**Purpose**

To ensure telemedicine patients are prescribed the appropriate medication(s) in a timely manner and effectively managed while on prescribed medication(s).

**Policy**

The telemedicine service provider determines if a prescription medication is medically necessary and is responsible for management of that medication, including the need for monitoring and subsequent refills.

**Procedure**

* The provider determines whether a valid practitioner-patient relationship is present for issuance of a prescription.
* The provider determines whether the medication may be lawfully prescribed for the medical condition treated through the use of telemedicine medical services.
* The provider or designated staff member reconciles the patient’s medication record prior to each telemedicine visit, including updating and documenting any changes and/or allergies. This information is available in the patient’s medical record at the primary site, as well as the distant site (e.g., specialty site), if applicable.
* Staff document the patient’s pharmacy of choice in the medical record.
* The prescribing provider transmits medication prescriptions electronically directly to the patient’s pharmacy (or calls in the order to the pharmacy if the technology is not available). Note that there are additional requirements for the prescription of controlled substances as part of a telemedicine visit, .
* Staff document in the medical record prescribed medications and any changes to medication (e.g. dosage, quantity, directions).
* Distant-site providers prescribing medication provide a patient care summary to the originating site for the purpose of effective care coordination.
* Staff relay any patient inquiries or requests related to the medication to the prescribing provider, who is responsible for medication management.