



Division of Medical Services  
P.O. Box 1437, Slot S401  
Little Rock, AR 72203-1437  
P: 501.682.8292  
F: 501.682.1197  
HUMANSERVICES.ARKANSAS.GOV

## MEMORANDUM (DMS-43)

---

To: Outpatient Behavioral Health Agencies and Independently Licensed Practitioners

From: Division of Medical Services (DMS)

Date: June 3, 2020

Re: Place of Service Code for Telemedicine Delivery of Substance Abuse Assessments

---

The Governor declared a public health emergency on March 12, 2020, due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in Arkansas. In response to this declaration, DMS is suspending the requirement that substance abuse assessments be conducted face-to-face. By suspending this rule, licensed behavioral health professionals will be able to use telemedicine as an allowable mode of service delivery to provide substance abuse assessments.

The suspended requirement is in Section 252.119 of the Outpatient Behavioral Health Services Provider Manual.

The allowable code for this rule suspension:

- Substance Abuse Assessment
  - H0001, U4

**The rule will be suspended until the Governor declares the end to the public health emergency in Arkansas.**

**To ensure quality and consistency of care to Medicaid beneficiaries, DMS will coordinate with the Office of the Medicaid Inspector General (OMIG) to conduct retrospective reviews and audits of telemedicine services provided during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Please keep all records of services as required by Medicaid billing rules.**