



M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Valued STAR and CHIP Providers

FROM: El Paso Health

DATE: 11/21/2024

RE: TMPPM Language Update for Certain HTW Telehealth Services
Effective Dec. 1, 2024

HHSC allowed the use of telemedicine and telehealth, to include the use of synchronous telephone (audio-only) technology, to deliver many Medicaid services during the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE). House Bill 4, 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, required HHSC to allow more services to be delivered using telemedicine or telehealth on a permanent basis after the PHE ends if clinically appropriate and cost-effective.

Effective Dec. 1, 2024, language updates related to HTW telehealth services for certain medical nutrition therapy services and medical nutrition counseling services will appear in the TMPPM.

The following telehealth services may continue to be provided by synchronous audiovisual technology for medical nutrition therapy and medical nutrition counseling, if clinically appropriate and safe, as determined by the provider and agreed to by the client receiving services:

- Medical nutrition therapy services (procedure codes 97802, 97803, and 97804).
- Medical nutritional counseling service (procedure code S9470).
- Services delivered by synchronous audiovisual technology must be billed using modifier 95.

New language will indicate that during certain public health emergencies or natural disasters, and if clinically appropriate and safe, as determined by the provider and agreed to by the client receiving services, the following procedure codes may be provided by synchronous telephone (audio-only) technology:

- Medical nutrition therapy services (procedure codes 97802, 97803, and 97804).
- Medical nutritional counseling service (procedure code S9470).



El Paso Health
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MEMORANDUM

- Services delivered by synchronous telephone (audio-only) technology must be billed using modifier 93.

Note: As a reminder, Senate Bill 670, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 prohibits Medicaid and CHIP health plans from 1) denying reimbursement to health care providers for a Medicaid service or procedure solely because it was delivered by telemedicine or telehealth, and 2) denying or reducing reimbursement to health care providers for a Medicaid service or procedure based on the health care provider's choice of platform.

Resources:

TMHP provider notice published on October 11, 2024: [Medical Nutritional Counseling a Benefit of HTW Effective December 1, 2024](#)

If you have any questions regarding this communication please contact our Provider Relations team at 915-532-3778 or email us at ProviderRelationsDG@elpasohealth.com.