

Teledermatology Code Quick Reference

Practice
Management
Center

MEDICARE

Communicating parties	Communication Method	Example	HCPCS/CPT Code	CPT descriptor	Modifier Needed?	Place Of Service Code
Telecommunication Triage (virtual check-in)						
New/Established patient initiated with the physician or non-physician clinician	Synchronous telecommunication (the virtual encounter can be performed via telephone or other telecommunications device)	The dermatologist triages a patient initiated online, real-time, audio-video, two-way communication to determine if an in-office visit is necessary.	G2012	Brief communication technology-based service e.g., virtual check-in, by a physician or other qualified healthcare professional who can report evaluation and management services, provided to an established patient, not originating from a related E/M service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an E/M service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment; 5-10 minutes of medical discussion	95	11
			G2252	11-20 minutes, established patients only	95	11
Non Face-to-Face (virtual)						
Physician or non-physician clinician and new/established patient interaction	Synchronous teledermatology service The virtual encounter must be of an amount and nature that would be sufficient to meet the key components and/or requirements of the same service when rendered via a face-to-face interaction.	Online encounter initiated by a patient using real-time, audio-video, two-way communication with the dermatologist for reassurance regarding a seborrheic keratosis.	99201-99215	Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a new or established patient (Virtual visits can also be based on medical decision making or time rather than documentation of history and/or physical exam in the medical record.)	95	11
New/Established patient initiated with the physician or non-physician clinician	Asynchronous or store-and-forward technology*	Patient submits an image of a lesion to the dermatologist via email or other electronic technology. Dermatologist reviews the image and responds to the patient with diagnosis and treatment plan.	G2010	Remote evaluation of recorded video and/or images submitted by an established patient (e.g., store-and-forward), including interpretation with follow-up with the patient within 24 business hours, not originating from a related E/M service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an E/M service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment	95	11
	Asynchronous or store-and-forward technology Requires use of a HIPAA-compliant secure platform, (e.g., EHR portals, secure email, or other digital applications), which allows digital communication with the physician.* *During COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, this requirement is waived.	Patient submits an image of a lesion to the dermatologist via email or EHR portal. Dermatologist reviews the image and responds to the patient with diagnosis and treatment plan.	99421	Online digital evaluation and management service, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, cumulative time during the 7 days; 5-10 minutes	95	11
			99422	11-20 minutes	95	11
			99423	21 or more minutes	95	11
New/Established patient or guardian with the physician or non-physician clinician	Telephone	Patient or guardian calls the dermatologist to discuss a problem.	99441	Telephone evaluation and management service by a physician or other qualified health care professional who may report evaluation and management services provided to an established patient, parent, or guardian not originating from a related E/M service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an E/M service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment; 5-10 minutes of medical discussion	95	11
			99442	11-20 minutes of medical discussion	95	11
			99443	21-30 minutes of medical discussion	95	11
Physician-to-physician	Telephone (verbal) and internet or electronic health record (EHR portal)	An internist contacts the dermatologist requesting a consultation for a patient being seen. The dermatologist communicates verbally with the internist and submits a written report to the requesting physician.	99446	Interprofessional telephone/Internet/electronic health record assessment and management service provided by a consultative physician, including a verbal and written report to the patient's treating/requesting physician or other qualified health care professional; 5-10 minutes of medical consultative discussion and review	95	11
			99447	11-20 minutes of medical consultative discussion and review	95	11
			99448	21-30 minutes of medical consultative discussion and review	95	11
			99449	31 minutes or more of medical consultative discussion and review	95	11
	Majority (greater than 50%) of the services is provided via Internet or EHR portal	An internist contacts the dermatologist requesting a consultation for a patient being seen. The dermatologist submits a written report to the requesting physician.	99451	Interprofessional telephone/Internet/electronic health record assessment and management service provided by a consultative physician, including a written report to the patient's treating/requesting physician or other qualified health care professional, 5 minutes or more of medical consultative time	95	11
Physician or non-physician clinician	Telephone/Internet/EHR portal	Dermatologist discusses options for immunosuppressive therapy for a skin disease with the patient's oncologist, who is treating the patient for an active malignancy.	99452	Interprofessional telephone/Internet/electronic health record referral service(s) provided by a treating/requesting physician or other qualified health care professional, 30 minutes	95	11

For more information, see: aad.org/practicecenter



Please note that this guidance is tied directly to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE). This information is current as of December 7, 2020 and may change frequently. For current information regarding teledermatology coding guidance, please visit www.aad.org/member/practice/telederm/toolkit/telederm-tool

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PRIVATE/COMMERCIAL PAYERS: RULES VARY SO CHECK WITH YOUR PAYER ON MODIFIER AND CODING REQUIREMENTS

Communicating parties	Communication Method	Example	HCP/CS/CPT Code	CPT descriptor
Non Face-to-Face Services (virtual)				
Physician or non-physician clinician and patient interaction	Synchronous teledermatology service The virtual encounter must be of an amount and nature that would be sufficient to meet the key components and/or requirements of the same service when rendered via a face-to-face interaction.	Online encounter initiated by a patient using real-time, audio-video, two-way communication with the dermatologist for reassurance regarding a seborrheic keratosis.	99201-99215	Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a new or established patient.
Established patient initiated with the physician or non-physician clinician	Asynchronous or store-and-forward technology Requires use of a HIPAA-compliant secure platform, (e.g., EHR portals, secure email, or other digital applications), which allows digital communication with the physician.	Patient submits an image of a lesion to the dermatologist via email or EHR portal. Dermatologist reviews the image and responds to the patient with diagnosis and treatment plan.	99421	Online digital evaluation and management service, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, cumulative time during the 7 days; 5-10 minutes.
			99422	11-20 minutes
			99423	21 or more minutes
Established patient or guardian with the physician or non-physician clinician	Telephone	Patient or guardian calls the dermatologist to discuss a problem.	99441	Telephone evaluation and management service by a physician or other qualified health care professional who may report evaluation and management services provided to an established patient, parent, or guardian not originating from a related E/M service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an E/M service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment; 5-10 minutes of medical discussion
			99442	11-20 minutes of medical discussion
			99443	21-30 minutes of medical discussion
Interprofessional Telephone/Internet/Electronic Health Record Consultations				
Physician-to-physician	Telephone (verbal) and internet or electronic health record (EHR portal)	An internist contacts the dermatologist requesting a consultation for a patient being seen. The dermatologist communicates verbally with the internist and submits a written report to the requesting physician.	99446	Interprofessional telephone/Internet/electronic health record assessment and management service provided by a consultative physician, including a verbal and written report to the patient's treating/requesting physician or other qualified health care professional; 5-10 minutes of medical consultative discussion and review
			99447	11-20 minutes of medical consultative discussion and review
			99448	21-30 minutes of medical consultative discussion and review
			99449	31 minutes or more of medical consultative discussion and review
	Majority (greater than 50%) of the services are provided via Internet or EHR portal	An internist contacts the dermatologist requesting a consultation for a patient being seen. The dermatologist submits a written report to the requesting physician.	99451	Interprofessional telephone/Internet/electronic health record assessment and management service provided by a consultative physician, including a written report to the patient's treating/requesting physician or other qualified health care professional, 5 minutes or more of medical consultative time
Physician or non-physician clinician to physician	Telephone/Internet/EHR portal	Dermatologist discusses options for immunosuppressive therapy for a skin disease with the patient's oncologist, who is treating the patient for an active malignancy.	99452	Interprofessional telephone/Internet/electronic health record referral service(s) provided by a treating/requesting physician or other qualified health care professional, 30 minutes

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