide reimbursement for services provided through only synchronous or asynchronous audio interactions, including:
  - Audio-only phone calls
  - Text-only email messages
  - Fax transmissions



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# Coverage in Managed Care

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**Specific telemedicine and telehealth services covered in managed care.**

- Managed care contract requirements.
- The fee-for-service (FFS) benefit.
  - Benefit in managed care must at least meet what clients could receive through FFS.



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# Reference

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## **Additional information for telemedicine and telehealth services.**

- TMPPM Volume 2: Telecommunication Services Handbook.
- Training webinar through TMHP's Learning Management System (LMS).

[http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/Education/Ed\\_Home.aspx](http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/Education/Ed_Home.aspx)



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# Home Telemonitoring

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**The Medicaid home telemonitoring benefit covers three services.**

- Equipment installation and setup.
  - One-time reimbursement.
- Monthly home monitoring.
  - Monthly reimbursement with five day increments indicated by modifier.
- Weekly review by ordering provider of clinical data.



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# Home Telemonitoring

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## **Additional benefit requirements for home telemonitoring services.**

- Client diagnosis of diabetes or hypertension.
- Client meets at least two of seven risk factors specified in Texas Government Code §531.02164.
- Prior authorization required for equipment installation and setup and monthly home monitoring.



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# Reference

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## Additional information for telemedicine and telehealth services.

- TMPPM Volume 2: Telecommunication Services Handbook.
- Provider notifications.

[http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/Medicaid/Medicaid\\_news\\_archives.aspx](http://www.tmhp.com/Pages/Medicaid/Medicaid_news_archives.aspx)



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# Topic Nomination

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**HHSC has a topic nomination process for Medicaid medical and dental benefits.**

- Draft policies posted for public comment.
- Responses to public comments also posted.
- Nominate new benefits, or changes to existing benefits.

<https://hhs.texas.gov/services/health/medicaid-chip/about-medicaid-chip/medicaid-medical-dental-policies>



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# Thank you

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