

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
7500 Security Boulevard, Mail Stop C5-15-12
Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850



Center for Medicare

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Lewis Golinker, Esq.
Director, Assistive Technology Law Center
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Dear Mr. Golinker:

Thank you for your email to Administrator Verma regarding the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) expansion of telehealth services. She asked me to respond to you directly. We share your interest in ensuring the health and safety of our beneficiaries by supporting comprehensive telehealth services, allowing some of the most vulnerable in our communities to receive critically needed care from the comfort and security of their own homes.

Medicare maintains a list of services for which payment can be made when furnished as telehealth services. Ordinarily, CMS considers public requests and makes changes to the telehealth services list as part of the annual physician fee schedule rulemaking cycle. This process provides the public with an ongoing opportunity to submit requests to add services, which are then reviewed by CMS. In the May 1 COVID-19 interim final rule with comment period (IFC), CMS modified the process for adding or deleting services from the Medicare telehealth services list during the public health emergency for COVID-19 under our regulation at section 410.78(f) to allow for an expedited process that does not require rulemaking. We stated that we would use a sub-regulatory process to consider modifications to the services included on the Medicare telehealth services list as they are requested by the public. CMS will continue to post the latest additions to the Medicare telehealth services list pursuant to the May 1 COVID-19 IFC at this web link: <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/Telehealth/Telehealth-Codes>. Please share this response with the other organization who cosigned your letter.

Sincerely,

Carol L. Blackford

Carol L. Blackford
Director, Hospital and Ambulatory Policy Group

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