

## Telemedicine Quick Reference Guide aids in navigating MDHHS updates

On March 2, 2023, The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services released the final Medicaid Bulletin [MMP 23-10](#)\* to provide updates on the use of telemedicine services after the conclusion of the federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. In the bulletin, MDHHS listed several billing updates specific to video and telephonic telemedicine services.

Due to the large amount of updates in the MDHHS bulletin, Blue Cross Complete created a [Telemedicine Quick Reference Guide](#) that includes detailed information how and when to bill for video or telephonic services.

If you have any questions, contact Blue Cross Complete's Provider Inquiry at 1-888-312-5713 or your Blue Cross Complete provider account executive.

## End of Covid-19 public health emergency results in several changes to Medicaid program policies

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services released Bulletin [MMP 23-27](#)\* in April 2023 that outlines changes to various policies that were implemented during the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency. The policies, [MSA 20-14](#)\*, [MSA 20-25](#)\*, [MSA 20-32](#)\*, [MSA 20-35](#)\* and [MSA 20-62](#)\* provide updates to durable medical equipment, prosthesis, orthotic and medical supplies, and the hospital transfers and non-emergency ambulance transport guidelines.

To support member access to services while maintaining safety during the pandemic, the DMEPOS policies allowed flexibility in the provision of home-delivered medical equipment and supplies. The modifications addressed in these policies have been restored to pre-COVID-19 requirements as follows:

- Waiver of quantity limits.
- Coverage for surgical masks and gowns.
- Waiver of member signature for home-delivered durable medical equipment and medical supplies.
- Allow for delivery of a 90-day supply of medical supplies.

This rule will not end if a 90-day supply was allowed prior to the COVID-19 emergency.

Additionally, Bulletin [MSA 20-18](#)\* was enacted to enable non-emergency ambulance transports to lower acuity hospitals without written consent from the attending physician. This policy also relaxed hospital nonmedically necessary transfers guidelines. These adjustments have been restored to pre-COVID-19 requirements.

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## COVID-19 temporary Medicaid pharmacy policies extended

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services announced an extension to the effective period for Medicaid pharmacy policies that were imposed during the Covid-19 public health emergency.

The policies, which include [MMP 22-29](#)\*, [HASA 22-02](#)\* and [L 22-04](#)\*, were initially set to expire at the end of the PHE. However, the new effective period will now align with Sections 9811 and 9821 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for coverage of COVID-19 treatment services. The updated policy provisions will be in effect until September 30, 2024, as outlined by the ARP.

Updates include:

- Authorization of U.S. Food & Drug Administration emergency use authorization pharmacist prescriptive authority of oral antivirals for the treatment of COVID-19
- Coverage of FDA EUA COVID-19 monoclonal antibody injections by pharmacy providers
- Stand-alone vaccine counseling services billed as a medication therapy management service

For full details of the bulletin, visit [michigan.gov](#).\* Providers and pharmacies with questions about Blue Cross Complete pharmacy benefit coverage or claims transmission issues can review the [Pharmacy Resource Guide](#) for additional information.

\*Our website is [mibluccrosscomplete.com](#). While website addresses for other organizations are provided for reference, Blue Cross Complete doesn't control these sites and isn't responsible for their content.