

WHY TELEHEALTH

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There are many challenges which contribute to the complexity and demands on our healthcare system. Examples include our aging population, rising healthcare costs, increasing burden of chronic disease, workforce shortages, location of services, and the recent pandemic.

Telehealth can be used to help address these challenges in the healthcare system.

Telehealth is a delivery of a health service across a distance some form of communication technology.

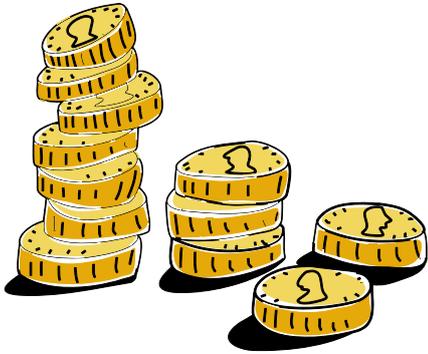


KEY REASONS FOR DOING TELEHEALTH INCLUDE:

Convenience: Telehealth eliminates the need for patients to travel to a healthcare facility, saving time and reducing transportation costs. Patients can access care from the comfort of their own homes, which is especially beneficial for those with mobility issues, busy schedules, or living in remote areas.



Improved healthcare access: Telehealth expands access to specialized care and expertise that may not be readily available locally. Patients can connect with specialists and receive timely consultations without having to wait for appointments or travel long distances. Telehealth breaks down geographical barriers, allowing patients to receive care from providers regardless of their location. This is particularly advantageous for individuals living in rural or underserved areas where healthcare services may be limited.



Economic benefits: Telehealth can lead to cost savings for both patients and healthcare systems. By reducing the need for in-person visits, telehealth can lower overhead expenses associated with running healthcare facilities. Additionally, patients may save on expenses such as transportation, parking, and missed workdays.

Enhanced continuity of care: Telehealth enables seamless communication between healthcare providers, promoting collaboration and coordination of care. This facilitates smoother transitions between different levels of care and ensures that patients receive consistent, integrated healthcare services.

Patient engagement and empowerment: Telehealth platforms often include features that empower patients to take a more active role in managing their health. Through remote monitoring, educational resources, and secure messaging with healthcare providers, patients can gain a better understanding of their conditions and make informed decisions about their care.

- ✓ In the right circumstances telehealth can be very useful – for both the health service provider and consumer (patient or resident).
- ✓ Keep these benefits in mind when planning care – and think about ways telehealth may be used to support service delivery.

