May 11, 2020: This Alert has been revised since its original publication. Revisions appear in red text.

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Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Rehabilitation Agencies, Speech and Hearing Clinics, Speech-Language Pathologists, Therapy Groups, HMOs and Other Managed Care Programs

REGARDING

Enhanced Reimbursement for Therapy Provided as Part of the Birth to 3 Program Using Telehealth

ForwardHealth is temporarily altering certain policy requirements in order to prevent further spread of the disease and effectively treat existing cases. These changes are implemented in response to COVID-19 and issued pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 49.45(61). ForwardHealth will publish additional guidance about the topics addressed in this Alert when the temporary policies related to COVID-19 expire.

Enhanced Reimbursement for Therapy Provided as Part of the Birth to 3 Program Using Telehealth

ForwardHealth will reimburse therapy providers supplying services as part of the Birth to 3 Program at an enhanced rate when occupational therapy, physical therapy, and/or speech therapy is performed using telehealth and the member is located in their natural environment as defined in both 34 C.F.R. Part 303 and Wis. Admin. Code § DHS 90.03(25). To receive this reimbursement, therapy providers must meet all other requirements and indicate modifier TL (Early intervention/individualized family service plan [IFSP]) when submitting claims.

Refer to the <u>Natural Environment Enhanced Reimbursement</u> topic (#2710) of the ForwardHealth Online Handbook for more information.

