



Weekly Auditing and Compliance Tip

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Telemedicine: The Next Frontier in Care Delivery

Technology is ubiquitous in modern society, and just when we thought that computers could not replace the "human touch" of a healthcare provider, technology is making specialized care accessible to patients anywhere there is an internet connection. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have now approved "virtual visits" via bilateral video and audio communications between a provider and patients. This will improve access to care for patients in geographically underserved areas or in areas where some specialists are not available.

According to the American Hospital Association's *Trend Watch* (January, 2015), an estimated 3.2 million patient visits are expected to be delivered via telemedicine by 2018. Below is a table containing the current telemedicine HCPCS Level II and CPT codes that have been set by the American Medical Association:

Sample of AMA-Approved Telemedicine Codes - 2017

Become a **MEMBER**

As a NAMAS member, you'll receive access to monthly webinars for CEUs (including those hard to find CPMA CEUs!), a subscription to BC Advantage magazine, discounts on products and NAMAS training events, and much, much more!

We offer 4 membership levels- choose the one that best suits your needs!

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For added convenience, NAMAS accepts PayPal, PayPal Credit, quarterly and monthly payments of membership dues.

Service	HCPSC Level II	CPT
Office or other outpatient visit		99201-99215
Annual wellness visit (#1 & #2)	G0438-G0439	
Telehealth consultation (ED or initial inpatient)	G0425-G0427	
Follow up hospital services		99231-99233
Follow up nursing care facility		99307-99310
Transitional care management		99495-99496
Kidney disease education		
Diabetes self-management training services	G0108-G0109	
Individual psychotherapy		90832-90834 & 90836-90838
Family psychotherapy - with or without the patient present		90846-90847
Annual depression screening	G0444	
Annual alcohol misuse screening	G0442	

Work Group for Electronic Data Interchange. "Innovative Encounters Issue Brief: Introduction to Telehealth Codes," December. 21, 2016.

Modifiers for Telemedicine Codes

Per CMS, in 2017 a practitioner may submit claims for telehealth services using the appropriate CPT or HCPCS code for the professional service along with a Modifier **95**, to indicate that "synchronous telemedicine service rendered via real-time interactive audio and video telemedicine."

For example, **99201-99205** may be billed for an initial Level 1 visit via telemedicine. The location where health services and health-related services are provided or received through telemedicine would be billed through Medicare as Place of Service 02. Check with your commercial payors on their provider website to



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Our **Medical Auditing Bootcamp** will train you to become a medial auditor. Learn the principles of auditing, compliance regulations, and how to perform the daily duties of an auditor.

Our **2-day ONSITE** Medical Auditing Bootcamps are scheduled as follows:

August 17 & 18: Asheville, NC
 October 12 & 13: Columbia, SC
 and more!

We also offer this bootcamp as a **5 week LIVE ONLINE Saturday course**. Each class is 3 hours and 15 minutes in length. Our next online course begins September 23, 2017!

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Our 2-Day E&M BootCamps are scheduled as follows:

confirm that they are actively covering telemedicine services using these modifiers.

Here are 5 tips from AdvancedMD™ to successfully implement a telemedicine program in your practice:

1. Determine your objective. Decide your goal. Do you seek to expand patient access to your practice into evenings and weekends? Perhaps you would like to more closely monitor your chronic or elderly patients? Whatever your objectives, telemedicine can improve patient outcomes, provide additional revenues, and even attract new providers to your practice with this new care delivery medium.

2. Appoint a Telemedicine "Champion" within the practice to promote its benefits to your staff, to select and implement the technology, to plan the telemedicine workflow, and to train and coach patients and staff during implementation.

3. Market the benefits of telemedicine to patients. Use email and text message appointment reminders to create awareness of the telemedicine option to fill empty slots in your schedule and reduce no-shows. The Champion can guide patients on how to access and to use the telemedicine feature.

4. Practice a telemedicine visit in the roles of both provider and patient. It can take practice to learn how to present well on camera. Be mindful of the background, ambient noise and your body language to make sure you come across professionally and credibly before you go live with real patients.

5. Meet state licensing requirements - If the patient is located in another state, the originating state in which the patient is located is considered the "place of service." Therefore, the physician must comply with that state's licensing rules and regulations. Each state's medical board has its own rules governing delivery of telemedicine services across state lines (and they are actively changing). Some are easing restrictions on providers in contiguous states, so be certain to check state regulatory requirements frequently.

July 11 & 12: East Lansing, MI
July 26 & 27: Nashville, TN
August 8 & 9: Charleston, SC
And more!

[Click Here to Learn More & View Our E&M Auditing BootCamp schedule](#)

Weekly Tip Sponsor



Compliance Risk Analyzer, offered through the Frank Cohen Group, is your roadmap to compliance success. CRA analyzes your data to identify key risk areas for your practice and provides critical data you need to maintain compliance in your practice.

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Membership Benefit Spotlight

Here, each week we will highlight one of the many benefits of a NAMAS membership

Ask an Auditor



Do you have auditing questions? Is there a topic of debate in your office? Let us help! Through the Ask an Auditor feature (available within the members only area of our website), you can submit your auditing question directly to the NAMAS team for their input!

NAMAS Calendar of Events

This Week's Tip Written by:

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CHBA**

Valora is a Partner and Senior Management Consultant with our parent organization, DoctorsManagement, LLC



This article was previously published by DoctorsManagement in the June 2017 edition of *The Business of Medicine* Newsletter



Click the image above to view our monthly calendar

**Join NAMAS for the 9th Annual Auditing & Compliance Conference
December 2017 in Orlando, FL!**



Conference Information

Pre-Conference: Tuesday, December 5
Conference: Wednesday, December 6 - Friday, December 8
Venue: Loews Sapphire Falls Resort
Orlando, FL

[Click Here to View the Conference Agenda](#)

Learn from the best in the industry, network with your peers and visit with our hand picked group of industry relevant exhibitors all in the gorgeous Caribbean inspired backdrop of the Loews Sapphire Falls Resort

Conference Pricing - Available Through September 30, 2017 Only

NAMAS Member

Conference Only: \$1145

Pre-Conference & Conference: \$1395

Non Member



NAMAS is proud to offer the following webinars in July

How to Audit Wound Care Services

Speaker: Grant Huang

July 11, 2017

2pm EST This webinar is FREE For NAMAS Platinum members. This webinar is also available for purchase for \$49.99

Click here to purchase

When Good Providers Make Bad Decisions

Speaker: Doug Graham

July 18, 2017

2pm EST

This webinar is FREE For NAMAS Platinum, Gold and Silver/Basic members who have selected the compliance webinar series. This webinar is also available for purchase for \$49.99

Click here to purchase

Hands On: Auditing Surgical Services

Speaker: Linda Foster

July 25, 2017

2pm EST

This webinar is FREE For NAMAS Platinum members. This webinar is also available for purchase for \$49.99

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Too Many Audits Stacking Up? Looking

Conference Only: \$1245
Pre-Conference & Conference: \$1595

Plus, Don't Miss Your Opportunity to Be a Conference VIP!

This year, we are proud to offer a limited number of VIP package add-ons available to all attendees at the nominal rate of \$129. Add on the VIP experience to your conference registration today!

As a Conference VIP, you'll receive:

- A VIP registration line for faster check-in
- A VIP branded name badge to wear during conference sessions
- Registration to our **EXCLUSIVE** VIP Brunch & Session occurring the morning of Wednesday, December 6 before general session begins. This exclusive training will be presented by Frank Cohen
- Admission to our **VIP ONLY EVENT** - occurring the evening of Thursday, December 7. Enjoy a relaxing evening of entertainment, dancing, food and networking in the Caribbean inspired Sapphire Falls Resort
- Bonus NAMAS Swag
- Additional \$500 in NAMAS Bucks! Use NAMAS Bucks to bid on a variety of prizes available in our exhibit hall

And, as a special added bonus, all VIP attendees will receive a book of printed handouts for all NAMAS pre-conference & conference sessions. As a VIP, there's no need to print handouts before you arrive! Your book will be waiting for you upon your arrival!

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Complimentary Tip^{of} the Week

Our weekly auditing & compliance tip emails are available to anyone who could benefit from this information.

If you know someone who would like to receive these emails, invite them to sign.

Click the image above to be added to our email list!