



The faculty practice of the University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine

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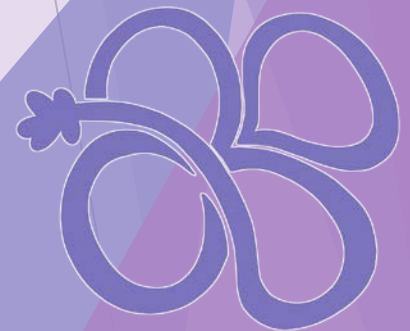
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# Telehealth 101

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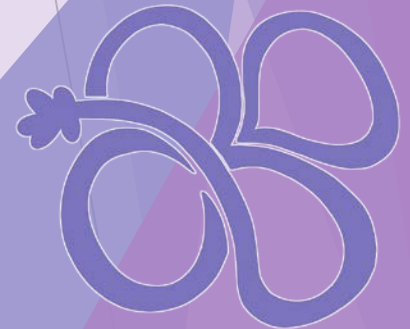
The basics for coding Telehealth Encounters

AUGUST 2020



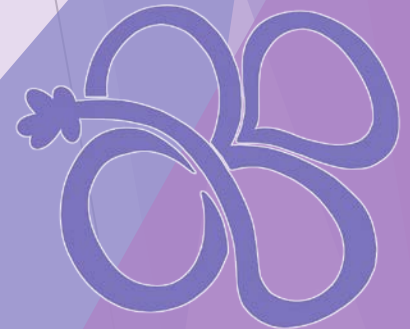
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - General overview

- ▶ **Telemedicine:** Telemedicine is the practice of medicine using technology to deliver care at a distance. A physician in one location uses a telecommunications infrastructure to deliver care to a patient at a distant site
- ▶ **Telehealth:** Telehealth refers broadly to electronic and telecommunications technologies and services used to provide care and services at-a-distance
- ▶ **What is the difference:** Telehealth is different from telemedicine in that it refers to a broader scope of remote health care services than telemedicine. Telemedicine refers specifically to remote clinical services, while telehealth can refer to remote non-clinical services



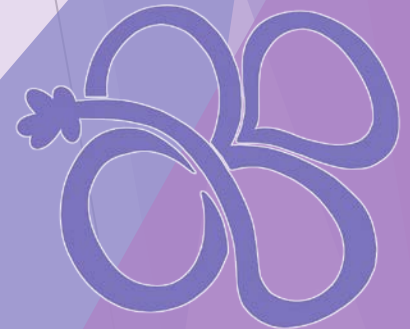
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - General overview

- ▶ During the PHE (Public Health Emergency) Medicare has allowed for many services to be done via Telehealth
- ▶ The link to the list is:
  - ▶ <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Medicare-General-Information/Telehealth/Telehealth-Codes>
- ▶ There are codes that are always on the list
- ▶ There are codes that are on the list temporarily
- ▶ There are codes that can be done via audio only



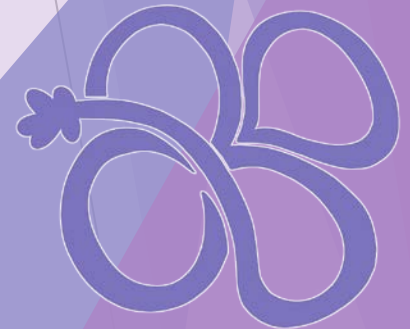
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Outpatient Office Visits

- ▶ Codes that apply for Telemedicine
- ▶ All routine office visits
  - ▶ **99201 - 99215** - new and established office visits
- ▶ Phone call Visits
  - ▶ **99441 - 99443**
- ▶ AWW (Annual Wellness Visits)
  - ▶ **G0438 - G0439**



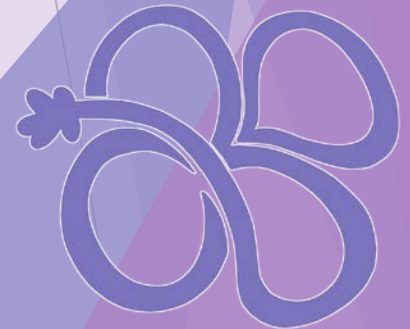
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Outpatient Office Visits

- ▶ Codes that apply for Telemedicine
  - ▶ Home visits for new or established patients
    - ▶ **99341 - 99350**
  - ▶ Prolonged E/M out patient services
    - ▶ **99354 - 99355**



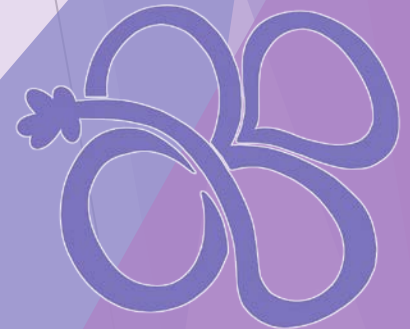
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Outpatient Office Visits

- ▶ Codes that apply for Telemedicine
  - ▶ Some ancillary svcs
    - ▶ **96110** - Developmental Screen w/score (children)
    - ▶ **99406 - 99407** - Smoking cessation Counseling
      - ▶ Time based - must be attending
    - ▶ **94664** - Evaluate Pt use of Inhaler



# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Outpatient Office Visits

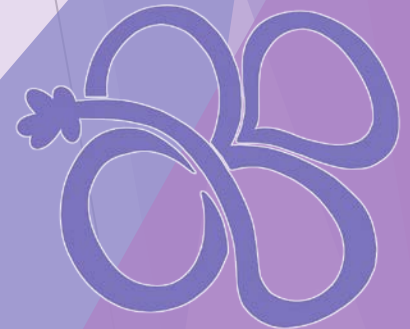
- ▶ Other requirements for Telehealth
  - ▶ Modifiers for Telehealth
  - ▶ POS for Telehealth



# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH

## Problem focused visits

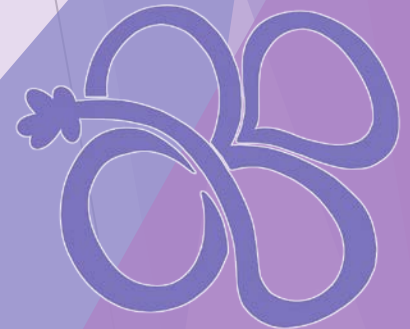
- ▶ OFFICE VISITS: 99201 - 99215
  - ▶ Must be done via audio/visual means
  - ▶ Consent must be obtained and documented
    - ▶ Can be obtained by ancillary staff
    - ▶ Scanned into EPIC 1x a year





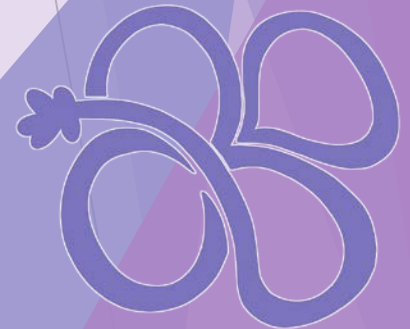
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Phone call requirements

- ▶ Phone calls - approved during PHE
  - ▶ 99441: 5-10 minutes
  - ▶ 99442: 11-20 minutes
  - ▶ 99443: 21-30 minutes
- ▶ Consent must be obtained and documented
  - ▶ Can be obtained by ancillary staff
  - ▶ Scanned into EPIC 1x a year



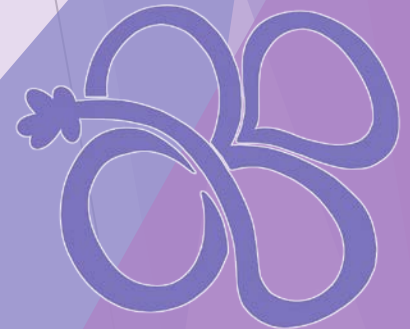
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Phone call requirements

- ▶ Phone calls: 99441 - 99443
  - ▶ During PHE - can be performed under the Primary Care Exception Rule
  - ▶ Can be resident or attending time
  - ▶ Time must be documented



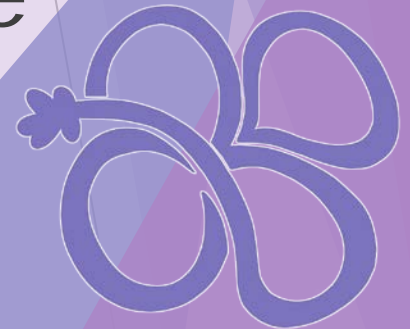
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Phone call requirements

- ▶ Phone calls - 99441 - 99443
  - ▶ Cannot originate from a related E/M service provided within the previous 7 days
  - ▶ Cannot lead to an E/M svcs or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appt.



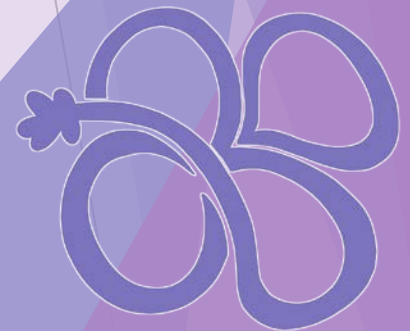
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Annual Wellness Visits (AWV)

- ▶ **AWV: G0438 - G0439**
  - ▶ Can be done via Audio/visual means
  - ▶ Can be done via telephone
    - ▶ No exam required for AWV
  - ▶ Can be performed under the Primary Care Exception Rule (GE)



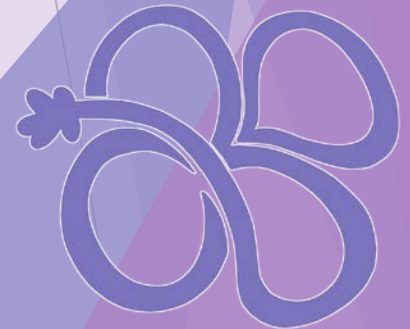
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Modifiers

- ▶ Modifiers for Telehealth
  - ▶ Most plans will accept Mod 95
  - ▶ Some plans may take either Mod 95 or GT
  - ▶ Mod CS indicates Covid related



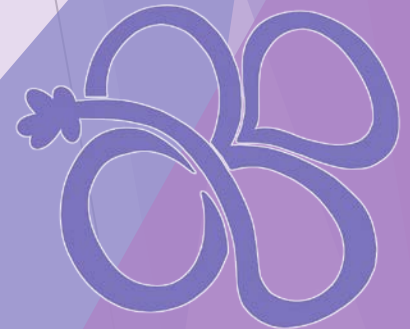
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Place of Service

- ▶ POS for Telehealth during the PHE
  - ▶ POS 11
    - ▶ Medicare/Quest/Triwest/MDX
  - ▶ POS 02
    - ▶ Commercial HMSA/UHA/AETNA/  
HMAA



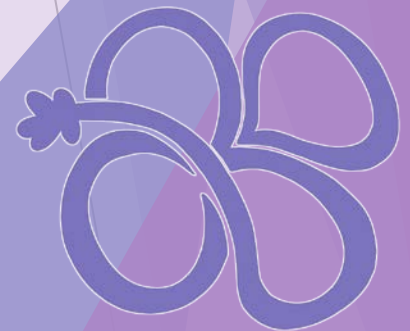
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Home Visits

- ▶ Home visits: 99341 - 99350
  - ▶ Can be done via Audio/visual means
  - ▶ Must be done with the attending



# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Prolonged Service

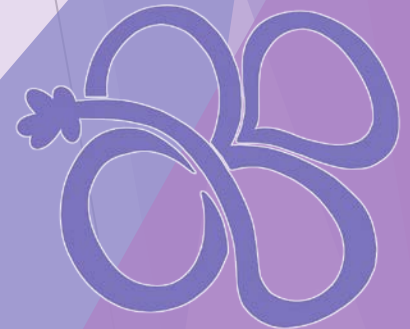
- ▶ Prolonged visits: 99354 - 99395
  - ▶ Used when a physician or other qualified healthcare professional provides direct prolonged service in an outpatient setting, which goes beyond the usual service duration described for the E/M code.





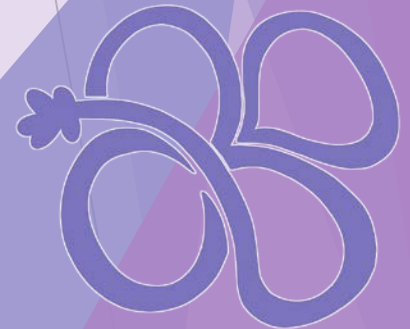
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Prolonged Service

- ▶ Prolonged visits:
  - ▶ 99354: 1(one) hour beyond usual service
  - ▶ 99395: Each additional 30 minutes
    - ▶ These are add on codes for outpatient E/M services
  - ▶ Can be done via visual and/or audio means
  - ▶ Must be done with the attending



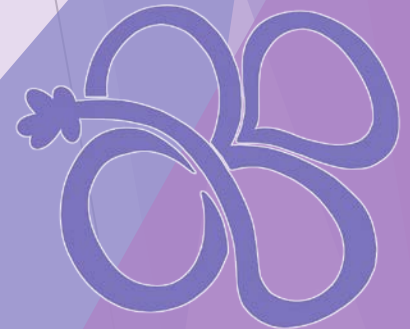
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Ancillary Services

- ▶ Tobacco Cessation Counseling
  - ▶ Medicare and Non Medicare plans
    - ▶ 99406 - 3 - 10 min (\$39.86)
    - ▶ 99407 - > 10 min (\$57.66)
  - ▶ Time based codes - must be attending time



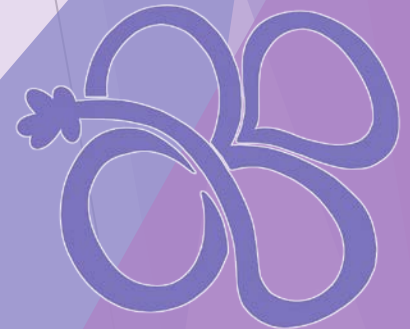
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Ancillary Services

- ▶ Developmental screening: 96110 (\$22.00)
  - ▶ Usually done for WCC/EPSTD
- ▶ Depression Screening: G0444 (\$39.86)
  - ▶ Medicare code - 1x per year
    - ▶ Time based codes - must be attending time
    - ▶ 15 min code (minimum of 8 minutes)
    - ▶ Must document nature of discussion



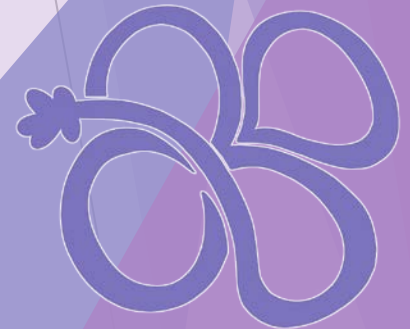
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Inpatient Services

- ▶ Initial Inpt svcs: 99221 - 99223
- ▶ Subsequent Inpt Svcs: 99231 - 99233
  - ▶ Must be done via audio/visual means
  - ▶ Consent must be obtained and documented
    - ▶ Can be obtained by ancillary staff
    - ▶ Scanned into EPIC 1x a year



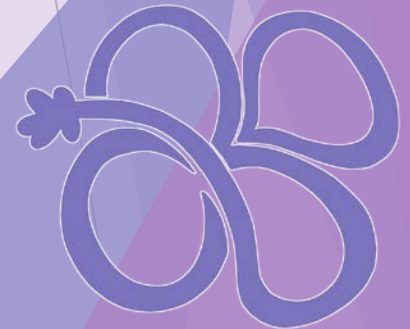
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Inpatient Services

- ▶ Initial Obs svcs: 99218 - 99220
- ▶ Subsequent Obs Svcs: 99224 - 99226
  - ▶ Must be done via audio/visual means
  - ▶ Consent must be obtained and documented
    - ▶ Can be obtained by ancillary staff
    - ▶ Scanned into EPIC 1x a year



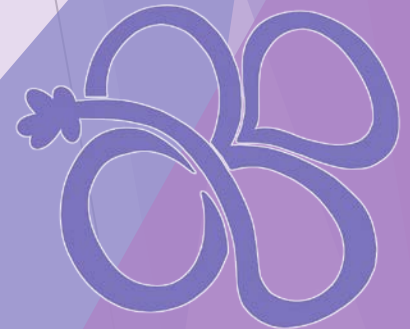
# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Inpatient Services

- ▶ Inpt D/C svs: 992398 - 992399
- ▶ Obs D/C Svs: 99217
  - ▶ Consent should have already been obtained



# CODING FOR TELEHEALTH - Same Day Admit/DC

- ▶ Admit/Discharge: 99234 - 99236
  - ▶ Must be done via **audio/visual** means
  - ▶ Consent must be obtained and documented
    - ▶ Can be obtained by ancillary staff
    - ▶ Scanned into EPIC 1x a year



# THANK YOU!

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