

Medicare eConsults Through AristaMD: FAQs and Process

eConsults for Traditional or Original Medicare Patients are now eligible for reimbursement!

This document will cover FAQs on how to bill CPT code 99452 for Medicare eConsults.

FAQs

Important:

Please confirm billing process and eligibility with your billing specialists.

Reimbursement requirements:

- First review with your billing specialist to conform eligibility requirements for your clinic
- 2019 fee schedule must be updated in system in order to bill CPT code 99452
- Patient of Traditional Medicare or a beneficiary of a Medicare Advantage plan eligible for eConsult reimbursement, which can be confirmed through Medicare portal
- Medicare Advantage beneficiaries may be eligible in some instances depending on your contract, and under different reimbursement rates
- Code 99452 must be billed without modifiers for telehealth or the telehealth place of service

Which patients fall under reimbursement for code 99452?

Patients of Traditional Medicare or a beneficiary of a Medicare Advantage plan eligible for eConsult reimbursement, which can be confirmed through Medicare portal.

When can I bill?

You are able to bill immediately after the eConsult is submitted, however your time to review the eConsult and correspond as necessary with the specialist regarding their response is included in the total time. Please confirm with your billing specialist how much time must be billed to 99452.

Can I use eConsults for non-Medicare patients?

Yes! They will just be billed either per eConsult (\$125) or will be included in your monthly unlimited eConsults for \$250/month.

What time is tracked for CPT code 99452?

- Speaking with your patient about eConsults
- Obtaining patient consent
- Gathering and preparing information
- Submitting the eConsult
- Reviewing the specialist response
- Uploading final eConsult to EHR as part of the medical record

How much does each eConsult for a Medicare beneficiary cost me or my clinic?

Medicare consults are essentially free and actually provide revenue for your clinic. Please refer to breakdown of reimbursement, eConsult platform transaction fee and estimated net revenue below.

Direct PCP Reimbursement for CMS code 99452: \$37*
AristaMD transaction fee: \$10

Total revenue for YOU per eConsult: \$27*

*2019 Physician fee schedule for 99452 notes a base price of \$37.48, which can be adjusted by a geographic index, typically \$1.

Process Outline

Step 1

Before submitting an eConsult, you'll need to:

1. Confirm eligibility with your billing specialist.
2. Ask your patient for consent for the eConsult.



Step 2

Prepare the necessary information for the eConsult, including medical records, diagnostics, test results, history, etc.



Step 3

Submit the eConsult request.



Step 4

You'll receive a response from a Medicare-certified specialist within 24 hours.



Important:

Make sure to track all time spent:

- Speaking with patient about eConsults
- Obtaining patient consent
- Gathering and preparing information
- Submitting eConsult
- Reviewing specialist response
- Uploading final eConsult to EHR as part of the medical record

Please confirm with your billing specialist the minimum time required to bill CPT code 99452.

Step 5

You're eligible to bill once you've reviewed and finalized the eConsult and tracked all time associated. You can bill consistent with Traditional Medicare, using CPT code 99452.

**Important:**

Ensure no modifiers for telehealth or telehealth place of service are added to this code.