



IN FOCUS

Important updates for the provider community

Telehealth updates as of October 1, 2025



Telehealth Updates

Due to the expiration of a federal continuing resolution, key telehealth flexibilities that were first put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic expired on **September 30, 2025**. What does this mean?

- Providers will no longer be reimbursed for telehealth visits delivered to Medicare beneficiaries in their homes. Pre-pandemic rural and facility restrictions would return.
- Critical programs like Hospital at Home no longer exist.
- Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) will no longer be able to serve as distant site providers for most telehealth services after December 2025.
- While the DEA extended flexibilities for prescribing controlled substances via telehealth until December 2025, providers may struggle to sustain telehealth-based care if reimbursement disappears.

Although not guaranteed, state and national industry groups will request retroactive Medicare payments be included in a new spending bill. Practices should make their own decisions on whether and how to continue to offer telehealth services going forward. Options include but are not limited to ceasing all remote services, finding creative ways to shift appointments on-site or rescheduling them, providing remote services for free, or coming up with some system that may allow providers to bill Medicare later.

Commercial health plans have also made changes to their telehealth coverage and billing policies, outside of Medicare changes. Click [here](#) for a link to a chart in the [Updates/References section](#) on our website that outlines the published telehealth policy for each of our contracted payors. We will continue to update this document as we receive updates.

This is for informational purposes only, and should not be considered billing advice. We encourage you to reach out to your billing entity for further guidance on these topics.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached via email at PLLCAdministration@bidmc.harvard.edu or leave me

a message at (617) 632-9728, and I will get back to you.

Deb Schoenthaler, Executive Director



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