

ACA Risk Adjustment Telehealth – Benefit Year 2022-23

For ACA, telehealth visits are considered equivalent to face-to-face interactions

- For ACA risk adjustment, a video component is not required for telehealth
- The place of service code on the claim should be 02
- Medical Mutual does not require a modifier for telehealth services
- Office E&M codes can be used
- New or established patients can be seen

There are 9 e-visit codes for risk adjustment (98970-98972, 99421-99423)

- Short, on-line assessments to determine the need for an office visit
- Only for providers who may bill independently for E&M visits
- Includes online E&M via patient portal and subsequent phone calls or e-mail

Telephone-only service codes (98966-98968, 99441-99443)

- Only for providers who may bill independently for E&M visits
- Patient-initiated (99441-99443)
 - Not relating to an E&M within the past 7 days
 - Not leading to an E&M within 24 hours

Telehealth is to be valid through the calendar year in which the PHE ends

References

- Risk Adjustment Telehealth and Telephone Services During COVID-19 FAQs, April 29, 2022 at <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/RA-Telehealth-FAQ.pdf>
- OHIMA: Documentation and Coding Challenges of Telehealth During the COVID-19 Pandemic by Lisa Pierce Reisz, OHIMA Annual Conference, 2021
- OHIMA: COVID 19 and the Emergence of Telehealth: Navigating the Challenges and Opportunities by Lisa Pierce Reisz, OHIMA Annual Conference, 2021