Telehealth State/ Federal Updates

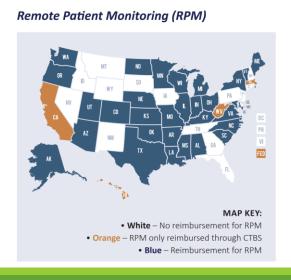
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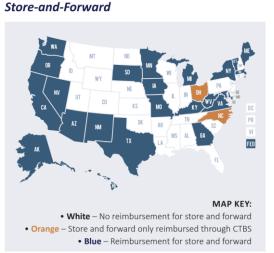
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State Updates

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- •The Center for Connected Health Policy (CCHP) published a <u>new report</u> that documented changes in telehealth policies that have occurred since Spring 2022.
 - One change reported five states adding Medicaid reimbursement for audio-only services
 - Some states allow delivery of any type of Medicaid service through telehealth while other states only allow some services via telehealth
 - 34 states reimburse for remote patient monitoring and 25 reimburse for store-and-forward
 - 17 states reimburse all modalities: live video, store-and-forward, audio-only, and remote patient monitoring
 - More states are adopting cross-state licensure exceptions with the number growing even more since Spring 2022





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Federal Updates

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- •On October 13, the Department of Health & Human Services extended the federal COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) an additional 90 days through 1/11/2023.
 - Declaration of renewal <u>here</u> from Department of Health & Human Services
- •On July 27, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the H.R. 4040: Advancing Telehealth Beyond COVID-19 Act of 2022 bill that extends telehealth benefits implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - The legislation would extend most of the PHE telehealth waivers through December 31, 2024.
 - Allows FQHCs and RHCs to furnish telehealth services under the Medicare program through December 31, 2024
 - Delays the 6-month in-person requirement under Medicare for mental health services furnished through telehealth through January 1, 2025
 - This bill will be sent to the U.S. Senate for their consideration
 - Bill text <u>here</u>.
- •The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) published a <u>new study</u> to examine the quality performance measures for patients receiving in-person vs. telemedicine primary care in a large integrated health system.
 - The study showed that telemedicine scored higher on 13 of 16 Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measures, suggesting that telemedicine delivers similar or better quality care than in-person visits
- •CDC reviewed telehealth data from 2021 to determine engagement levels among adults.
 - Findings include increased usage trends correlated with increasing age, women were more likely than men to use telehealth, and telehealth usage positively correlated to education level, but varied by family income
 - Hispanic, Black, and Asian populations reported lower use of telehealth than White and American Indian or Alaska Native populations