

Remote patient monitoring (Telemonitoring)

Applies to:



**Blue Cross
Blue Shield**
of Michigan

A nonprofit corporation and independent licensee
of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Medicare Plus BlueSM PPO Medicare Plus BlueSM Group PPO Both

Remote patient monitoring

Remote patient monitoring, also called telemonitoring, is a type of ambulatory health care that allows a patient to use an internet-capable device to perform a routine test and send the test data to a health care professional in real time for analysis and follow-up.

Original Medicare

Original Medicare covers remote patient monitoring, or telemonitoring, services as a part of a home health plan of care combined with another skilled service.

Medicare Plus Blue PPO enhanced benefit

Medicare Plus Blue is a Medicare Advantage plan, which provides at least the same level of benefit coverage as Original Medicare (Part A and Part B) and may provide enhanced benefits beyond the scope of Original Medicare within a single health care plan. This flexibility allows Blue Cross to offer enriched plans by using Original Medicare as the base program and adding desired benefit options.

Coverage for remote patient monitoring (telemonitoring) is provided to members who meet the criteria and agree to participate in the Chronic Condition Management program under all individual and group Medicare Plus Blue PPO plans. Since Original Medicare limits coverage of remote patient monitoring, the scope of the benefit, reimbursement methodology, maximum allowed payment amounts and member cost sharing are determined by Blue Cross for individual coverage and by the group for those with group-based coverage.

Eligible members who are diagnosed with heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or uncontrolled hypertension may be targeted by care management for the remote monitoring intervention. Members in the remote monitoring program will be sent a symptom appropriate monitor and provided with the support needed to operate it. The monitor transmits data daily to health care professionals who take action as needed.

Conditions for payment

The telemonitoring is provided under the administration of the CCM program, and a single source provider under contract with Blue Cross delivers all services. Due to the structure of this program, the vendor service payments are administered under the terms of the contract and there is no billing of the member by the provider.

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Reimbursement

All charges for services delivered by the telemonitoring provider are handled under the terms of the contract between Blue Cross and the provider.

Member cost sharing

Due to the structure of the telemonitoring program, the member has no cost share for services delivered by the contracted provider. Member program eligibility is verified by Blue Cross prior to the member's referral to the contracted provider for telemonitoring services.

Revision history

Policy number: MAPPO 1025

Reviewed: 08/30/2023, 10/26/2022, 08/31/2022, 08/25/2021, 10/16/2020, 10/09/2019, 8/3/2018

Revised: 10/26/2022, 10/16/2020, 06/26/2017, 11/02/2016, 08/11/2015

10/26/2022: Updated benefit language to align with the EOC.

10/16/2020: Added verbiage to Original Medicare section of the policy to state that Medicare covers remote patient monitoring, or telemonitoring, services as a part of a home health plan of care combined with another skilled service.

06/26/2017: Added Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease and Diabetes, removed all condition acronyms.

11/02/2016: changed Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) to Heart Failure (HF), deleted Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and Diabetes (DI)

Effective: 01/01/2016