

<b>Coding Policy Policy and Procedure</b>		
SUBJECT: Coding Policy 63.0 Web-Based Dermatology Consultation for Review of Images	DEPARTMENT: <b>Coding Compliance</b>	
ORIGINAL EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/02/2019	DATE(S) REVIEWED/REVISED: 4/2/19, 01/20, 1/21	
APPROVED BY: Coding Policy Review Committee	NUMBER: <b>MC 63.0</b>	PAGE: <b>1 of 2</b>

**SCOPE:**

Providence Health Plan, Providence Health Assurance, Providence Plan Partners, and Ayin Health Solutions as applicable (referred to individually as “Company” and collectively as “Companies”).

**APPLIES TO:**

All lines of business

**POLICY:**

Asynchronous telehealth includes the transmission of recorded health history (for example, digital images such as photos) through a secure, HIPAA-compliant electronic communications system to a practitioner, usually a specialist, who uses the information to evaluate the case or render a service outside of a real-time or live interaction. Asynchronous telecommunications system in single media format does not include telephone calls, images transmitted via facsimile machines and text messages without visualization of the patient (electronic mail). Photographs must be specific to the patients' condition and adequate for rendering or confirming a diagnosis and or treatment plan.

Payment will be permitted for telemedicine when asynchronous telehealth in single or multimedia formats is used as a substitute for an interactive telecommunications system for Dermatology services.

Distant site practitioners may bill for these services using codes listed in “Procedure” when the following criteria are met:

- The consultation must be requested by a physician or authorized practitioner credentialed with Providence Health Plan.
- The consulting provider must be an authorized practitioner credentialed with Providence Health Plan.
- **The consultation must result in diagnosis and initial treatment plan. If the specialist requires a face-to-face visit with the patient to determine diagnosis and/or initiate treatment plan, services listed on this policy may not be billed.**
- Except for HCPCS code G2010, the images must be taken by the requesting physician or by a technician in a qualifying originating site.
- HCPCS code G2010 may be reported for images submitted by an established patient.
- Codes are all-inclusive. No additional services may be billed.

**PROCEDURE:**

**Referring provider** obtains images and requests consultation with specialist. Request for consultation with review of images must be documented in the patient’s record.

- If referring provider performs Evaluation and Management (E&M) service in the office, the E&M code supported by the documentation (99202-99205, 99212-99215) is billed with Place of Service (POS) code 11.
- If no E&M service performed, referring provider bills HCPCS code Q3014 with POS 11.
- If images are obtained at an originating site, the originating site bills HCPCS code Q3014. The type of service for telehealth originating site facility fee is “9, other items and services.” Unless a different

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revenue code applies, the originating site facility fee is billed using revenue code 078X and HCPCS code Q3014.

**Q3014:** Telehealth originating site facility fee

**Consulting provider** reviews images and bills either HCPCS code G9869 (if images are submitted by another provider) or G2010 (if images are submitted by an established patient). These codes include time spent reviewing images and writing report. Place of Service (POS) code is 02. For code G9869, a report must be sent to the referring provider. **The consultation must result in diagnosis and initial treatment plan.** If the specialist requires a face-to-face visit with the patient to determine diagnosis and/or initiate treatment plan, services listed on this policy may not be billed.

**G9869\*\*:** Receipt and analysis of remote, asynchronous images for dermatologic ~~and/or ophthalmologic~~ evaluation, ~~for use under the Next Generation ACO model~~, 10-20 minutes

**(\*\*NOTE: Code G9869 was developed for use on a CMS pilot project known as “Next Generation ACO model.” The portions of the code description that do not apply to this Providence Health Plan policy are crossed out.)**

**G2010:** Remote evaluation of recorded video and/or images submitted by an established patient (e.g., store and forward), including interpretation with follow-up with the patient within 24 business hours, not originating from a related E&M service provided within the previous 7 days nor leading to an E&M service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment.

**Originating Site**

PHP does not distinguish between originating sites that are rural or urban in providing coverage for services on this policy. An originating site for these services includes, but is not limited to:

1. Hospital;
2. Rural health clinic;
3. Federally qualified health center;
4. Physician’s office;
5. Community mental health center;
6. Skilled nursing facility;
7. Renal dialysis center;
8. Site where public health services are provided;
9. Nurse call center employing independent practitioners.

**REFERENCE:**

CMS/Medicare Rules and Regulations  
Current Procedural Terminology (CPT)  
Providence Health Plan Coding Edits