

EXPIRATION OF PHE: IMPACT ON

HIPAA REQUIREMENTS FOR TELEMEDICINE TECHNOLOGY

Pre-Pandemic Requirement	Pandemic Waiver (in effect until PHE ends)	Post–PHE Requirement	Other Notes
Technology used by HIPAA covered entities had to comply with HIPAA's requirements to ensure the privacy and security of patient information.	OCR is temporarily exercising enforcement discretion and will not impose penalties against health care providers in connection with the provision of telehealth during the COVID-19 PHE with non-HIPAA compliant technology. However, covered providers can only use non-public facing audio or video communication technology to communicate with patients (so no TikTok or Facebook Live, for example).	Telemedicine technology used by covered entities must comply with HIPAA. For a list of technology products purporting to be HIPAA compliant, see OCR Guidance	OCR has confirmed the enforcement discretion will end once the PHE expires
Business Associate Agreement (BAA) needed from telemedicine platform vendor if the vendor creates, receives, maintains, or transmits PHI for or on behalf of the HIPAA covered entity	OCR will temporarily not impose penalties against covered providers for lack of a BAA with telemedicine vendors OCR Guidance	Covered providers need a BAA from a telemedicine platform (including smart phone) vendor that creates, receives, maintains, or transmits PHI	



EXPIRATION OF PHE: IMPACT ON

DEA REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESCRIBING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Pre-Pandemic Requirement	Pandemic Waiver (in effect until PHE ends)	Post–PHE Requirement	Other Notes
One in-person visit prior to prescribing controlled substances (very limited exceptions) For more information: Our article on the Ryan Haight Act Foley & Lardner article	In-person visit requirement temporarily waived DEA Source	Will almost certainly go back into effect	Congress could extend temporary waiver - possible Congress could amend the law – remotely possible DEA could issue "telemedicine registration" process, which when in effect, will eliminate inperson visit requirement – unclear when this will be done; DEA missed Congress' deadline of October 2019
DEA registration required in both state where prescriber is AND in state where patient is, if different For more information: • DEA FAQ • DEA presentation (slide 32)	DEA registration in patient's state temporarily waived DEA Source	Will likely go back into effect	 Need license to practice in patient's state Also need practice location in patient's state – DEA does not allow PO Box or virtual address (DEA Guidance)

Professional Risk Management Services ("PRMS") provides the information contained in this article for general use and information. Information provided is intended to improve clarity on issues regarding psychiatry services and insurance coverage, and related issues regarding those services. This information is intended, but not promised or guaranteed, to be current, complete, or up-to-date. PRMS is neither a law firm nor a provider of professional medical services, and the materials in this article do not constitute legal, medical, or regulatory advice. You should not act or rely on any legal or medical information in this article without first seeking the advice of an attorney, physician, or other appropriate professional. PRMS, The Psychiatrists' Program and the PRMS Owl are registered Trademarks of Transatlantic Holdings, Inc., a parent company of Fair American Insurance and Reinsurance Company (FAIRCO).