




Deidre S. Gifford, MD, MPH, Commissioner

Effective Date: March 16, 2020
Contact: See below

TO: School Based Child Health Participating Districts

RE: CMAP COVID-19 Response – Bulletin 11: Emergency School Based Child Health (SBCH) Program Changes

As an interim measure in response to the Governor’s recent declaration of a public health emergency as the result of the outbreak of COVID-19 (coronavirus), the Department of Social Services (DSS) is temporarily expanding portions of telemedicine coverage effective for dates of service from March 16, 2020 until DSS has notified providers in writing that the state has deemed COVID-19 no longer to be a public health emergency or DSS otherwise determines in writing that some or all of these specific measures are no longer needed to help protect the public health (the “Temporary Effective Period”). Please refer to **PB 2020-09** for DSS’s general telemedicine coverage parameters. Except as otherwise specified below, all provisions of **PB 2020-09** remain in effect.

Note: Please carefully review the entirety of this bulletin along with all other provider bulletins and documents (i.e. FAQs) found on the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP) Web site, www.ctdssmap.com.

School Based Child Health (SBCH):

During the Temporary Effective Period, DSS is adding Medicaid coverage of the following SBCH services when rendered via telemedicine (when such services comply with all other applicable requirements):

Procedure Code	Description
90791	Psych diag eval
90832	Psytx pt &/family 30 minutes
90847	Family psytx w/patient
90853	Group psychotherapy

Procedure Code	Description
92507	Speech Treatment
97110	OT & PT Therapeutic services
H0031	Mental Health Assessment
H2014	Behavior Modification Services

Please note: Group Occupational and Group Physical Therapy are excluded and cannot be rendered via telemedicine.

Billing and Documentation Guidelines:

As noted in PB 2020-09, subject to all other applicable requirements for reimbursement under the Connecticut Medical Assistance Program (CMAP), the following guidelines apply to all services rendered via telemedicine:

- Reimbursement/payment rates are the same as for equivalent in-person services;
- Documentation must be maintained by the provider to substantiate the services provided;
- Comply with all CMAP requirements that would otherwise apply to the same service performed face-to-face (in-person), including, but not limited to, enrollment, scope of practice, licensure, documentation, billing and other applicable requirements;
- If a telehealth service cannot be provided or completed for any reason, such as due to a technical difficulty, providers shall not submit a claim.

Telemedicine Modifiers:

All providers billing for telemedicine services must append the telemedicine modifier to the claim. As noted in PB 2020-09, the following modifier is being used in SBCH.

- Modifier “GT” is used when the member’s originating site is located in a healthcare facility or office; or
- Modifier “95” is used when the member is located in the home.

For questions about billing or if further assistance is needed to access the fee schedules on the CMAP Web site, please contact the Provider Assistance Center, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 1-800-842-8440.

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA):

In a notice issued on March 17, 2020 (posted at this link: www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/special-topics/emergency-preparedness/notification-enforcement-discretion-telehealth/index.html), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights (OCR) posted updated guidance on the enforcement discretion for telehealth remote communications during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Providers should consult with this communication and future communications from OCR regarding their obligations under HIPAA.

Providers must continue to ensure that they comply with all applicable federal requirements and guidance. While the COVID-19 national public emergency may result in exceptions issued by OCR, DSS still recommends that, whenever possible, providers should fully comply with all details of HIPAA privacy and security rule provisions as written in order to best safeguard the privacy and security of protected health information. For more information, please select the following: www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/special-topics/emergency-

[preparedness/index.html](http://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/special-topics/emergency-preparedness/index.html) and any other federal guidance that may be issued in the future.

Posting Instructions:

Policy transmittals can be downloaded from the Web site at www.ctdssmap.com.

Distribution:

This policy transmittal is being distributed to providers of the CMAP by DXC Technology.

Responsible Units:

DSS, Division of Health Services

School Based Child Health Contact:

Krista Pender, Reimbursement Manager at 860-424-5390 or krista.pender@ct.gov

Medical Telemedicine Contact:

Colleen Johnson, Medical Policy Consultant at 860-424-5195 or colleen.johnson@ct.gov

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