

Overview of Telemedicine and Telehealth Changes

Specific Requirements for Behavioral Health Services

Behavioral health services provided through synchronous telephone (audio-only) technology require the provider to obtain informed consent from the client, client's parent, or the client's legally authorized representative (LAR) before rendering a behavioral health service through a synchronous telephone (audio-only) technology platform, except when doing so is not feasible or could result in death or injury to the client.

Verbal consent is permissible and must be documented in the client's medical record.

Telemedicine and telehealth behavioral health services provided through synchronous telephone (audio-only) technology **must** be billed with a modifier (FQ). Procedure codes that indicate audio-only delivery in the description do not need to be billed with a modifier.

Modifiers for Telemedicine and Telehealth	Description
95	Delivered by synchronous audiovisual technology
FQ	Delivered by synchronous telephone (audio-only) technology

The following Behavioral Health Services can be delivered via Synchronous Telephone (Audio-Only Technology) using Modifier FQ

Psychiatric Diagnostic Evaluation Services

- 90791 and 90792

Psychotherapy (Individual, Family, or Group)

- 90832, 90833, 90834, 90836, 90837, 90838, 90846, 90847, 90853, 99354 and 99355

Neurobehavioral Services

- 96116 and 96121

Neuropsychological and Psychological Testing Services

- 96130, 96131, 96132, 96133, 96136, and 96137

- The psychometric test must be available in an online format, except for tests that are administered and responded to orally.
- The provider, or test administrator, must observe the person, in real-time, for the duration of the test; and
- The provider delivers the psychometric test in accordance with their licensing board and professional guidelines.

Mental Health Targeted Case Management Services (MHTCM)

- T1017

Mental Health Rehabilitation Services (MHR)

- H0034, H2014, H2017, and H2011

Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)

- 99408, G2011, and H0049

Substance Use Disorder Comprehensive Assessment

- H0001 - - Only during certain public health emergencies or natural disasters; to the extent allowed by federal law (assessments for withdrawal management services are excluded); and the existing clinical relationship requirement is waived.

Substance Use Disorder Individual and Group Counseling

- H0004 and H0005

Additional Guidelines for Telemedicine Services

All physicians must comply with 22 Texas Administrative Code §174.5 when issuing prescriptions through telemedicine.