

# COVID-19 Coding

## CPTs

### Remote services CPTs

#### Telephone:

*Physician or Other Qualified Health Care Professional*

**99441** Telephone E&M

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

**G2012** Brief communication technology-based service, e.g. virtual check-in, by a physician or other qualified health care 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

*Qualified Nonphysician Health Care Professional*

**98966**

Telephone assessment and management service provided by a *qualified nonphysician health care professional* to an established patient, parent, or guardian not originating from a related assessment and management service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an assessment and management service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment 5-10 minutes of medical discussion

**98967** 11-20 of medical discussion

**98968** 21-30 of medical discussion

\*Please contact your carriers for their definition of these terms; AMA does NOT recognize clinical staff.

Portal / Email

*Physician or Other \*Qualified Health Care Professional*

**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

*\*Qualified Nonphysician Health Care Professional*

**98970** Qualified *nonphysician* health care professional online digital evaluation and management service, for an established patient, for up to 7 days, cumulative time during the 7 days 5-10 minutes

**98971** 11-20 minutes

**98972** 21 or more minutes

\*Please contact your carriers for their definition of these terms; AMA does NOT recognize clinical staff.

Realtime Audio/Video Visits

E&M's **99201-99205, 99212-99215** may be billed with a modifier to report that they were completed via interactive audio/video using

-GT Via interactive audio and video telecommunication services

OR

-95 Synchronous Telemedicine Service Rendered Via a Real- Time Interactive Audio and Video Telecommunications System

PPE

**99070** Supplies and materials (except spectacles), provided by the physician or other qualified health care professional over and above those usually included with the office visit or other services rendered"

OR

[S8301](#) - Infection control supplies, not otherwise specified

## COVID Risk Counseling

As COVID risk is NOT of the type one would expect to address at a typical well visit, this code might be paid now even when billed with well visits

**99401\*** Preventive medicine counseling and/or risk factor reduction intervention(s) provided to an individual (separate procedure) approximately 15 minutes

**99402\*** approximately 30 minutes

**99403\*** approximately 45 minutes

**99404\*** approximately 60 minutes

*\*NOT in Appendix P* (CPTs typically performed face-to-face, but may be rendered via synchronous interactive audio and video), but some states are mandating coverage for them even when rendered virtually or by telephone during the COVID-19 pandemic

## Evaluation & Management

CMS announced "payment is available" for E&M codes (**99201-99215**) for counseling for COVID testing. Must document discussion ([CMS Checklist](#)):

- Need immediate isolation, even before results available
- Should inform immediate household/contacts that they may wish to be tested and quarantine as well. Review locations and people they have been in contact with in the past two weeks.
- Signs and symptoms of COVID-19
- If positive, they will likely be contacted by a public health worker and asked to provide a list of the people they've been with for contact tracing, encourage them to 'answer the call'.
- Discuss services that might help the patient successfully isolate and quarantine at home.

## COVID-19 Lab Codes

**99000** Handling and/or conveyance of specimen for transfer from the office to a laboratory

**G2023** Specimen collection for severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (sars-cov-2) (coronavirus disease [covid-19]), any specimen source

**87635** Infectious agent detection by nucleic acid (DNA or RNA); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19]), amplified probe technique

**87426** Infectious agent antigen detection by immunoassay technique

**86328** Immunoassay for infectious agent antibody(ies), qualitative or semiquantitative, single step method (eg, reagent strip); severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Coronavirus disease [COVID-19])

**U0002** 2019-ncov coronavirus, sars-cov-2/2019-ncov (covid-19), any technique, multiple types or subtypes (includes all targets), non-cdc

## Add-on CPTs

**99056** Service(s) typically provided in the office, provided out of the office at request of patient, in addition to basic service

**99058** Service(s) provided *on an emergency basis in the office, which disrupts other scheduled office services*, in addition to basic service

**99060** Service(s) provided on an emergency basis, *out of the office, which disrupts other scheduled office services*, in addition to basic service

## Modifiers

-CR Catastrophe / Disaster related

-GT Via interactive audio and video telecommunication services

OR

-95 Synchronous Telemedicine Service Rendered Via a Real- Time Interactive Audio and Video Telecommunications System

## Places of Service

-02 Telehealth - The location where health services and health related services are provided or received, through a telecommunication system.

-03 School - A facility whose primary purpose is education.

-11 Office - Location, other than a hospital, skilled nursing facility (SNF), military treatment facility, community health center, State or local public health clinic, or intermediate care facility (ICF), where the health professional routinely provides health examinations, diagnosis, and treatment of illness or injury on an ambulatory basis. *\*May be required for telehealth by some carriers*

-12 Home - Location, other than a hospital or other facility, where the patient receives care in a private residence.

## ICDs

### COVID Infection

**U07.1** COVID-19 (*eff April 1, 2020*)

Adding any 'Use Additional' manifestation codes

### Exposure to COVID-19

*Possible* exposure to COVID-19 that is ruled out after evaluation

**Z03.818** Encounter for observation for suspected exposure to other biological agents ruled out

*Actual* exposure to someone who is confirmed to have COVID-19

**Z20.828** Contact with and (suspected) exposure to other viral communicable diseases

### Signs and symptoms

Where a definitive diagnosis has **not** been established

**R05** Cough

**R06.02** Shortness of breath

**R50.9** Fever, unspecified

NOTE: Diagnosis code B34.2, Coronavirus infection, unspecified, would generally **not be appropriate** for COVID-19, because the cases have universally been respiratory in nature, so the site would not be "unspecified." If the provider documents "suspected", "possible" or "probable" COVID-19, **do not** assign code B97.29. Assign a code(s) explaining the reason for encounter (such as fever, or Z20.828).

For institutions requiring test for admission/readmission:

**Z02.0** Encounter for examination for admission to educational institution

**Z02.1** Encounter for pre-employment examination

**Z02.3** Encounter for examination for recruitment to armed forces

**Z02.5** Encounter for examination for participation in sport

**Z02.89** Encounter for other administrative examinations

**Z02.9** Encounter for administrative examinations, unspecified

For consideration

**Z60.9** Problem related to social environment, unspecified

**Z63.79** Other stressful life events affecting family and household

**Z91.89** Other specified personal risk factors, not elsewhere classified