

Telehealth update: We're temporarily allowing direct-line ABA interventions to be performed via telemedicine

During the COVID-19 crisis and until further notice, we're temporarily allowing providers to perform direct-line ABA interventions (*97153) via telemedicine, for dates of service on or after Aug. 3, 2020.

See the new *Guidelines for ABA services delivered via telemedicine* document for guidance on determining which members can benefit from direct-line ABA interventions performed via telemedicine.

We updated the following documents to reflect this change:

- *Telehealth for behavioral health providers*
- *Telehealth procedure codes for COVID-19*
- *Temporary changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic*

You can find these documents on our public website at bcbsm.com/coronavirus and through Provider Secured Services.

As a reminder:

- To check whether a member has an autism benefit, follow the instructions on these documents:
 - *Checking Blue Cross eligibility and autism benefits*. To access this document, visit bcbsm.com/providers, log in to Provider Secured Services, click *Blue Cross Provider Publications and Resources*, click *Clinical Criteria & Resources*, and click *Autism* (in the Resources section). Finally, click to open the document.
 - *Checking BCN eligibility and autism benefits on web-DENIS*. To access this document, visit bcbsm.com/providers, log in to Provider Secured Services, click *BCN Provider Publications and Resources* and click *Autism*. Finally, click to open the document.
- For authorization requirements related to autism services for various lines of business, refer to the *Summary of utilization management programs for Michigan providers*.

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