Telehealth Documentation Compliance

Coding summary

1. Telehealth visits (video) must meet the same evaluation/management criteria as regular office visits.
2. The coding level for office visits is determined by either of the following:
   • History + exam + Medical-Decision-Making (MDM) criteria
   • Time-based criteria
3. Examples provided below are for reference but are not inclusive of all codes appropriate for telehealth visits.

99213 (Established Level 3 Office Visit)
History + exam + MDM coding: determined by meeting two of the following criteria:

1. History: Expanded Problem Focused (EPF) — Must have all three components
   a. HPI: Brief = HPI with one to three elements
   b. ROS: Pertinent to problem = one system
2. Exam: Expanded Problem-Focused
   a. Two to seven body areas or organ systems (related to chief complaint)
3. Medical Decision Making: Low-complexity — Must have two of the following:
   a. # Dx + management options = two points
   b. Data = two points
   c. Risk = Low

-OR-
Time-Based Coding: 15 min
Example: “A total of 15 minutes was spent face-to-face with the patient during this office visit and over half of that time was spent counseling and/or coordinating care.”

99214 (Established Level 4 Office Visit)
History + Exam + MDM Coding: determined by meeting two of the following criteria:

1. History: Detailed — must have all three components
   a. HPI: Extended = HPI with four or more elements
   b. ROS: Extended = two to nine systems
   c. Problem Focused Social History: Pertinent = at least one item
2. Exam: Detailed
   a. Two to seven body areas or organ systems (related to chief complaint)
3. Medical Decision Making: Moderate-Complexity — Must have two of the following:
   a. # Dx + Management Options = three points
   b. Data = three points
   c. Risk = Moderate

-OR-
Time-Based Coding: 25 min
Example: “A total of 25 minutes was spent face-to-face with the patient during this office visit and over half of that time was spent counseling and/or coordinating care.”