

The more things change, the more they stay the same, right? The return to in-home care by physicians and other providers isn't new - it's a shift back to what we have known for quite a while: delivering care in the Medicare patient's home isn't just about making them more comfortable, it's about providing care in the lowest-risk setting for some of the most vulnerable patients. For many frail seniors, home visits are the only way to assure consistent care and provide insight into safety, fall risk, food security and other social determinants of health (SDOH). These visits can also be very gratifying; a growing number of physicians and providers have house call only practices, while others conduct occasional house calls based on patient need.

Eligibility Requirements

- There is no longer a requirement for the patient to be homebound to qualify for a home visit
- There is no requirement to provide a reason for a home visit rather than a clinic visit
- Home visits can be provided for established or new patients

Performing and Documenting Home Visits

Home E/M visits require a billing provider who is otherwise allowed to bill E/M visits to personally perform the visit.

Home E/M visits require the same documentation as office E/M visits, including:

- Targeted history (new patient) or interval history (established patient)
- Targeted physical exam
- Medical decision making for justification of level of service

In fee-for-service settings (FFS), home visits are valued slightly higher than office visits at the same level of service.

Additional information about home visits can be found on the [American Academy of Home Care Medicine](#) website.

Billing Tips

- Other services, such as Advance Care Planning or Depression Screening, may be provided, documented, and billed during a home visit
- FFS claims should use Place of Service code 12 - Home

- 99342** - New Patient Home Visit, Level 2
- 99343** - New Patient Home Visit, Level 3
- 99344** - New Patient Home Visit, Level 4
- 99345** - New Patient Home Visit, Level 5
- 99347** - Established Patient Home Visit, Level 2
- 99348** - Established Patient Home Visit, Level 3
- 99349** - Established Patient Home Visit, Level 4
- 99350** - Established Patient Home Visit, Level 5
- G0466** - New Patient Home Visit, Federally Qualified Health Center
- G0467** - Established Patient Home Visit, Federally Qualified Health Center

In a RHC?

Home visits are a qualifying AIR visit for Rural Health Clinics (RHC).

The visit uses revenue code 0522 - Home Visit.

Suggested Citation:

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