

AHCCCS Telehealth Updates

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AHCCCS Highlights

- Largest Insurer in State with 1,898,616 members covered as of 9/1/19
- \$14.0 billion Program annually
- Mandatory Managed Care with few exceptions
- Covers over 50% of all births
- Covers two-thirds of nursing facility days
- ~74% federally funded

AHCCCS Highlights

- Federal State Partnership
- Feds provide funding based on state income
- Feds establish minimum eligibility levels
- Feds establish mandatory/optional services
- State programs vary tremendously
 - [Arizona 1115 Waiver](#)

AHCCCS Highlights

- 1965 – Congress enacts Medicaid
- 1982 - Arizona was the last state to join Medicaid
 - Created Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)
 - Established Mandatory Managed Care
- 1989 – Long Term Care Added
- 1998 – KidsCare Added
- 2000 Proposition 204 Expansion
- 2010 – Federal Health Care Reform is enacted
- 2008-2011 – Great Recession
- 2012 ACA

AHCCCS Highlights

- Pregnant women, children and families, individuals with disabilities, and seniors
- Under the ACA, millions of uninsured, low-income Americans gained health coverage through a major expansion of Medicaid.
 - ACA expanded Medicaid eligibility to nearly all non-elderly adults with incomes at or below 133% of the federal poverty level

AHCCCS Telehealth Policies: Anticipated Changes for 10/1/19



Global approach to Telehealth Coverage

1. Broadening of POS allowable for distant and originating sites (including home)
2. Broadening of coverage for telemedicine, remote patient monitoring, and asynchronous
3. No rural vs. urban limitations
4. MCOs retain their ability to manage network and leverage telehealth strategies as they determine appropriate
5. GT modifier required for real time, interactive audio video communications + POS for originating site

AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual

320-I Telehealth and Telemedicine



AMPM 320-I Telehealth and Telemedicine

Current

- Telehealth definition

Anticipated
for 10/1/19

- Telehealth to be utilized as umbrella term to describe telemedicine, teledentistry, and asynchronous technologies

AMPM 320-I Telehealth and Telemedicine

Current

- Real-time telemedicine limited to 17 disciplines

Anticipated
for 10/1/19

- No restrictions on disciplines

AMPM 320-I Telehealth and Telemedicine

Current

- Contains high level informed consent requirements

Anticipated
for 10/1/19

- Defers to statute and other policies re: informed consent requirements

AMPM 320-I Telehealth and Telemedicine

Current

- Contains high level confidentiality requirements

Anticipated
for 10/1/19

- Defers to statute and other policies re: confidentiality requirements for telehealth

AMPM 320-I Telehealth and Telemedicine

Current

- Asynchronous covered in very limited circumstances

Anticipated
for 10/1/19

- Asynchronous coverage limited to:
- Dermatology
- Radiology
- Ophthalmology
- Pathology
- Neurology
- Cardiology
- Behavioral Health
- Infectious Disease*

AMPM 320-I Telehealth and Telemedicine

Current

- Teledentistry

Anticipated
for 10/1/19

- No changes anticipated

AMPM 320-I Telehealth and Telemedicine

Current

- Telemonitoring limited to CHF

Anticipated
for 10/1/19

- No restrictions on telemonitoring

Telehealth Training Manual: Retiring



AHCCCS Telehealth Training Manual

Current

- NEMT covered to originating site

Anticipated
for 10/1/19

- No change in NEMT coverage (ie, continues to be covered to originating site)

AHCCCS Telehealth Training Manual

Current

- The following POS are listed as the available originating and distant sites:
- IHS clinic
- Tribally-governed 638 facility
- Urban clinic for Native Americans
- Practitioner Office
- Hospital
- Federally qualified health center (FQHC)

Anticipated
for 10/1/19

- Broadening of POS, including home

AHCCCS Telehealth Training Manual

Current

- Attachment A with specific codes that have GT and GQ modifiers and radiological global services (26, TC) as of 1/20/11

Anticipated
for 10/1/19

- Retiring Attachment A
- All telehealth coding information on AHCCCS coding resources link

Resources

- AHCCCS AMPM public comment
 - <https://comments.azahcccs.gov/ahcccs-medical-policy-manual-ampm-proposed-policy-public-comment/>
- AHCCCS Coding Page
 - <https://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/MedicalCodingResources.html>
- Coding Questions: Email-
 - CodingPolicyQuestions@azahcccs.gov



QUESTIONS?

