



State of New Mexico  
Medical Assistance Program Manual  
**Supplement**



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**TO:** All PHYSICIANS AND OTHER PRACTITIONERS

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**SUBJECT:** BILLING AND REIMBURSEMENT GUIDANCE FOR PROJECT EXTENSION FOR COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE OUTCOMES (ECHO) MODEL CASE PRESENTATION

The New Mexico Human Services Department, Medical Assistance Division (HSD/MAD) is issuing this Supplement to provide billing and reimbursement guidance for Project Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO).

ECHO has been used to improve healthcare outcomes in countless disease areas, from diabetes and bone health to rheumatology and perinatal health. ECHO is improving the well-being of people in nearly every country. Governments and public health systems have adopted the ECHO model to address critical public health challenges.

In support of Project ECHO, effective October 1, 2019, HSD added a new reimbursement mechanism for providers participating in Project ECHO at the “spoke” end of the program model for their time spent presenting Medicaid patient cases as part of an ECHO consultation clinic.

1. **Requirements:** A practitioner who participates in one of the open New Mexico-based ECHO programs through the University of New Mexico and presents their patient’s case can be reimbursed for their time spent presenting Medicaid patient cases as part of an ECHO consultation clinic.
2. **Prior Authorization:** No prior authorization is required for Medicaid reimbursement by HSD/MAD for time spent presenting Medicaid patient cases as part of an ECHO consultation clinic.

**3. Billing and Reimbursement:**

- a. The following are Evaluation and Management (E&M) CPT codes that can be billed with modifier 32 to capture the time spent by a provider who is not in direct contact with the patient at the time of service for these consultations.

CPT/HCPC	Description
99446	Telephone or internet assessment with verbal and written report by consulting physician, 5-10 minutes
99447	Telephone or internet assessment with verbal and written report by consulting physician, 11-20 minutes
99448	Telephone or internet assessment with verbal and written report by consulting physician, 21-30 minutes
99449	Telephone or internet assessment with verbal and written report by consulting physician, more than 30 minutes

- b. The fee schedule rates can be found at <https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/providers/fee-schedules/>.

Please contact the Medical Assistance Division at [MADInfo.HSD@state.nm.us](mailto:MADInfo.HSD@state.nm.us) if you have any questions regarding this Supplement.