

From the Office of Clinical Informatics Cerner Millennium - Ambulatory Documenting Phone Visits

March 17, 2020

As a result of cancelled or rescheduled visits due to COVID-19, phone visits will play a crucial role in continuity of care for our patients. This flyer outlines key requirements in order to bill for a provider/patient phone visit.

General Guidelines

- The patient must be an established patient. Phone visits are not applicable to new patient visits.
- A phone visit will be used in place of a face-to-face visit. Calling patients with test results, as previously done, does not constitute a phone visit.
- Patients must be scheduled with an appropriate ambulatory encounter specific to your facility location.

Documentation Requirements

The following criteria must be documented in the visit note to meet coding requirements for a phone visit:

- Chief Complaint
- Confirmation that verbal consent was obtained for this telephone interaction
- Total time of phone conversation
- Discussion of phone conversation in detail
- Final Diagnosis

Charge Orders

Telephone charge orders have been added to all Quick Order pages, E&M Charges component. Time spent on the phone with the patient will determine the appropriate order to place.

