Maine

**Overall Landscape:** Maine provides comprehensive coverage of telehealth service delivery, as it covers live video and audio-only modalities, allows the patient to be located wherever they choose, and has payment parity for telehealth service delivery.

**How Does Maine Medicaid Define Telehealth?**
Maine statute defines telehealth, as it pertains to delivery of MaineCare services, as “the use of information technology and includes synchronous encounters, asynchronous encounters, store and forward transfers and telemonitoring.”

**Are There Restrictions On Where The Patient Can Be Located?**
No, MaineCare defines the originating site (the patient’s location) as “the site at which the Member is located at the time of Telehealth Service delivery,” which allows maximum flexibility for the patient.

**Does Maine Medicaid Have Payment Parity For Telehealth Services?**
Yes, MaineCare instituted a payment parity requirement which requires that “the same procedure codes and rates apply” to covered telehealth services “as if those services were delivered face to face.”

**What Are Covered Modalities In Maine Medicaid?**
MaineCare covers the following modalities:

- Synchronous Video: Yes
- Synchronous Audio-Only: Yes
- Store-And-Forward: Yes (but only for established patients)
- Remote Patient Monitoring: Yes

*Note: MaineCare covers other less common modalities but only under certain circumstances. This information is available in the MaineCare Benefits Manual.*

**Can A Provider Establish A Relationship With A Patient Via Telehealth?**
There is no specific MaineCare policy, however, the state’s telemedicine standards of practice do allow physicians to establish a relationship with a patient via telehealth if the standard of care does not require an in-person encounter. It is unclear if this applies to non-physician providers.

**What Is The State Of Abortion Access In Maine?**
Maine has no major restrictions on abortion access and is considered a protected state for abortion access. Thirty percent of counties in Maine do not have at least one clinic that provides abortion care, according to 2017 data analyzed by the Guttmacher Institute.

**Who Can Provide Abortion Care In Maine?**
In Maine, health care professionals that are eligible to provide abortion care include physicians, physician assistants, and advanced practice registered nurses as of 2019.