

Meridian Telehealth Updates

Update 4/20/20 Additional question send to Meridian on 4/12 and their response:

Medicare recently changed the way they want their claims submitted, Instead of place of service 02 and no modifier, they are asking providers to use the place of service where the visit “would have taken place” and a modifier 95.

Page 15 of the CMS-1744-IFC on 3/30/20: “To implement this change on an interim basis, we are instructing physicians and practitioners who bill for Medicare telehealth services to report the POS code that would have been reported had the service been furnished in person. “

Does Meridian want providers to continue to use the 02 place of service or adopt the newest (3/30) Medicare guidelines?

Meridian Response on 4/20: “We are currently set up to accept these types of scenarios as well. For non-facility reimbursement the claim would need to be billed with the originating site. Claims billed with POS 2 will be covered under the facility fee schedule.”

Update: 4/13/20 - MSHO Questions To Meridian Meridian’s responses are listed below:

Virtually all other payers are allowing the office visit codes and reimbursing the same as an office visit since we are doing EVERYTHING to care for the immunosuppressed cancer patients in their homes. These phone calls are taking the provider MORE TIME than a regular office visit and shouldn't be reimbursed less than a regular visit, certainly more than a usual telehealth visit.

***Currently, the codes will be paying the same. Facility vs. non facility reimbursement will be applied for applicable place of service. we are following CMS guidelines.

I've attached the Medicare Fact Sheet link:

<https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/medicare-telemedicine-health-care-provider-fact-sheet>

Could you PLEASE update our membership on Meridian's direction on how to bill for telehealth services performed by an oncologist when the patient is at home;

***home has been added to the acceptable originating sites.

Specifically:

**Does Meridian allow billing the same way as Medicare?

Yes. All codes listed on the Medicaid fee schedule are payable. Our Commercial lines will follow Medicare guidelines as well.

**Does Meridian allow billing the same way as BCBSM? (attached)

Medicare is following this same guidance. Medicaid is not set up for the E visits currently, but we are working on getting our codes aligned with state confirmation of rates.

**Does Meridian allow providers to use the office visit codes for telehealth visits with the patient at home and the physician calling from the office, coding with a place of service "02" and modifier GT?

yes

**Does Meridian you allow providers to use these codes in situations where the patient doesn't have access to "video" so it is just a phone call? (Michigan Medicaid and BCBSM has relaxed the rules to allow this during this time)

Yes the state has released MSA bulletins where this rule has also been relaxed.

I've reviewed your website but cannot find any information about an expansion or what Meridian is doing to support patients during this COVID-19 crisis.

Our website has a section on COVID-19 located here:<https://corp.mhplan.com/en/covid-19/>

Please let me know if you have any other questions. we will be able to review and respond as quickly as possible.

Regards,
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