



Connect Medical Advice Messaging

Connect messaging provides you with an easy and convenient way to communicate with your provider. Through this service, you can send messages to your provider and receive medical advice from the comfort of your home.

Billing for Medical Advice Messaging

1. Why We Bill

Virtual interactions have become a standard within health care. We dedicate significant time to answering messages that require clinical insight. Messages that involve extensive review and expertise may be billed according to your insurance policy's coverage.

2. Payment Information

While many messaging services will remain free of charge, some interactions may be billed to your insurance provider, particularly those that require significant amounts of your provider's time and expertise to respond adequately.

Billing may also depend on your insurance plan, and we encourage you to contact your insurance provider to determine coverage for this service. The majority of messages are not subject to billing.

Insurance coverage for messaging services may vary. You may be fully covered or responsible for a copay, coinsurance, and/or deductible. Please contact your insurer for details on out-of-pocket costs, and provide them with CPT codes 99421, 99422, 99423, 98970, 98971, and 98972 if requested.

Billable messages may include:

- Changes in medications
- Reports of new symptoms
- Changes to a long-term condition
- Long-term condition care check-ups
- Requests for medical forms
- Matters needing extended provider expertise and attention



Non-billable messages may include:

- Scheduling an appointment
- Prescription refill requests
- Questions leading to an appointment
- Follow-up questions within seven days of a previous appointment
- Follow-up care check-ins post-procedure
- Brief updates to your provider

Connect messaging is utilized for non-urgent issues. It is important to note that:

- Messages are only answered between business hours on weekdays
- Replies may take up to two business days. If you need an immediate answer, please call your practice. If this is a medical emergency, please call 911
- For more complicated issues, schedule a video or office visit, especially if your questions require detailed review of your medications or medical history
- For convenience, medical advice by Connect messaging is available to established patients with clinicians you have seen before to answer simple, straightforward questions about your care

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who determines if my message will be billed?

A: Your provider will determine whether the message should be billed, based on the time and effort it takes to provide a thorough response.

Q: Why are there different costs for Connect messages?

A: As with any medical care, costs vary depending on the amount and level of expertise required to ensure the best possible treatment and patient outcome, as well as each patient's insurance coverage.



Q: Will I be billed if my clinician sends me a Connect message on a new topic (not a response to a message I sent)?

A: No, you would only be billed for medical advice messages that you initiate. You will not be billed when your clinician sends you a message asking for information or giving you an update on a topic.

Q: Will I be billed for referral requests for support services related to an existing treatment plan?

A: Requests for referrals to support services (e.g., physical therapy, nutrition services, etc.) that are related to an existing treatment plan would not be billed.

Q: Will I be billed for multiple messages on the same topic?

A: Only new, complex messages that take significant time and medical expertise to respond to, including detailed reviews of your medical record, adjustments to your treatment plan, may be billed. If your message is about the same topic within seven days, additional billing will not occur.

Q: What if my condition changes or worsens?

A: If you are having a medical emergency, please go to the nearest medical center or call 911. You may also call your physician to arrange an in-person visit or video visit.

Q: Will I be billed if I was recently in the office or if the response to my message is to come into the office for a follow-up?

A: Messages related to a concern or clarification from a visit within the past 7 days, or leading to a visit within the next 7 days, will not be billed.