

SOUTH DAKOTA

What is the definition of “telemedicine” or “telehealth”?

The South Dakota Medicaid program defines “telemedicine” as “[t]he use of an interactive telecommunications system to provide two-way, real-time, interactive communication between a provider and a Medicaid recipient across a distance. Note: Services are limited.”

[South Dakota Department of Social Services, South Dakota Medicaid: Professional Services Billing Manual \(July 2017\), at 22.](#)

Within the context of South Dakota statutory provisions regarding mental health procedures in criminal justice, the term “telehealth” is defined as “a mode of delivering healthcare services that utilizes information and communication technologies to enable the diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, care management, and self-management of patients at a distance from health care providers.”

[S.D. CODIFIED LAWS § 23A-50-1\(6\).](#)

Within the context of South Dakota regulations regarding home and community-based services, the term “telehealth services” is defined as “a home based health monitoring system used to collect and transmit an individual’s clinical data for monitoring and interpretation.”

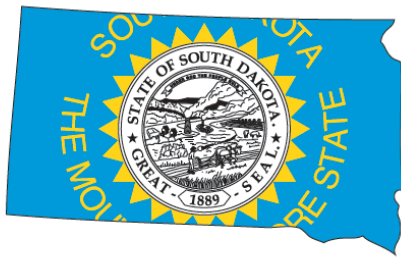
[S.D. ADMIN. R. 67:40:19:01\(21\).](#)

PSYCHIATRISTS

What are the acceptable modalities (e.g., telephone, video) for the practice of psychiatry via telemedicine/telehealth that meet the standard of care for the state?

The *South Dakota Medicaid Professional Services Billing Manual* states that the acceptable “interactive telecommunications system” for telemedicine is “[m]ultimedia communications equipment that includes, at a minimum, audio and video equipment permitting two-way, real-time interactive communication between the Medicaid recipient and distant site practitioner. Telephones, facsimile machines, and electronic mail systems do not meet the definition of an interactive telecommunications system.”

[South Dakota Department of Social Services, South Dakota Medicaid: Professional Services Billing Manual \(July 2017\), at 22.](#)



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PSYCHOLOGISTS

What are the criteria for establishing a practitioner-patient relationship via telemedicine/telehealth?

Updated link: S.D. ADMIN. R. 20:60:07:01 (from [Association of State & Provincial Psychology Boards, Code of Conduct \(rev. 2005\)](#)).

COVERAGE & REIMBURSEMENT

Does Medicaid provide coverage for telemental/telebehavioral/telepsychiatric health services? If so, what are the coverage criteria?

South Dakota Medicaid covers distant site telemedicine services and will reimburse at the same rate as in-person services, for the services listed in the *South Dakota Medicaid Professional Services Billing Manual*.

[South Dakota Department of Social Services, South Dakota Medicaid: Professional Services Billing Manual \(July 2017\), at 22.](#)

Covered telemedicine services are subject to the same service requirements and limitations as in-person services.

Additionally, originating sites are eligible to receive a facility fee for each completed telemedicine transaction for a covered distant site telemedicine service. South Dakota Medicaid requires that “[a]ll originating sites must be an enrolled provider. Originating sites may not be located in the same community as the distant site unless the originating site is a nursing facility. The following are originating sites approved to bill a facility fee:

- Office of a physician or practitioner;
- Outpatient Hospital;
- Critical Access Hospital;
- Rural Health Clinic (RHC);
- Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC);
- Indian Health Service (IHS) Clinic;
- Community Mental Health Center (CMHC);
- Nursing Facilities

Claims submitted by a non-eligible originating site will be denied.”

[South Dakota Department of Social Services, South Dakota Medicaid: Professional Services Billing Manual \(July 2017\), at 25.](#)