

Georgia Department of Community Health Telehealth Response to COVID-19



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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X9jXB6ip__E





DCH Telehealth Response to COVID-19



Rebecca Dugger

Director of Program & Community Support, Department of Community Health



Mission

The mission of the Department of Community Health is to provide access to affordable, quality health care to Georgians through effective planning, purchasing, and oversight.



Today's Objective

Furnish providers with Georgia telehealth policy guidance updates as it relates to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Agenda

- I. Telehealth Overview
- II. Overview of Changes
- III. Service Location
 - a) Originating
 - b) Distance Site
- IV. Billing
- V. Consent
- VI. HIPAA
- VII. Good Faith Modes of Communication
- VIII. Specific Provider Guidance
- IX. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
- X. Wrap Up

Disclaimer

The recording of this discussion is a snapshot in time. Due to the rapidly evolving nature of the emergency, changes may occur with notification to providers through FAQ pages, banner messages, and other published information

 This presentation reflects temporary policy developed in response to the COVID-19 health emergency. Continued use of telehealth following the end of the emergency state must comply with the Telemedicine Guidance available at www.mmis.georgia.gov

The latest COVID-19 guidance can be found on the Georgia Medicaid website https://medicaid.georgia.gov/covid-19



Telehealth

- The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) defines telehealth as the use of electronic information and telecommunications technologies to support and promote longdistance clinical health care, patient and professional health-related education, and public health and health administration
- Technologies include videoconferencing, the internet, store and-forward imaging, streaming media, and landline and wireless communications. Telehealth services may be provided, for example, through audio or video communication technology, including videoconferencing software. For purposes of reimbursement, certain payors, including Medicaid, may impose restrictions on the types of technologies that can be used



Overview of Telehealth Changes

- Due to COVID-19, DCH is expanding the use of telehealth to increase provider capacity to provide services and limit in-person exposure
- Many commonly held aspects of telehealth are changing, including:
 - Originating Site
 - Distance Sites
 - Billing
 - Consent
 - HIPAA regulations
 - Approved providers
- Coding Guidance (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), DCH, and Provider Associations)
- <u>Note</u>: These provisions are *only* valid through the conclusion of the national state of emergency
- Policy language is drawn from <u>DCH provider guidance</u>, published March 26, 2020



Service Location: Originating Site

Policy:

"....allows states broad authority to waive-limitations on settings where members are eligible to receive telehealth and where telehealth services can be delivered during the emergency. All members with access to video or telephone communication may receive services in their homes to reduce exposure to themselves and others. Under the emergency declaration and waivers, these services may be provided by professionals regardless of patient location. The services must meet established medical necessity criteria relevant to the procedure or treatment."

- Services can be now rendered via video or telephone, regardless of patient location
- Services can be rendered within the member's home
- Services must still be deemed medically necessary, per pre-set criteria of each procedure or treatment



Service Delivery: Distance Site

Policy:

"...providers may deliver medically necessary services in various settings including their homes or other settings in which the privacy and confidentiality of the member can be assured. Qualified providers should continue to follow all applicable licensure rules specific to their profession. Services delivered from distant sites will be billed using the provider billing address associated with the enrolled Medicaid practice or facility."

- Medically necessary care can be rendered remotely at the provider's home or other secure location
- Provider billing address should be the one associated with the enrolled Medicaid facility – regardless of where care is delivered
- Sites may include ambulatory surgical centers, inpatient rehabilitation hospitals, hotels, and dormitories for non-COVID-19 patients



Billing

Policy:

"...providers may deliver medically necessary services in various settings including their homes or other settings in which the privacy and confidentiality of the member can be assured. Qualified providers should continue to follow all applicable **licensure rules** specific to their profession. Services delivered from distant sites will be billed using the provider billing address associated with the enrolled Medicaid practice or facility."

- Claims must be billed using the associated procedure code and place of service code 02 to indicate telehealth delivery
- Use Q3014 facility fee as applicable in addition to all codes and modifiers relevant to the performance of services rendered via telehealth



Consent

Policy:

"The patient must initiate the service and provide consent to be treated virtually, and the consent must be documented in the medical record with date, time, and consenting/responsible party before initiation of the service."

- Verbal consent is acceptable
- No hard copy consent form is required
- Once received, the consent must be notated in the member's file/medical record with date, time, and consenting party (prior to rendering service)



HIPAA

Policy:

"...authorize use of telephones that have audio and video capabilities for the furnishing of telehealth services... In addition, effective immediately, the HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR) will exercise enforcement discretion and waive penalties for HIPAA violations against health care providers that serve patients in good faith through everyday communications technologies, such as FaceTime or Skype, during the COVID-19 nationwide public health emergency."

- Services can be rendered via platforms such as FaceTime and/or Skype, as long as it is used for twoway, real-time interactive communication
- HIPAA violation penalties are being waived for services rendered in good faith via the aforementioned platforms
- Choose enabling technology platforms as-available from preferred continuum on the next slide



Good Faith Modes of Communication

More static communication, baseline requirement

More dynamic communication, most preferred method



Written Communication

e.g., Patient portal communications, iMessage,



Telephonic

Audio-only communication via direct phone calls



Live, Interactive AV

e.g., FaceTime, Skype, Facebook Messenger video chat, Skype, Google Duo



Evaluation and Management (E/M) Codes

99201		
99202		
99203		
99204		
99205		
99212		
99213		
99214		
99215		

Note: 99421-99423 & 98970, 98971 and 98972. (e-visits, digital evaluations and virtual check-ins) ARE NOT INCLUDED

All telehealth visits are considered the same as in-person visits and are paid at the same rate as regular, in-person visits during the COVID-19 emergency.

DCH requires that providers must file claims with the POS 02- Telehealth



Home and Community Based Providers

- Specific Home and Community Based Service (HCBS)
 providers under the 1915(c) waivers are now able to
 perform services via telehealth during the COVID-19
 emergency period
- Codes will remain the same as those contained within members' PAs



HCBS Telehealth: Approved Services

- Initial and annual assessments
- Level of care determinations
- Case management services
- Nurse supervisory visits
- Assessments for home care admissions

Note: Services must be authorized through a member's plan of care*



HCBS Billing Codes for Telehealth

Elderly and Disabled Waiver (EDWP)

- T2022: Care Coordination Services
- T2022-SE: Enhanced Care Coordination Services

Billing Note:
Use Place of Service
code 02 to designate
telehealth delivery

Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP)

- T1016: Case Management, 15 min.
- T1016-U1: Case Management,
 15 min.
- T2022: Enhanced Case Management, per month
- T2022-U1: Enhanced Case Management



Teledentistry

- Combination of telecommunications and dentistry involving the exchange of clinical information and images over remote distances for dental consultation and treatment planning
- The State allows for these services within the current Part II Policies and Procedures Manual for Dental Services



Teledentistry Billing

- D9996 is the originating site fee and is used by the dental hygienist when dental information is sent to a licensed dentist for review via telemedicine technology.
- D9995 is used to bill when there is a synchronous or real-time encounter instead of information that is stored and sent for review.
- **D0140** is for Limited Oral Evaluation-problem focused. Limited to two (2) units per Member per calendar year.

Place of Service (POS) restrictions have been removed





Thank you for your time and attention!



COVID-19: Appendix K Application



Catherine Ivy

Deputy Executive Director,
Georgia Department of Community Health



Today's Objective

Furnish providers with details related to Georgia's Appendix K Application:

- A) Elderly and Disabled Waiver
- B) Independent Care Waiver Program

Introduction

- The recording of this discussion is snapshot in time.
 Due to the rapidly evolving nature of the emergency,
 additional information and implementation plans will be
 provided through FAQ pages, banner messages, and other published information
- The latest COVID-19 guidance, including the Appendix K Application https://medicaid.georgia.gov/covid-19 can be found on the Georgia Medicaid website at https://dch.georgia.gov/



Agenda

- I. Overview
- II. Appendix K Proposed Changes
- III. Summary of Modified Services
- IV. FAQ
- V. Appendix

Two Appendix K applications submitted to CMS

New Options Waiver Program / Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program

Appendix K implementation is being coordinated by DBHDD as the Operating Agency

Elderly & Disabled Waiver Program / Independent Care Waiver Program

- Operationally managed by DCH
- Specific implementation information in this webinar represents the EDWP/ICWP implementation plan



Purpose

Georgia's EDWP/ICWP Appendix K application

- Attempts to mitigate exposure risk
- Provides alternative service delivery models as required by the emergency
- Preserves the provider network and service delivery system for return to a non-emergency state

Appendix K Waiver Amendment

Used by a state during emergency situations to request amendment to its approved waiver.
 It includes actions that states can take to respond to an emergency.

Developed for the Waiver Populations:

- Approximately 26,000 members receive Elderly and Disabled (E&D) waiver services
- The Independent Care Waiver Program (ICWP) currently serves approximately 1,400 waiver participants



Overview of Appendix K Changes

Due to COVID-19, effective 3/1/2020, the state proposed to temporarily:

- Expand setting(s) where services may be provided [K-2.b.iv]
- Allow services to be provided in out of state settings [K-2.b.v]
- Permit payment for services rendered by family caregivers or legally responsible individuals if not already permitted under the waiver [K-2.c]
- Modify provider qualifications and training requirements [k-2.d.i]
- Modify processes for level of care evaluations or re-evaluations [K-2.e]
- Increase payment rates [K-2.f]
- Modify person-centered service plan development process and individual(s) responsible for personcentered service plan development [K-2.g]
- Allow payment for services for the purpose of supporting waiver participants in an acute care hospital or short-term institutional stay [K-2.i]
- Include retainer payments to address services delivered in settings closed in response to the health crisis [k-2.j]

Note: These provisions are only valid through the conclusion of the national state of emergency



Expanded Service Settings

Temporarily expand setting(s) where services may be provided (K-2.b.iv):

Specific services included in the request:

- Alternative Living Services
- Out of Home Respite

What this means for you:

- Services can be now rendered in new settings:
 - Hotels
 - Shelters
 - Schools
 - Churches
 - Other temporary living situations approved by DCH as a result of the COVID-19 Emergency

FAQ:

Why not Personal Support Service?

 Existing policy does not prohibit delivery of PSS in other settings where the member may live temporarily, e.g. other family homes, hotels

How would I submit claims?

- Just as you would ordinarily
- Document the location and reason



Provide Services in Out of State Settings

Temporarily provide services in out of state settings (if not already permitted in the state's approved waiver) [K-2.b.v]:

Specific services included in the request:

- Alternative Living Services
- Out of Home Respite
- Personal support and extended personal support services

What this means for you:

- Alternative Living Services and Out of Home Respite may be provided out of state under certain circumstances
- Allows reimbursement of family caregivers as direct service workers that may live out of state

FAQs:

Why were these services selected?

The services represent direct, hands-on care delivery

How do I bill those services?

- Submit claims as indicated through the plan of care/care path and approved PA
- Document service delivery out-of-state



Reimbursement of Family Caregivers

Temporarily permit payment for services rendered by family caregivers or legally responsible individuals if not already permitted under the waiver [K-2.c]:

Specific services included in the request:

- Personal Support Services
- Consumer Directed Personal Support Services
- Out of Home Respite

What this means for you:

- Family caregivers or legally responsible individuals can be reimbursed for delivering
 - Personal Support Services
 - Personal Support Extended Services
 - Consumer Directed Personal Support Services
 - Out of Home Respite
- Family Caregivers or legally responsible individuals will need to be employed by traditional providers or enrolled through the fiscal intermediary agency

FAQs:

How do bill for use of family caregivers?

- Submit claims as indicated through the plan of care/care path and approved PA
- Document service delivery



Modify Provider Qualifications

Telehealth

Temporarily modify provider qualifications [k-2.d.i]:

Remove or modify training requirements for direct service staff:

- Newly-hired inexperienced staff will be required to participate in electronic person-centered training
- Family members or others with experience in activities of daily living (ADL) care will be supported as needed by agency supervisory staff

What this means for you:

- Certain training requirements may be completed through electronic or telephonic means
- Agency supervisory staff will manage, supervise and train staff using social distancing guidelines

FAQs:

How do I document training:

- Document the skill level of the newly hired employee in the personnel file
- Document electronic/telephonic training in specific areas indicated through evaluation of staff skill matched to member need



Modify Case Management Activities

Telehealth

Temporarily modify processes for level of care evaluations or re-evaluations [K-2.e]

 Assessments and reassessments can be performed via video conference or telephone

Temporarily modify person-centered service plan development process and individual(s) responsible for person-centered service plan development, including qualifications [K-2.g]

Service plans can be performed via video conference or telephone

What this means for you:

- Level of care evaluations or reevaluations may be conducted via telehealth
- Case managers will use telephonic or video conferencing for ISP development and editing, instead of face-to-face

FAQs:

What about physician signature?

Assessor documents "Isolation procedures in effect"

What about member signature?

 Assessor/case manager documents member's consent for use of electronic delivery method and collects a physical signature as soon as safely possible



Increase Payment Rates

Temporarily increase payment rates [k-2.f]:

E&D and ICWP:

- Financial Management Services
 - temporary increase to \$95.00 per

ICWP only:

- Hourly Nursing Services LPN only
 - Temporary increase to \$10/unit

What this means for you:

- For ICWP only:
 - Increases rate for hourly nursing services delivered by licensed practical nurses (LPN) from \$8.75 / 15-minute unit to \$10.00 / 15minute unit
 - Increases rate for Financial Management
 Services from \$75.00 per month to \$95.00 per month
- For E&D:
 - Increases rate for Financial Management
 Services from \$80.00 per month to \$95.00 per month in E&D

FAQs:

Why were these two services selected?

- (ICWP only) Hourly nursing LPN:
 - Unable to deliver this skilled service via telehealth
- Financial Management Services:
 - Consistent with DBHDD request for the NOW/COMP waivers



Payment for Acute Care Hospital Stay

Temporarily allow for payment for services for the purpose of supporting waiver participants in an acute care hospital or short-term institutional stay when necessary supports are not available in that setting [K-2.i]:

Specific services included in the request:

- Personal Support Services (and Extended)
- Consumer Directed Personal Support Services

What this means for you:

- If the institution lacks appropriate staffing as a result of the health emergency, services will be allowed in an acute care hospital or other shortterm institutional setting for ADL support:
- Services must be delivered consistent with the plan of care and existing prior authorization (PA) requirements

FAQs:

How do I bill for this?

Submit claims consistent with the care plan and document the setting

Will my claim deny?

 The claim edit that would normally deny is being disarmed



Retainer Payments

Temporarily include retainer payments to address emergency related issues [k-2.j]:

Personal Support Services (extended and consumer-directed) if the aide is unable to deliver service due to illness, quarantine, or family request

Adult Day Health Care while the setting must be closed for isolation purposes

Alternative Living Services if the provider is not serving the member either in the home or in an acute care setting

What this means for you:

The retainer payment can be billed if:

- The provider is unable to substitute a different service to meet the member's need, e.g. ADH to PSS
- The provider is not able to use a different staff person such as a family caregiver

FAQs:

How do I bill?

- Retainer payment will be authorized at the level, duration, and amount as outlined in the prior authorization
- Bill the service as if it was delivered and document daily the reason for the retainer reimbursement



Services to be Added/Modified

Telehealth

Adult Day Health (ADH):

 ADH Services may be delivered via telehealth as appropriate to service delivery model standards and at the choice of the member.

Case Management / Enhanced Case Management:

- Case Manager uses the telehealth model for all contact with the member
- Case management nurses use the *telehealth* model for assessments, reassessments and all contact with the member

Skilled Nursing Services – RN:

 Nursing assessments, reassessments, supervision and contact with members may be delivered via *telehealth* as clinically appropriate by practice acts, state and federal policy.

Skilled Nursing Services Hourly – LPN (ICWP only):

Rate increase



General FAQs

- How long will the Appendix K emergency measures be in place?
 - DCH submitted for a full year of emergency operations but DCH will withdraw the Appendix K when systems, services, and the ability to travel freely has been resolved.
- Who do I contact if I have questions not answered today?

DCH has established a dedicated e-mail box for all providers:

Medicaid.PCKCOVID19@dch.ga.gov

- Are all of these changes in effect now?
 - System changes are underway: K-2.f and K-2.i
 - Personal care service delivery in hospital: claim edit change
 - Temporary rate increases for two services: system rate change



Transition Plan

Description of Transition Plan:

The proposed changes outlined in Appendix K for the Elderly and Disabled and the ICWP waiver programs represent temporary policy allowances and retainer payments. Though this request represents a full year of emergency operations, Georgia intends to withdraw the Appendix K when systems, services, and the ability to travel freely has been resolved. At the conclusion of the state of emergency, pre-emergency service plans will be re-implemented unless the member has experienced a change in condition or circumstance that requires reassessment and development of an edited service plan. An increase for one service rate in the ICWP program is included in this application to protect the most vulnerable members of the population: those with significant medical needs who require hourly nursing services. In utilizing retainer payments, it is the hope of the Department of Community Health that service capacity will be maintained through the emergency response for the choice of day services as well as the full array of waiver services. No new services or target populations are being proposed.





COVID-19: Eligibility Allowances



Brian Dowd

Deputy Executive Director,
Georgia Department of Community Health



Today's Objective

Furnish providers with details related to Medicaid eligibility in response to the National State of Health Emergency

Eligibility Allowances During COVID-19 Emergency

- Extended Certification Periods for March, April and May Medicaid renewals across all Medicaid
- Clients statement will be accepted unless questionable for eligibility points at application except for citizenship or alienage status
- Request made to CMS to expand Presumptive Eligibility to include Nursing Facilities, 1915 (c) Home and Community Based Waiver Case Management Agencies, and Hospice Agencies willing to participate



Eligibility Allowances During COVID-19 Emergency

- Medicaid Terminations suspended during the COVID-19 Emergency except under the following conditions:
 - Moves out of State
 - Requests Closure of their Medicaid case
 - Passes Away
 - Incarceration



Georgia Medicaid Procedure Search Panel

Anita Hester (DXC)
State-wide Consultant

DXC Proprietary and Confidential





Logging into the Secure Web Portal

To get started, login to the secure GAMMIS Web Portal at www.mmis.georgia.gov.

Click the Login button.



1. Enter your Username and Password and click the Sign In button.



2. Click the Web Portal link.



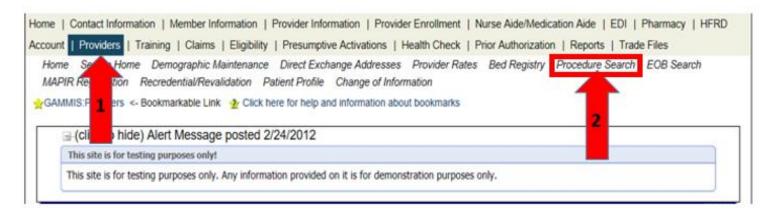
NOTE: If acting as a billing agent, please select the appropriate provider ID from the Switch Provider panel to begin navigating on behalf of that provider.



Procedure Search Panel

Please ensure you are active in a provider ID account

- Select Providers
- 4. Select Procedure Search

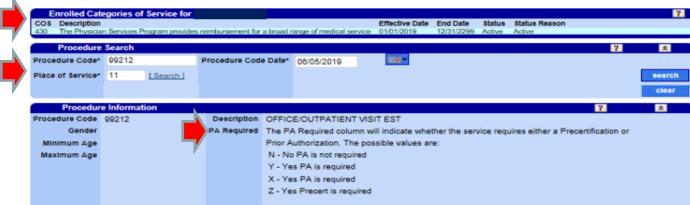




Procedure Search Panel

(continued)

1. Enter the procedure code information you are inquiring about. Enter Place of Service; ex: 21, 11, 22, etc. Procedure Code Date - Enter the date the services will be rendered. 4. This is a brief snapshot of coverage information regarding the requested procedure code. This information does not indicate payment for a procedure code. Please review billing instructions for your specific program area as it relates to billing rules, age, gender and modifiers requirement. 5. Prior approval means approval of certain services or procedures performed by a specified provider or group of providers prior to the time the services are rendered. Claim Type Definitions: INPATIENT CHOSSOVER CLAIMS
PROFESSIONAL CROSSOVER CLAIMS
OUTPATIENT CHOSSOVER CLAIMS DENTAL CLAIMS INPATIENT CLAIMS LONG TERM CARE CLAIMS M PROFESSIONAL CLAIMS
O OUTPATIENT CLAIMS 7. Refer to the Enrolled Categories of Service panel below to see the categories of service that the currently logged in provider has been assigned, their effective and end dates, status and status reason. **Enrolled Categories of Service for** COS Description Effective Date End Date Status Status Reason





Procedure Search Panel





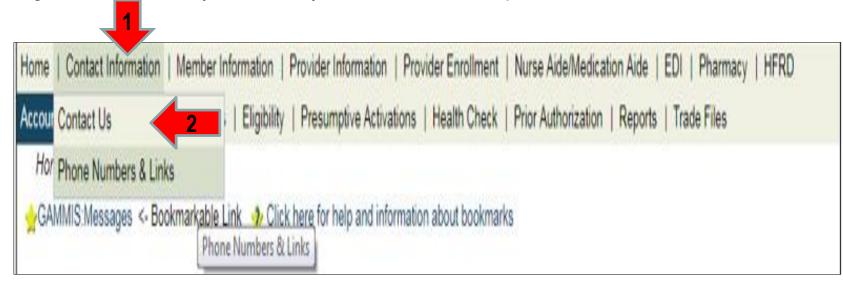
Procedure Search

- Your "Enrolled Categories of Service" "Must" be found on the list that shows "Covered Categories of Service"
- **❖** If your Category of Service is not shown, that code is not covered and not reimburse to that provider type. If your Category is found, then your able to bill your procedure.

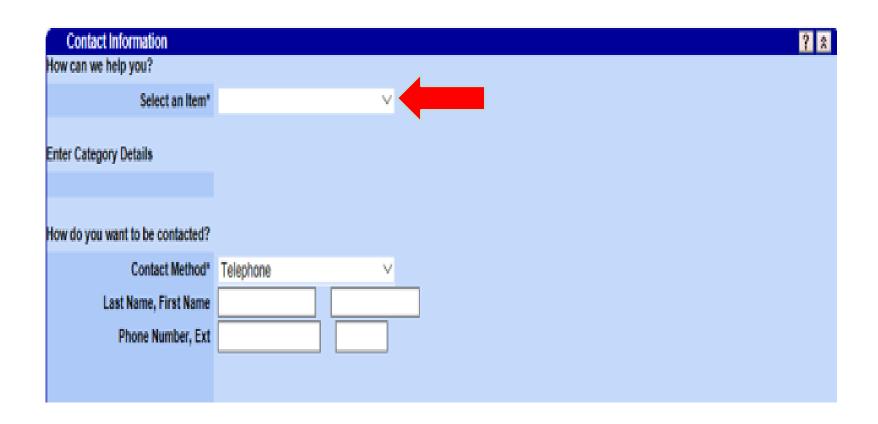
- Modifiers: The modifier listed are the only allowed modifiers that can be used
- Age: If an age range is listed, that age group is the only age group that is allowed
- Gender: If a gender type is listed, that is the only gender that is covered



Login to the MMIS system with your username and password





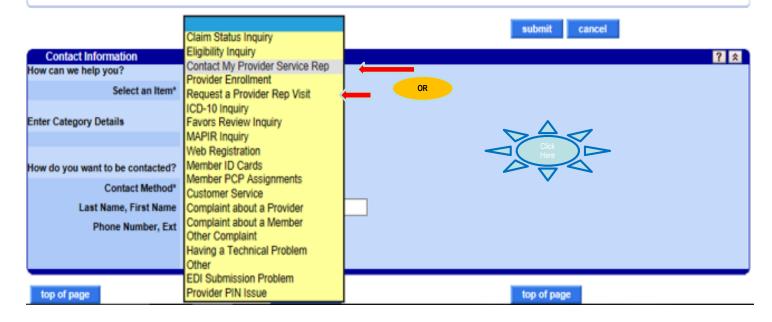




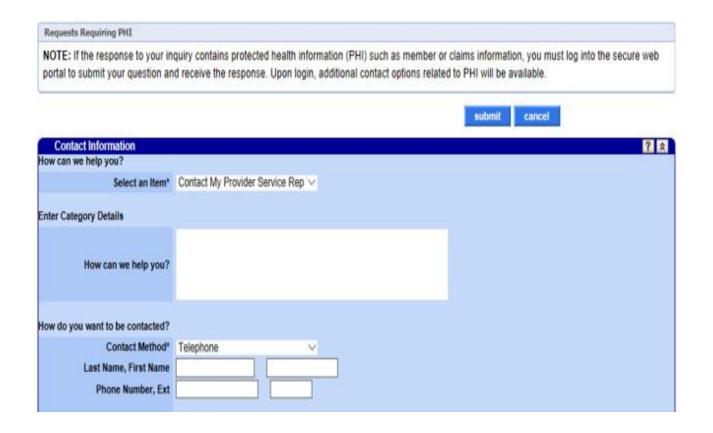
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Requests Requiring PHI

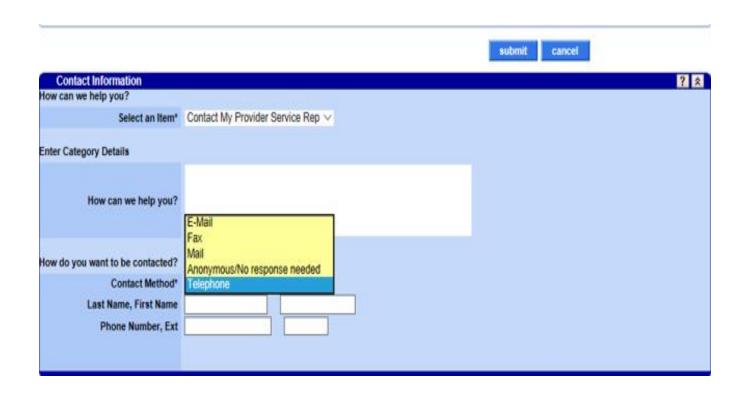
NOTE: If the response to your inquiry contains protected health information (PHI) such as member or claims information, you must log into the secure web portal to submit your question and receive the response. Upon login, additional contact options related to PHI will be available.









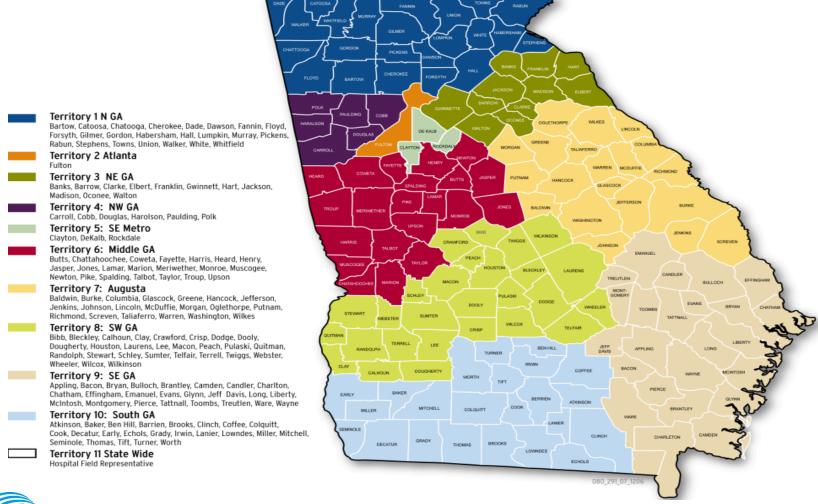




			submit cancel	
Contact Information How can we help you?				
	Contact My Provider Service Rep ∨			
Enter Category Details				
How can we help you?	I Need some help with ICN 201712345677	7		
How do you want to be contacted?				
Contact Method*	Telephone V			
Last Name, First Name	DXC			
Phone Number, Ext	(800)766-4456			



Georgia Field Territories





Provider Relations Field Services Representatives

Territory	Region	Rep
1	North Georgia	Deandre Murray
2	Fulton	Adrian Hogan
3	NE Georgia	Carolyn Thomas
4	NW Georgia	Danny Williams
5	SE Metro	Ebony Hill
6	Middle Georgia	Shawnteel Bradshaw
7	Augusta	Jessica Bowen
8	SW Georgia	Jill McCrary
9	SE Georgia	Kendall Telfair
10	South Georgia	Anitrus Johnson
North	Hospital Rep	Sherida Banks
South	Hospital Rep	Janey Griffin



Provider Relations Field Services Representatives

State-Wide Consultants

Brenda Hulette
Sharée C. Daniels
Anita Hester



IVRS Overview

800-766-4456		
Option 1	Member Eligibility	
Option 2	Claims Status	
Option 3	Payment Information	
Option 4	Provider Enrollment	
Option 5	Prior Authorization	
Option 6	GAMMIS website password reset, Pharmacy Benefits, the	
	Nurse Aide Registry or Nurse Aide Training program,	
	PeachCare for Kids®, EDI submission or electronic claim	
	submission, or a system overview	



Additional Questions

Please use the dedicated e-mail address shown below and include the topic in the subject line:

Telehealth, Waiver, Financial, CMO, etc.

Medicaid.PCKCOVID19@dch.ga.gov



Contact

- If you have further questions that need a more personalized explanation, please send questions or comments to:
 - Medicaid.PCKCOVID19@dch.ga.gov
- For questions specifically related to the waiver of the originating site requirement, please contact the DXC Technology Provider Contact Center at 1-800-766-4456 and/or your assigned Provider DXC Representative





Thank you for your time and attention!