



**ITASCA MEDICAL CARE (IMCare)**  
**ITASCA RESOURCE CENTER**  
1219 SE 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744-3983  
IMCare Toll Free – 1-800-843-9536  
Visit us at: [www.imcare.org](http://www.imcare.org)

***PROVIDER UPDATE***

***April 2020***  
***#2020-11***

To: IMCare Providers  
From: Sarah Duell, IMCare Director  
Date: April 21, 2020  
RE: Expanding telemedicine in healthcare, mental health and substance use disorder settings

---

IMCare has expanded access for telemedicine for members enrolled in Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare who receive health care, mental health treatment, or substance use disorder treatment. Specifically, IMCare is following DHS guidance which has expanded the providers who are permitted to provide services through telephone and video visits to include the following providers and their tribal provider equivalents:

Providers temporarily eligible to provide telemedicine include the following (also includes any equivalent tribal providers):

- Providers that meet the definition of “licensed health care provider” under chapter 256B.0625, subd. 3b(e)
- Community Health Worker
- Public Health Nurse Clinic
- Doula (pre and postnatal care only)
- Physician extenders
- Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors
- Alcohol and Drug Counselors
- Alcohol and Drug Counselor – Temps Recovery
- Peers and student interns in SUD programs licensed under chapter 245G
- Pharmacists enrolled to perform medication therapy management
- All mental health professionals, mental health practitioners, mental health certified peer specialists, and mental health certified family peer specialists in the following behavioral health settings:
  - Adult Day Treatment (ADT), Adult Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (ARMHS), Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), Children’s Residential Facilities (CRF), Children's

Therapeutic Services and Supports (CTSS) including Children's Day Treatment, Crisis Response Services, Diagnostic Assessment, Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT), First Episode Psychosis (FEP), Intensive Nonresidential Rehabilitative Mental Health Services (Youth ACT), Intensive Residential Treatment Services (IRTS), Intensive Treatment in Foster Care (ITFC), Mental Health Certified Family Peer Specialist Services, Mental Health Certified Peer Specialist Services, Mental health rehabilitation workers in ARMHS and mental health behavioral aides in CTSS, Outpatient Psychotherapy, Partial Hospitalization (PHP), Physician Consultation, Evaluation and Management, Psychiatric Consultation to Primary Care Providers, Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTF), Psychological Testing, Psychotherapy for Crisis, Residential Crisis Stabilization (RCS)

In addition, IMCare has temporarily expanded telemedicine (including telephone and video visits) to Rule 25 assessments, comprehensive assessments, and group therapy.

These measures help enrollees and providers follow social distancing best practices. DHS has received federal approval for these changes.

IMCare has the authority to conduct a post-payment review of files.

This change is effective March 19, 2020 and runs through the end of public health emergency.