



TO

Narcotic Treatment Services Providers, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

REGARDING

Temporary Changes to Narcotic Treatment Services

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ForwardHealth is temporarily altering certain policy requirements in order to prevent further spread of the disease and effectively treat existing cases. **These changes are issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 49.45(61) and are in place until ForwardHealth announces otherwise. ForwardHealth will publish additional guidance about the topics addressed in this Alert when the temporary policies related to COVID-19 expire.**

In response to COVID-19, Wisconsin Medicaid will allow real-time telephonic communication in lieu of face-to-face daily dosing contact by registered nurses or licensed practical nurses working in an opioid treatment program clinic. Agencies must adhere to Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 75.15 requirements in all other respects.

Only the services listed below may be delivered via telehealth and reimbursed under the narcotic treatment services benefit.

PROCEDURE CODE	DESCRIPTION
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98966	Telephone assessment and management service provided by a qualified nonphysician health care professional to an established patient, parent, or guardian not originating from a related assessment and management service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an assessment and management service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment; 5–10 minutes of medical discussion
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PROCEDURE CODE	DESCRIPTION
98967	Telephone assessment and management service provided by a qualified nonphysician health care professional to an established patient, parent, or guardian not originating from a related assessment and management service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an assessment and management service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment; 11–20 minutes of medical discussion
98968	Telephone assessment and management service provided by a qualified nonphysician health care professional to an established patient, parent, or guardian not originating from a related assessment and management service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an assessment and management service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment; 21–30 minutes of medical discussion

Distant Site Provider Requirements

Phone assessment and management services by a qualified non-physician must follow current claims submission policy for narcotic treatment services, including diagnosis restrictions. In addition, providers must include modifier GT with codes 98966–98968 and place of service code 02 (Telehealth) on the professional claim.

All [current documentation requirements](#) for narcotic treatment services are applicable.