



2021 Medicare Updates

MA Association of Patient Account Management

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Today's Presenter

- Provider Outreach and Education
 - Lori Langevin, Consultant

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Agenda

- 2021 Medicare Deductibles & Coinsurance
- 2021 E/M Changes
- COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE)
- Telehealth
- Resources

2021 Medicare Deductibles & Coinsurance

2021 Medicare Deductibles & Coinsurance

2021	Amounts
Part B Deductible	\$203
Part B Coinsurance	20%
Part A IH Deductible (first 60 days)	\$1484
Days 61 st -90 th Days	\$371
Lifetime reserve day	\$742
Skilled Nursing Facilities (21 st -100 th days)	\$185.50

E&M Changes in CY 2021

Summary of Major E/M Revisions for 2021: Office or Other Outpatient Services

- Changes apply only to Office and Outpatient services
- Extensive E/M guideline additions, revisions, and restructuring
- Deletion of code 99201 and revision of codes 99202-99215
 - 99202 requires straightforward MDM
- Components for code selection:
 - MDM or
 - Total time on the date of the encounter

Summary of Revisions for 2021

- E/M level of service for office or other outpatient services can be based on:
 - MDM
 - Extensive clarifications provided in guidelines to define elements of MDM
 - Time: Total time spent on date of the encounter
 - Including non-face-to-face services
 - Clear time ranges for each code
- Addition of a shorter 15-minute prolonged service code (G2212)
 - Reported only when visit is based on time and after total time of highest-level service (i.e., 99205 or 99215) has been exceeded

2021 CPT Definition 99202

- ★▲ 99202 Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a **new** patient, which requires a medically appropriate history and/or examination and straightforward medical decision making
- When using time for code selection, 15-29 minutes of total time is spent on date of encounter

2021 CPT Definition 99203

- ★▲ 99203 Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a **new** patient, which requires a medically appropriate history and/or examination and low level of medical decision making
 - When using time for code selection, 30-44 minutes of total time is spent on date of encounter
- Note changes: no specific history or exam requirements

2021 CPT Definition 99204

- ★▲ 99204 Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a **new** patient, which requires a medically appropriate history and/or examination and moderate level of medical decision making
- When using time for code selection, 45-59 minutes of total time is spent on date of encounter

2021 CPT Definition 99205

- ★▲ 99205 Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of a **new** patient, which requires a medically appropriate history and/or examination and high level of medical decision making
- When using time for code selection, 60-74 minutes of total time is spent on date of encounter
- For services 75 minutes or longer, see Prolonged Services G2212

2021 CPT Definition 99211

- ★▲ 99211 Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an **established** patient, that may not require the presence of a physician or other qualified health care professional
- Usually, presenting problem(s) are minimal

2021 CPT Definition 99212

- ★▲ 99212 Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an **established** patient, which requires medically appropriate history and/or examination and straightforward medical decision making
- When using time for code selection, 10-19 minutes of total time is spent on date of encounter

2021 CPT Definition 99213

- ★▲ 99213 Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an established patient, which requires a medically appropriate history and/or examination and low level of medical decision making
- When using time for code selection, 20-29 minutes of total time is spent on date of encounter
- Note changes: no specific history or exam requirements

2021 CPT Definition 99214

- ★▲ 99214 Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an **established** patient, which requires a medically appropriate history and/or examination and moderate level of medical decision making
- When using time for code selection, 30-39 minutes of total time is spent on date of encounter

2021 CPT Definition 99215

- ★▲ 99215 Office or other outpatient visit for the evaluation and management of an **established** patient, which requires a medically appropriate history and/or examination and high level of medical decision making
- When using time for code selection, 40-54 minutes of total time is spent on date of encounter
- For services 55 minutes or longer, see Prolonged Services G2212

2021: Selecting Level of Service

- **Effective January 1, 2021**
- Appropriate level of E/M service is based on:
 1. Level of the MDM as defined for each service
 2. Total time for E/M services performed on the date of encounter

Medical Decision Making (MDM)

- Effective January 1, 2021
- Level of Medical Decision Making Table
- Guide to assist in selecting the level of MDM
- Used for office or other outpatient E/M services only
- Includes four levels of MDM (unchanged from current levels of MDM)
 - Straightforward
 - Low
 - Moderate
 - High

Medical Decision Making Table

MDM 2020

Number of diagnoses or management options

Amount and/or complexity of data to be reviewed

Risk of complications and/or morbidity or mortality

MDM Effective Jan. 1, 2021

Number and complexity of problems addressed at the encounter

Amount and/or complexity of data to be reviewed and analyzed

Risk of complications and/or morbidity or mortality of patient management

MDM: Number and Complexity of Problems Addressed at Encounter

- Straightforward
 - Self-limited
- Low
 - Stable, uncomplicated, single problem
- Moderate
 - Multiple problems or significantly ill
- High
 - Very ill

MDM: Amount and/or Complexity of Data to be Reviewed and Analyzed

- Straightforward
 - Minimal or None
- Low (one category only)
 - Two documents or independent historian
- Moderate (one category only)
 - Count: Three items between documents and independent historian; or
 - Interpret; or
 - Confer
- High (two categories)
 - Same concepts as moderate

MDM: Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management

- Straightforward
 - Minimal risk from treatment (including no treatment) or testing. (Most would consider this effectively as no risk)
- Low
 - Low risk (e.g., very low risk of severity problems), minimal consent/discussion
- Moderate
 - Would typically review with patient/surrogate, obtain consent and monitor, or there are complex social factors in management
- High
 - Need to discuss higher risk problems that could happen for which physician or other qualified health care professional will watch or monitor

Code	Level of MDM (Based on 2 out of 3 Elements of MDM)	Elements of Medical Decision Making		
		Number and Complexity of Problems Addressed at the Encounter	Amount and/or Complexity of Data to be Reviewed and Analyzed <i>*Each unique test, order, or document contributes to the combination of 2 or combination of 3 in Category 1 below.</i>	Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management
99211	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
99202 99212	Straightforward	Minimal • 1 self-limited or minor problem	Minimal or none	Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment
99203 99213	Low	Low • 2 or more self-limited or minor problems; - or • 1 stable chronic illness; - or • 1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury	Limited <i>(Must meet the requirements of at least 1 of the 2 categories)</i> Category 1: Tests and documents • Any combination of 2 from the following: • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source*; • review of the result(s) of each unique test*; • ordering of each unique test* or Category 2: Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) <i>(For the categories of independent interpretation of tests and discussion of management or test interpretation, see moderate or high)</i>	Low risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment

99204 99214	Moderate	Moderate • 1 or more chronic illnesses with exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment; or • 2 or more stable chronic illnesses; or • 1 undiagnosed new problem with uncertain prognosis; or • 1 acute illness with systemic symptoms; or • 1 acute complicated injury	Moderate <i>(Must meet the requirements of at least 1 out of 3 categories)</i> Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s) • Any combination of 3 from the following: • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source*; • Review of the result(s) of each unique test*; • Ordering of each unique test*; • Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) or Category 2: Independent interpretation of tests • Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/other qualified health care professional (not separately reported); or Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation • Discussion of management or test interpretation with external physician/other qualified health care professional/appropriate source (not separately reported)	Moderate risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment <i>Examples only:</i> • Prescription drug management • Decision regarding minor surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors • Decision regarding elective major surgery without identified patient or procedure risk factors • Diagnosis or treatment significantly limited by social determinants of health
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99205 99215	High	High 1 or more chronic illnesses with severe exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment; or 1 acute or chronic illness or injury that poses a threat to life or bodily function	Extensive <i>(Must meet the requirements of at least 2 out of 3 categories)</i> Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s) Any combination of 3 from the following: - Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source*; - Review of the result(s) of each unique test*; - Ordering of each unique test*; - Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) or Category 2: Independent interpretation of tests - Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/other qualified health care professional (not separately reported); or Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation - Discussion of management or test interpretation with external physician/other qualified health care professional/appropriate source (not separately reported)	High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment <i>Examples only:</i> - Drug therapy requiring intensive monitoring for toxicity - Decision regarding elective major surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors - Decision regarding emergency major surgery - Decision regarding hospitalization - Decision not to resuscitate or to de-escalate care because of poor prognosis
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Medical Decision Making Table

To qualify for a particular level of medical decision making, two of the three elements for that level of decision making must be met or exceeded
(concept unchanged from current guidelines)

Code	Level of MDM (Based on 2 out of 3 Elements of MDM)	Elements of Medical Decision Making		
		Number and Complexity of Problems Addressed at the Encounter	Amount and/or Complexity of Data to be Reviewed and Analyzed <i>*Each unique test, order, or document contributes to the combination of 2 or combination of 3 in Category 1 below.</i>	Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management
99211	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
99202 99212	Straightforward	Minimal • 1 self-limited or minor problem	Minimal or none	Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment
99203 99213	Low	Low • 2 or more self-limited or minor problems; or • 1 stable chronic illness; or • 1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury	Limited (Must meet the requirements of at least 1 of the 2 categories) Category 1: Tests and documents • Any combination of 2 from the following: • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source*; • review of the result(s) of each unique test*; • ordering of each unique test* or Category 2: Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) (For the categories of independent interpretation of tests and discussion of management or test interpretation, see moderate or high)	Low risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment

Time: Office and Other Outpatient E/M Services

- **Effective January 1, 2021**
- Time may be used to select code level in office or other outpatient services whether or not counseling and/or coordination of care dominates service
- Time may only be used for selecting level of other E/M services when counseling and/or coordination of care dominates service
- CPT code selection is total time on date of encounter

Time: Office and Other Outpatient E/M Services

- **Total Time** on date of encounter
- Includes physician/other QHP face-to-face and non-face-to-face time
- Time spent by clinical staff is not included
- More than one clinician addressed (count only 1 person per minute)

Time: Office and Other Outpatient E/M Services

- Physician/other QHP time includes the following activities (when performed)
 - Preparing to see patient (e.g., review of tests)
 - Obtaining and/or reviewing separately obtained history
 - Performing medically necessary appropriate examination and/or evaluation
 - Counseling and educating patient/family/caregiver
 - Ordering medications, tests, or procedures
 - Referring and communicating with other health care professionals (when not reported separately)
 - Documenting clinical information in electronic or other health record
 - Independently interpreting results (not reported separately) and communicating results to patient/family/caregiver
 - Care coordination (not reported separately)

Time: Office and Other Outpatient E/M Services New Patient (Total Time on the Date of the Encounter)

New Patient E/M Code	Typical Time (2020)	Total Time (2021)
99201	10 minutes	Code deleted
99202	20 minutes	15-29 minutes
99203	30 minutes	30-44 minutes
99204	45 minutes	45-59 minutes
99205	60 minutes	60-74 minutes

Time: Office and Other Outpatient E/M Services

Established Patient (Total Time on the Date of the Encounter)

Established Patient E/M Code	Typical Time (2020)	Total Time (2021)
99211	5 minutes	Time component removed
99212	10 minutes	10-19 minutes
99213	15 minutes	20-29 minutes
99214	25 minutes	30-39 minutes
99215	40 minutes	40-54 minutes

Prolonged Services (G2212)

- **Effective January 1, 2021**
- Shorter prolonged services code to capture each 15 minutes of physician/other QHP work beyond time captured by office or other outpatient service E/M code
- Used only when office/other outpatient code is selected using time
- For use only with 99205, 99215
- Prolonged services of less than 15 minutes should not be reported

Prolonged Services (G2212)

- Prolonged Service **with or without** direct patient contact on date of an office or other outpatient service
- G2212 descriptor: “Prolonged office or other outpatient evaluation and management service(s) beyond the maximum required time of the primary procedure which has been selected using total time on the date of the primary service; each additional 15 minutes by the physician or qualified healthcare professional, with or without direct patient contact
- List separately in addition to codes 99205, 99215 for office or other outpatient **Evaluation and Management** services

Prolonged Services

- Use G2212 in conjunction with 99205, 99215
- Do not report G2212 on the same date of service as 99354, 99355, 99358, 99359, 99415, 99416
- Do not report G2212 for any time unit less than 15 minutes

Prolonged Service New Patient Coding

CPT Code(s)	Total Time Required for Reporting*
99205	60-74 minutes
99205 x 1 and G2212 x 1	89-103 minutes
99205 x 1 and G2212 x 2	104-118 minutes
99205 x 1 and G2212 x 3 or more for each additional 15 minutes.	119 or more

*Total time is the sum of all time, with and without direct patient contact and including prolonged time, spent by the reporting practitioner on the date of service of the visit.

Prolonged Service Established Patient Coding

CPT Code(s)	Total Time Required for Reporting*
99215	40-54 minutes
99215 x 1 and G2212 x 1	69-83 minutes
99215 x 1 and G2212 x 2	84- 98 minutes
99215 x 1 and G2212 x 3 or more for each additional 15 minutes.	99 or more

*Total time is the sum of all time, with and without direct patient contact and including prolonged time, spent by the reporting practitioner on the date of service of the visit.

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE)

Special Disclaimer & Suggested Actions

- During COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), information and instructions may change and will turn to prior instructions following PHE
 - Extended to 1/20/2021
- Vital to ensure providers receive latest information
- Take steps to ensure you have access to the latest updates by signing up for list serve messaging
 - [CMS list serve](#) and
 - [National Government Services Email Updates](#)
- Routinely check
 - CMS [Current Emergencies](#) webpage and
 - NGS [COVID-19 News](#) page

Modifier CR

- Modifier CR (catastrophe/disaster related)
 - Used on professional and outpatient institutional claims
 - CR modifier is not required on telehealth services
- Mandatory coding for any claim for which Medicare payment is conditioned on presence of “formal waiver” including §1135 waiver
- Used to identify claims that are/may be impacted by specific payer/health plan policies related to national or regional disaster

CS Modifier

- CS modifier waives cost sharing requirements
 - [Special Edition Article SE20011](#)
- DOS on/after 3/18/2020: Cost-sharing does not apply for COVID-19 testing-related services, which are medical visits
 - Append CS modifier to E/M service performed
 - When E/M service leads to COVID-19 testing
 - Allows E/M to be paid at 100% of the fee schedule

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MLN Connects® Special Edition for Thursday, April 30, 2020

Before You Call:

Telehealth Services

Reminders for Telehealth Services

- On/after 3/1/2020 and for duration of PHE:
 - Bill audio or audio/video telehealth service with modifier 95 (professional telehealth service from a distant site)
 - POS equal to what it would have been (if were performed FTF) in the absence of a PHE
 - **CR modifier not required on telehealth services**
 - Telehealth services are professional services billed as distant site
 - Teaching physician may use audio/video telecommunications during key portions of service

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Telehealth

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List of Telehealth Services

List of services payable under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule when furnished via telehealth.

[Covered Telehealth Services for PHE for the COVID-19 pandemic, effective March 1, 2020 \(ZIP\)](#) - Updated 12/02/2020

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LIST OF MEDICARE TELEHEALTH SERVICES for PHE for the COVID-19 pandemic effective March 1 2020-updated December 1 2020

Cod	Short Descriptor	Status	Can Audio-only Interaction Meet the Requirements	Medicare Payment Limitations
77427	Radiation tx management x5	Temporary Addition for the PHE for the COVID-19 Pandemic		
90785	Psytx complex interactive		Yes	
90791	Psych diagnostic evaluation		Yes	
90792	Psych diag eval w/med srves		Yes	
90832	Psytx w pt 30 minutes		Yes	
90833	Psytx w pt w e/m 30 min		Yes	
90834	Psytx w pt 45 minutes		Yes	
90836	Psytx w pt w e/m 45 min		Yes	
90837	Psytx w pt 60 minutes		Yes	
90838	Psytx w pt w e/m 60 min		Yes	
90839	Psytx crisis initial 60 min		Yes	
90840	Psytx crisis ea addl 30 min		Yes	
90845	Psychoanalysis		Yes	
90846	Family psytx w/o pt 50 min		Yes	
90847	Family psytx w/pt 50 min		Yes	
90853	Group psychotherapy		Yes	
90875	Psychophysiological therapy	Temporary Addition for the PHE for the COVID-19 Pandemic—Added 4/30/20		Non-covered service
90951	Esrd serv 4 visits p mo <2yr			
90952	Esrd serv 2-3 vsts p mo <2yr	Available up Through the Year in Which the PHE Ends		
90953	Esrd serv 1 visit p mo <2yrs	Available up Through the Year in Which the PHE Ends		

Services Added to the Medicare Telehealth List on a Category 1 Basis

- For CY 2021, CMS is finalizing the addition of the following list of services to the Medicare telehealth list:
 - Group Psychotherapy - 90853
 - Psychological and Neuropsychological Testing- 96121
 - Domiciliary, Rest Home, or Custodial Care services - 99334-99335
 - Home Visits - 99347-99348
 - Cognitive Assessment and Care Planning Services - 99483
 - Visit Complexity Inherent to Certain Office/Outpatient E/M - G2211
 - Prolonged Services - G2212
- Category 1 means permanent Telehealth services

Addition of Services to the Medicare Telehealth List on a Category 3 Basis

- Category 3 - services added to the Medicare telehealth list during the public health emergency (PHE) for the COVID-19 pandemic (COVID-19 PHE) that will remain on the list through the calendar year in which the PHE ends:
 - Domiciliary, Rest Home, or Custodial Care services - 99336-99337
 - Home Visits - 99349-99350
 - Emergency Department Visits - 99281-99285
 - Nursing facilities discharge day management - 99315-99316
 - Psychological & Neuropsychological Testing- 96130-96133; 96136-96139

Addition of Services to the Medicare Telehealth list on a Category 3 Basis

- Therapy Services, Physical and Occupational Therapy - 97161-97168; 97110, 97112, 97116, 97535, 97750, 97755, 97760, 97761, 92521-92524, 92507
- Hospital discharge day management - 99238-99239
- Inpatient Neonatal and Pediatric Critical Care - 99469, 99472, 99476
- Continuing Neonatal Intensive Care Services - 99478-99480
- Critical Care Services - 99291-99292
- End-Stage Renal Disease Monthly Capitation Payment - 90952, 90953, 90956, 90959, 90962
- Subsequent Observation and Observation Discharge Day Management - 99217; 99224-99226

Originating Site

- Definition: Where the patient is located during telehealth service
 - Geographic restrictions waived
 - Originating site now includes patient home
 - No originating Part B site fee payable when patient is at home

Distant Site Services

- Distant site practitioners bill Part B Medicare for professional services furnished via telehealth:
 - Submit appropriate CPT/HCPCS code
 - Modifier 95 mandatory on all telehealth claims during PHE
 - Indicates service rendered via telehealth
 - Use POS as would apply if seeing the patient face to face (e.g., POS 11, 21, 23)
 - No reduction in payment under MPFS

Expanded Services

- CMS added additional services to telehealth
 - Many additional E/M codes, including Critical Care
 - Expanded coverage to Telephone E/M (99441-99443)
 - Audio Only Services for some HCPCS codes
 - Psychological/neuropsychological testing
 - Therapy services, physical & occupational therapy, all levels
 - Radiation treatment management services
 - Remote patient monitoring
- Virtual Check-Ins, E-Visits & Telephone
 - G2010, G2012, G2061-G2063, 99421-99423
 - 98966-98968
 - **Note: These codes are not telehealth**

Telephone Services

- 99441-99443
 - Physicians (including Osteopaths, Podiatrists, and Optometrists), Dentists, Non-Physician Practitioners (including Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Physician Assistant, Certified Nurse Midwife) and Maxillofacial Surgeon
 - Telephone E/M service by practitioner or qualified health care professional
 - **4/30/2020 added to telehealth services; use modifier 95**
- 98966-98968
 - Clinical Psychologists, PT/OT/SLP, Optometrists, Non-Physician practitioners (including Nurse Practitioner, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Physician Assistant, Certified Nurse Midwife), LCSWs, Registered Dietitians (RDs) and Nutrition Professionals (NPs)
 - Telephone assessment & management service
 - **Not on the CMS list of telehealth codes**

Telehealth Documentation

- Same as any face-to-face patient encounter, except a statement needed indicating service was telehealth, along with:
 - Patient location
 - Provider location
 - Names of all persons participating in the telemedicine service and their role in the encounter
- Time-based services, document start/stop time or total time
- Teaching physician may use audio/video telecommunications during key portions of service

Resources

- [AMA CPT Evaluation and Management](https://ama-assn.org/cpt-office-visits) ama-assn.org/cpt-office-visits
- [Access the Module](#)
- [CPT® E/M Office or Other Outpatient and Prolonged Services Code and Guideline Changes](#)
- [The above PDF includes the official E/M CPT guidelines effective January 1, 2021.](#)
- [CPT® E/M Office Revisions Level of Medical Decision Making \(MDM\)](#)
- [Revisions to reporting CPT E/M office visits: Time](#)
- [Revisions to reporting CPT E/M office visits: MDM](#)
- [E/M health plan webinar: Overview of changes proposed for 2021](#)
- [Videos to guide you step-by-step](#)
- [10 tips to prepare your practice for E/M office visit changes](#)

Resources

- [Final Rule](#)
- [Physician Fee Schedule Final Rule](#)
 - fact sheet
- [Quality Payment Program Final Rule](#)
 - fact sheet and FAQs
- [Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program](#)
 - fact sheet

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