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Providing Early Childhood Intervention Services via Telehealth

Contents



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Overview

ECI Rules Relating to Telehealth



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- Effective June 30, 2019
- Definition of telehealth (Title 40 §108.103(41))
- Case management via telehealth (Title 40 §108.403(1))
- Specialized rehabilitative services via telehealth (Title 40 §108.501(a)(4))
- Other services via telehealth (Title 40 §108.1104(b)(3))

Medicaid Reimbursement



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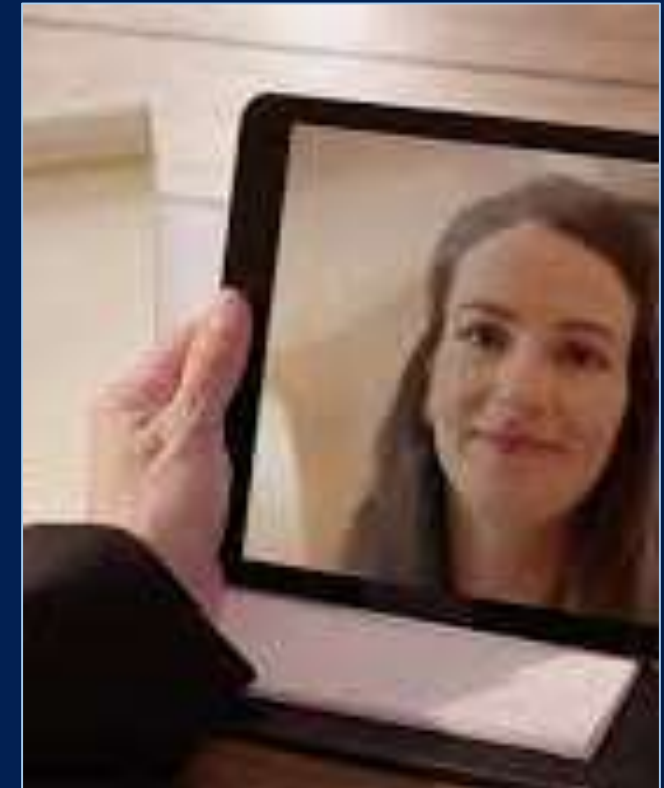
- At this time, Medicaid does not reimburse telehealth services in ECI
- Medicaid reimbursements are anticipated to start in February 2020
- Initially will cover Targeted Case Management, Specialized Skills Training, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy
- Physical Therapy may be added in the future

Factors to Consider



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- Costs/benefits
 - Save on travel
 - Potential for more service delivery hours
 - Start-up costs
 - Ongoing costs
- Level of comfort with technology
- Availability/cost of internet coverage





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Requirements

Consent



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- Written parental consent is required
- Must be able to withdraw consent at any time
- If family declines telehealth, services must be provided in person



Compliance



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Telehealth services must comply with:

- All Medicaid requirements
- Requirements in the provider's practice act
- Requirements related to service delivery and documentation in Title 40, Chapter 108



HIPAA/FERPA Compliance



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- Technology must meet Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)/Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) requirements
- Specialized software or applications are necessary





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Recommendations

Choosing Children and Families



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- Telehealth must support Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) goals
- Family must be able to implement strategies without hands-on support



Choosing Children and Families



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Consider:

- Distance, health, safety
- Space in the home the family has to work with
- Family support systems
- Knowledge of technology
- Internet connection



Choosing Staff



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- Good coaches
- Knowledge of technology
- Ability to adjust strategies, teaching styles
- Should not be a requirement



Staff Training Resources



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Training specific to telehealth:

- Peer practice sessions
- National Center for Hearing Assessment and Management, Utah State University™
- Available at infanthearing.org/ti101/index.html.



Staff Training Resources



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Training specific to telehealth:

- Early Intervention Colorado
- Available at coloradoofficeofearlychildhood.force.com/eicolorado/EI_Professionals?p=Professionals&s=Training-EI&lang=en



Early Intervention Colorado

for Infants, Toddlers & Families

In-Person Assessment



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- Initial discipline-specific assessments:
 - Capture all strengths, needs and concerns
 - Begin developing rapport
- Another provider with caregiver



Telehealth and In-Person Services



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- Opportunities for both telehealth and in-person services
- All providers working with the family
- Helps with rapport
- Helps identify progress and emerging concerns



Family Satisfaction



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- Check in with families to gauge satisfaction
- At least every six months
- Compare satisfaction of families receiving telehealth and in person services



Child Progress



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- Determine if children receiving telehealth services are making the progress expected
- If possible, compare to similar children receiving in-person services
- Look at annual Global Child Outcomes ratings



Questions?



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Thank you

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