

EXPANDING ACCESS TO TELEHEALTH



What is telehealth?

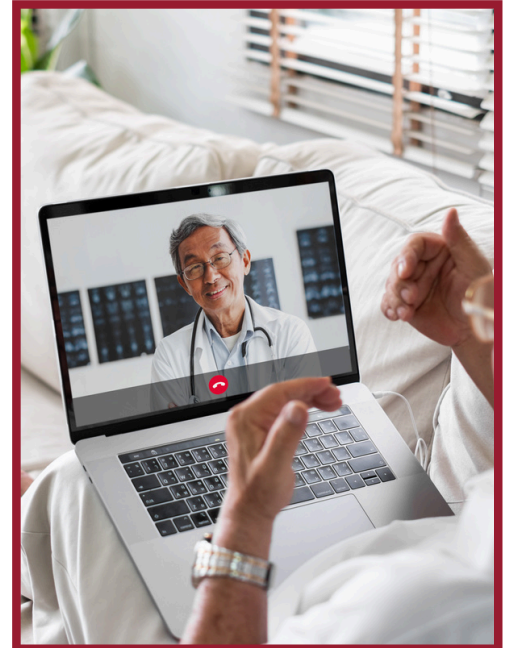
Telehealth is the use of digital technology to provide health care services remotely. Examples include virtual visits via video or telephone, mobile applications and remote patient monitoring.

Why is telehealth important for people living with chronic diseases?

For individuals living with chronic diseases, telehealth offers timely access to care, provides cost-savings related to travel and time away from work, and improves their overall quality of life. Telehealth also bridges the gap caused by geographic isolation, ensuring that patients, especially those in rural communities, receive regular, specialized care they need without the added burden of travel.

Imagine an individual with diabetes living in a remote area. With telehealth, they can have a virtual consultation with a specialist to discuss their blood sugar levels, get adjustments to their medication, and have access to remote monitoring tools that allow them to send their glucose readings directly to the doctor. This eliminates the need for long travel, allows for timely management of their condition, prevents complications and improves their health.

Nearly three quarters (74%) of physicians now work in practices that offer telehealth. Provider parity, which ensures telehealth services are reimbursed the same as in-person visits, is essential to ensuring patients get the care they need, where and when they need it most.



Republicans and Democrats at both the state and federal level agree that telehealth provides important, affordable care to patients and families.



“I have found telehealth to be very beneficial. Not only is it convenient, but when I am feeling too sick or in pain due to my illnesses, it makes receiving a diagnosis from a doctor a viable option. Previously, when I was too sick to drive to the doctor's or even too sick to get a ride, I would just have to reschedule the appointment for when I felt better.” -Dustin Miller, CDC Ambassador, Wisconsin

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