## Telehealth is here to stay. Here's why.



Telemedicine can significantly improve access to healthcare in disparate and underserved communities by increasing access to providers who typically do not practice in these regions. Increased quality of care, patient safety and reduction in overall healthcare cost enhances provider, patient and family satisfaction.

## **Benefits of Using Telehealth**

- Provides more quality time with patients while maintaining social distancing
- Limits driving to multiple locations
- Can provide a view of home environments and facilitate communication with others in the household
- Increases your practice's reach into underserved areas
- Can improve patient appointment attendance rate and prevent emergency events by increasing access to the healthcare team
- Easy-to-access video technology facilitates full reimbursement of your visit, regardless of location.



## **Tips for Optimal Telehealth Use**

- Appoint a telehealth champion in your facility to coordinate each telehealth visit.
- Develop policies and procedures to include all members participating (staff, patients, and family members).
- Positively promote this technology, emphasizing the benefits to your patients.
- Allocate time for your telehealth champion to train patients on how to use the platform before the visit, encouraging the use of a "dry run."
- During implementation, hold frequent hot-wash sessions to determine and mitigate barriers.
- Provide written instruction and practice the technology with patients and staff.
- Utilize a checklist with patients to ensure they are prepared (<u>Network Program Patient Telehealth</u> <u>Checklist</u>) (preparation and tips for continued success)
- Create a provider checklist to promote consistency with each telehealth visit <u>Network Program Provider</u> <u>checklist</u> (engage patients, support staff, prepare for long term use).
- Select a telehealth platform that incorporates the use of a video technology and is also user friendly allowing patients to access the system through any mobile device including their phone (no cost provider options)
  - <u>Doximity</u>
  - Doxy.me

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