


Elements of Medical Decision Making				
Code	Level of MDM	Number and Complexity of Problems Addressed	Amount and/or Complexity of Data to be Reviewed and Analyzed <i>*Each unique test, order, or document contributes to the combination of 2 or combination of 3 in Category 1 below.</i>	Risk of Complications and/or Morbidity or Mortality of Patient Management
99211	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
99202 99212	Straight forward	Minimal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 self-limited or minor problem 	Minimal or none	Minimal risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment
99203 99213	Low	Low <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 or more self-limited or minor problems; or • 1 stable chronic illness; or • 1 acute, uncomplicated illness or injury 	Limited <i>(Must meet the requirements of at least 1 of the 2 categories)</i> Category 1: Tests and documents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any combination of 2 from the following: • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source*; • review of the result(s) of each unique test*; • ordering of each unique test* OR Category 2: Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) <i>(For the categories of independent interpretation of tests and discussion of management or test interpretation, see moderate or high)</i>	Low risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment
99204 99214	Moderate	Moderate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 or more chronic illnesses with exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment; or • 2 or more stable chronic illnesses; or • 1 undiagnosed new problem with uncertain prognosis; or • 1 acute illness with systemic symptoms; or • 1 acute complicated injury 	Moderate <i>(Must meet the requirements of at least 1 out of 3 categories)</i> Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any combination of 3 from the following: • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source*; • Review of the result(s) of each unique test*; • Ordering of each unique test*; • Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) OR Category 2: Independent interpretation of tests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/other qualified health care professional (not separately reported); OR Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of management or test interpretation with external physician/other qualified health care professional\appropriate source (not separately reported) 	Moderate risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment <i>Examples only:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prescription drug management • Decision regarding minor surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors • Decision regarding elective major surgery without identified patient or procedure risk factors • Diagnosis or treatment significantly limited by social determinants of health
99205 99215	High	High <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 or more chronic illnesses with severe exacerbation, progression, or side effects of treatment; or • 1 acute or chronic illness or injury that poses a threat to life or bodily function 	Extensive <i>(Must meet the requirements of at least 2 out of 3 categories)</i> Category 1: Tests, documents, or independent historian(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any combination of 3 from the following: • Review of prior external note(s) from each unique source*; • Review of the result(s) of each unique test*; • Ordering of each unique test*; • Assessment requiring an independent historian(s) OR Category 2: Independent interpretation of tests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent interpretation of a test performed by another physician/other qualified health care professional (not separately reported); OR Category 3: Discussion of management or test interpretation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of management or test interpretation with external physician/other qualified health care professional/appropriate source (not separately reported) 	High risk of morbidity from additional diagnostic testing or treatment <i>Examples only:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug therapy requiring intensive monitoring for toxicity • Decision regarding elective major surgery with identified patient or procedure risk factors • Decision regarding emergency major surgery • Decision regarding hospitalization • Decision not to resuscitate or to de-escalate care because of poor prognosis

New Patient E/M Code	Typical Time (2020)	Total Time (2021)					
99201	10 minutes	Code deleted					
99202	20 minutes	15-29 minutes					
99203	30 minutes	30-44 minutes					
99204	45 minutes	45-59 minutes					
99205	60 minutes	60-74 minutes					
Established Patient E/M Code	Typical Time (2020)	Total Time (2021)					
99211	5 minutes	Time component removed					
99212	10 minutes	10-19 minutes					
99213	15 minutes	20-29 minutes					
99214	25 minutes	30-39 minutes					
99215	40 minutes	40-54 minutes					
TIMELINE 							
NEW	1-14	15-29	30-44	45-59	60-74	75-89	90-104
	Do not use time (99207 by MDM)	99202	99203	99204	99205	99205+ 99417	99205+ 2 units 99417
ESTABLISHED	1-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-54	55-69	70-84
	Do not use time (99212 by MDM)	99212	99213	99214	99215	99215+ 99417	99215+ 2 units 99417

Incident to shared office visit – When coding based on time, sum the time spent by the physician and other QHP to get total time. Any time spent together to meet with or discuss the patient should be counted only once.