



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Medicaid Providers

**FROM:** El Paso Health

**DATE:** August 1, 2022

**RE:** **Emergency Triage, Treat, and Transport Benefits for Ambulance Services Effective September 1, 2022**

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Article II Rider 42 (87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021) directs HHSC to implement the Emergency Triage, Treat, and Transport Model (ET3) in Medicaid to reimburse Medicaid enrolled emergency medical services providers (ambulance providers) for:

- Transporting Medicaid clients to alternative destinations, other than an emergency department.
- Facilitating appropriate treatment in place (TIP) at the scene.
- Facilitating appropriate TIP via telemedicine or telehealth.

The ET3 Program is a Medicare initiative designed to improve quality of care and lower costs by reducing avoidable emergency transports and unnecessary hospitalizations.

HHSC is updating the Medicaid Ambulance Services policy to include billing guidance for providers. In alignment with guidelines provided by CMS, Texas Medicaid will reimburse ambulance providers rendering ET3 services using existing procedure codes included in the policy. In addition, five new modifiers will be added to the policy to allow reimbursement for transport to alternative destinations and for the treatment in place scenarios. Adoption of new modifiers is required to allow ambulance providers reimbursement for TIP or transport to alternative destinations.

A final version of the Medicaid Ambulance Services policy will be posted in the Texas Medicaid Provider Procedures Manual, Ambulance Services Handbook on the TMHP website on September 1, 2022.

If you have questions regarding this correspondence please contact us at 1-915-532-3778 or toll free at 1-877-532-3778.