



Division of Developmental Disabilities Services
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MEMORANDUM

To: Part C Providers under First Connections Grant

From: Division of Developmental Disabilities Services, First Connections

Date: March 30, 2020

Re: Use of Telemedicine to provide developmental therapy to Children with Current IFSP during COVID-19 Outbreak

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency, First Connections is issuing a memorandum permitting the use of telemedicine to provide continuity of services for families of infants/toddlers with a current IFSP.

The telemedicine services described below will be available and billable on April 3, 2020, and will be retroactive to dates of service, March 30, 2020. The services may be provided by current Part C providers in good standing who meet licensure and certification requirements. The services described below will be available to Part C Program-eligible children with a current IFSP only, for dates of service thirty (30) days from today, with the possibility of extending for additional thirty-day periods.

Developmental Therapy

Developmental therapy supports overall development across all developmental domains. Developmental therapy also provides education, training, and coaching to support the parents/ caregivers of Part C Program-eligible children in implementing strategies and activities listed on the child's current IFSP within typical child and family activities and interactions.

Current codes and modifiers for individual OT/PT and ST provided by a licensed therapist and therapy assistant can be used at the current rate.

Billing Instructions

Medicaid is NOT allowing telemedicine for developmental therapy at this time. This service must be billed to the grant.

To bill for these services, the service must be provided in real time and include an audio and a video component. Parent/caregiver participation in service sessions is required and must be documented.

The service may be provided in 30-minute sessions with a maximum of 8 sessions per month. Must be prior authorized.

The following services **cannot** be completed via telemedicine:

1. Evaluations and re-evaluations. However, if an annual evaluation is due during this time, the deadline may be extended until the evaluation can be completed in a home visit
2. Group Therapy Services for more than one Part C Program-eligible child at a time

Billing codes have not changed for services on an IFSP; however, in addition to the current modifier you must include the (GT) modifier and (02) as the place of service (POS). All Therapy claims submitted for telemedicine must include the GT modifier and (02) as the place of service.

If you have any questions on billing please contact Tracy Turner at Tracy.Turner@dhs.arkansas.gov.

**Compliance with service provision and documentation requirements for IDEA, Part C Program
Telemedicine services will be periodically monitored by the lead agency. For IFSP services funded by Medicaid, please keep all records of services as required by Medicaid physician billing and telemedicine rules in addition to required Part C program documentation.**