

Electronic Visit Verification for Home Health Services

Attention Home Health Providers:

Per the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) <u>Informational Bulletin 23-14</u>, EVV requirements will extend to all home health services effective January 1, 2024. EVV is a webbased system that electronically verifies service visit occurrences and documents the precise time services begin and end via smart devices.

Home Health providers should use the EVV system designed by LDH and the Louisiana Service Reporting System (LaSRS), to electronically report begin and end times for home health services. Providers have access to this system at no cost and should schedule training for the EVV system by calling LDH's EVV contractor, Statistical Resources Incorporated (SRI) at 225-767-0501.

Home Health providers that would like to continue to use their current EVV vendor may do so by completing the <u>Attestation-for-Providers-Utilizing-Their-Own-EVV-System1.27.23.pdf (la.gov)</u>. If a home health provider fails to use LDH's EVV system or complete the attestation, claims will deny effective February 1, 2024.

LDH has published Informational Bulletin 23-14 for your reference <u>IB23-</u>14 revised 12.6.23.pdf (la.gov).

For questions or concerns regarding this bulletin, contact United Healthcare Community Plan at 1-866-675-1607.

FAQ

Electronic Visit Verification for Home Health Services

1. Why is there an EVV a requirement?

Section 12006(a) of the 21st Century Cures Act has mandated that states implement an electronic visit verification (EVV) program for home health. EVV is a web-based system that electronically verifies service visit occurrences and documents the precise time services begin and end via smart devices.

2. What services require the utilization of EVV?

All services provided in the home under the home health program require EVV.

3. When does the requirement for EVV go into effect?

January 1, 2024

4. What is the role of SRI?

Statistical Resources, Inc. (SRI) is a contractor of LDH and hosts the state's EVV system and aggregates data for third party EVV systems.

5. How do I contact SRI?

Statistical Resources, Inc. may be reached via the following methods:

Phone: 225-767-0501Fax: 225-767-0502

Email: HHCSEVV@STATRES.COM

6. What system will providers use for EVV?

- a. Providers may use the LaSRS system or a third party program approved by LDH
- b. The LaSRS program will work on any smart device with internet connection.

7. How does my staff receive training on EVV?

Providers may contact SRI to schedule a training via the contact information provided in number 5 above.

8. I use a third party EVV program, what do I do now?

Providers that wish to use a third party EVV program must contact SRI to set up a file exchange. Before this work can begin, both the provider and the EVV contractor/vendor

must complete an attestation for providers using their own EVV system. The attestation and additional information are located here.

9. Does SRI/state of LA have the ability to accept EVV data from one provider, using two different third party vendors?

Yes

10. When can we get access to the LaSRS program or begin the onboarding process of a third party EVV provider?

Providers may start the training or onboarding process immediately. LDH encourages providers to start the process as soon as possible to avoid any claim issues during the January 1 roll out.

11. Will Medicare-Medicaid dual plans require EVV data submission?

Any home health service that is billed to Medicaid will require an EVV record.

12. My Practitioner forget to clock-in. Can the EVV record be edited?

Edit options are available on claim lines and should be used judiciously. Some valid reasons to edit the record could be:

- a. The location is not able to access any type of internet service;
- b. The practitioner forgot or is unable to clock in/out; or
- c. A manual entry was required due to the visit not requiring prior authorization.

13. My staff does not understand how to operate a cell phone. What do we do?

Providers are responsible for training their staff on how to clock in/out of the system and it will be up to the individual provider to resolve.

14. My business does not own any smart devices and all of our records are kept via paper. What do I do?

All providers will have to submit an EVV record via LaSRS or a third party vendor. LaSRS is being provided to the providers at no cost. Obtaining a smart device is the responsibility of the provider.

15. Will my claims be denied on January 1st 2024 if I have not completed setting up the EVV process?

Providers will be required to report services through EVV effective January 1, 2024 and use of EVV is required in order to avoid claims denial. However, a utilization threshold will not be in place on January 1. LDH will release additional guidance in the future when a utilization threshold is established for Home Health Services.

16. Can you enable a "show password" option on the log in screen so a worker can see if they are entering something that is incorrect? This would reduce the number of lockouts.

We are unable to do this due to HIPAA concerns.

17. There are times when the staff go to clock out and the system says "still processing" or a PA cannot be printed because the screen goes blank.

All technical difficulties should be reported to SRI as close as possible to when they occur. When you call SRI (225-767-0501), tell the person that answers the phone that LaSRS is not responding and you need immediate assistance. Those calls are routed as high priority for a response.

- 18. **Is EVV required for other services such as hospice and social workers?**No, the 21st Century Cures Act requires EVV for only personal care services and home health.
- 19. Are EVV services required when Medicaid is not the primary biller, i.e., Medicare beneficiaries that are dual eligible and have Medicaid?

No, this applies to only those services in which Medicaid is the primary biller.

20. I am providing a service in the home that is not prior authorized and the beneficiary is not showing up in LaSRS. What do I do?

Providers must enter the biographical data of the beneficiary into the LaSRS system. Once this is done, the beneficiary will be selected to create an EVV record as a normal prior authorized service. Please contact SRI if you need additional training on this process.