

*This form was developed using plain language principles. The form is intended to be easy to read, understand, and use.*

## **Permission for a Telemedicine Visit Using a Nonpublic Application – Interim COVID-19 SAMPLE**

Patient Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Your doctor wants to use telemedicine to lower the risk of you or your family getting sick from COVID-19. This form includes:

- Answers to some common questions about using telemedicine during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Pandemic means a disease has spread over a whole country or the world.
- A permission statement for you and your doctor to sign.

### **What is telemedicine?**

- Telemedicine is a way for your doctor to examine you from a different site.
- Telemedicine is a system that uses pictures, video, and sound.

### **How is a telemedicine visit different during the COVID-19 pandemic?**

- They government changed the rules during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - This makes it easier for your doctor to see and talk to you during the pandemic.
  - Your doctor does not normally use a nonpublic app (application) for telemedicine.
  - Your doctor can now use a nonpublic app during the COVID-19 pandemic.
    - Your doctor can NOT use a public app for telemedicine.
  - Examples of a nonpublic app you can now use are:
    - Apple FaceTime
    - Facebook Messenger Video Chat
    - Zoom
    - Skype

### **How is the telemedicine visit the same as an in-person visit?**

- You will see and talk to your doctor.
- Your doctor can do some parts of a physical exam.
- Your doctor writes a note in your medical record.

### **How is the telemedicine visit different from an in-person visit?**

- Your physical exam may not be complete.

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### **How can a telemedicine visit help you during the COVID-19 pandemic?**

- You can protect yourself from COVID-19 by staying at home.
- You can stay by yourself if you have been told to.
- Your doctor may be able to start treatment sooner.

### **How can a telemedicine visit help your doctor during the COVID-19 pandemic?**

- Your doctor can save gloves and masks to help others during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- You can protect your doctor from COVID-19 by staying at home.

### **What could go wrong with the telemedicine visit?**

- The telemedicine system may not work as planned.
- The telemedicine system may break down.

### **What choices do you have?**

- You can wait to visit your doctor until the COVID-19 pandemic is over.
- You can go to the hospital if you think a doctor needs to see you right away.
- You can decide not to have the telemedicine visit.

### **What are your rights?**

- You can stop the telemedicine visit at any time.

### **What are some common reasons for stopping a telemedicine visit?**

- The telemedicine system is not working as planned.
- The telemedicine system breaks down.
- You are unhappy with using the telemedicine system.
- Your doctor is unhappy with using the telemedicine system.

### **Is your health information private?**

- Using an app for a telemedicine visit has privacy risks.
  - Your app may not be private.
  - You may be seen without your permission.
- You can lower your risk by:
  - Using encryption.
    - Encryption changes information, or codes it, so only the person you want to see it can see it.
  - Checking the privacy settings in your app.
  - Being in a private place for your telemedicine visit.

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**Permission Statement**

My doctor answered my questions. I understand how a telemedicine visit can help me. I give my doctor permission to use telemedicine.

\_\_\_\_\_

Patient, Parent, or Legal Representative Signature      Date and Time

If you are a legal representative, what is your relationship to the patient?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Doctor

\_\_\_\_\_

Date and Time