

TMC72 Response to Telemedicine Inquiry (Attachment and Appendix):

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) oversees the Telehealth Network Grant Program (TNGP) which aims at: “helping communities build the human, technical, and financial capacity to develop sustainable telehealth programs and networks.”

Currently there are 17 telehealth networks supported by TNGP across 20 different States (Table 1) (HRSA, 2015).

State	Program
Arkansas	Arkansas START Telehealth Network
Arkansas and Oklahoma	Sequoyah County Telehealth Network
California	Regents University of California Telehealth Network
Georgia	Ware County Telehealth Network
Idaho and Oregon	IDA/ORE Telehealth Network
Indiana and Illinois	Union Hospital Telehealth Network
Iowa, Minnesota, and South Dakota	Avera Telehealth Network Rural Chronic Care eConsult Project
Kansas	Kansas University Center for Telemedicine and Telehealth Network
Louisiana	Building Healthy Communities Telehealth Network
Maine	Eastern Maine Medical Center Telehealth Network
Mississippi	Delta Telepsychiatry Telehealth Network
Montana	Partners in Health Telemedicine Network
Nebraska	Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network
Tennessee	Community Health Network, Inc. Telehealth Network
Virginia	University of Virginia Telehealth Network
Wisconsin	Marshfield Clinic Telehealth Network

Telemedicine Success Stories:

1- University of Virginia Telehealth Network

The network includes 125 sites in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Using video and remote medical equipment, UVA Center for Telehealth provides basic medical examinations and services in 40 specialties, including psychiatry, cardiology, pediatric specialties, child neurology, orthopedics, and genetic studies. UVA Center for Telehealth is now approaching 40,000 clinical encounters, saving citizens of the Commonwealth 8.9 million miles of travel for access to health care (Cisco, 2014).

2- Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network

The Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network (NSTN) was fully connected in 2005 and is currently a collaboration of over 110 sites across the State. The network was built through a collaborative effort of hospitals, health departments, the Nebraska Hospital Association, and other organizations. The NSTN has been awarded more than \$1.4 million in grant funding since 2008 and, last year, provided 3633 clinical consultations to rural residents across the State (Meyers et al, 2012).

A report from the first year of the NSTN’s implementation presented some of the achievements and benefits of this Telehealth initiative (NSTN, 2006):

- Generating significant savings in staff time and mileage costs by using the system for administrative meetings and continuing education: “between January 2005 and May 2006, hospitals and public health departments experienced savings of \$757,250 in staff time (30,290 hours at \$25.00/hour) and mileage costs of \$696,792.73 (1,728,201 miles at the federal reimbursement rate which averaged \$.40/mile over the evaluation period).”
- Improving patient outcomes, expanding access to specialist services, and providing additional continuing education opportunities for health professionals. Telehealth helps patients by reducing travel time and costs. In some cases, telehealth supports the mental and emotional health of patients who may not be willing or able to receive care the traditional way. Between January 2005 and May 2006, 275 telehealth consultations were performed using interactive video. Nearly half of these consultations were for mental health, behavioral health, psychiatry, or geriatric psychology.

Health care professionals are also using interactive video in innovative ways. For example, the Central Nebraska Area Health Education Center is using the network to provide medical translation services for patients who speak languages other than English. Without telehealth, these patients would have had to travel over 150 miles on average to see a specialist, saving patients \$16,500 (41,250 miles at \$40/mile).

- Enhancing bioterrorism and public health preparedness: on February, 23, 2006 over 70 sites participated in the Avian Bird Flu Conference.
- Improving the capabilities of Nebraska's Health Alert Network: a test on May 3, 2006 included 89 facilities.

Appendix - 2015 State Telemedicine Legislation Tracking (as of 2/19/2015) *				
State	Legislated Parity for Private Coverage	Legislated Medicaid Coverage (primarily interactive video)	Other Legislation Affecting Telemedicine Access or Coverage	Notes
Alabama				
Alaska				
Arizona	✓		Proposed	HB 2454 - Repeals telemedicine abortion prohibition; HB 2489 - Adds some prescription drug restrictions via telemedicine; SB 1212 - defines telepractice for behavioral health examiners
Arkansas	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	SB 133 - Telehealth parity under Medicaid, private insurance and state employee health plans and amends provider practice standards; HB 1076 and SB 53 - Physician restrictions on telemedicine and abortion services
California	✓	✓	Proposed	AB 250 - Expands the definition of telehealth health care provider to also include a marriage and a family therapist intern and trainee.
Colorado	✓	✓	Proposed	HB 1029 - Removes geography barriers from parity law
Connecticut	Proposed		Proposed	SB 467, HB 6487 and SB 246 - Establishing physician practice standards for telemedicine and requiring coverage under private insurance; SB 5 - Telemedicine parity for private insurance
Delaware				
DC	✓	✓		
Florida			Proposed	SB 478 - Medicaid coverage of telemedicine for EMTs and paramedics; HB 545 - Practice standards
Georgia	✓			
Hawaii	✓			
Idaho			Proposed	HB 98 - Provider practice standards
Illinois			Proposed	HB 76 - Partial coverage for telemental/behavioral health; SB 1229 - FSMB Compact

State	Legislated Parity for Private Coverage	Legislated Medicaid Coverage (primarily interactive video)	Other Legislation Affecting Telemedicine Access or Coverage	Notes
Indiana	Proposed	✓	Proposed	SB 358 - Medicaid reimbursement to pharmacists for medication therapy management via telehealth; HB 1451 - Coverage for telemedicine
Iowa	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	SB 20 - FSMB Compact; SB 1021 - Telepharmacy; HF 218 - Parity for private insurance, Medicaid and state employee plans; HF 317 - Parity for mental health services via telemedicine under private insurance, Medicaid and state employee plans
Kansas		Proposed	Proposed	HB 2270 - Amends Medicaid policies for telehealth; HB - 2321 Expands the definition of charitable health care providers to include certain use of telemedicine
Kentucky	✓	✓	Proposed	HB 121 - Allows telehealth use for mental health exams during 72hr hold
Louisiana	✓			
Maine	✓			
Maryland	✓	✓	Proposed	HB 1026 and SB 318 - Allow reimbursement to psychiatric nurse practitioners for telemental health under Medicaid; SB 252 - FSMB Compact
Massachusetts				
Michigan	✓			
Minnesota	Proposed	✓	Proposed	SB 253 - FSMB Compact; HF 850 - Allows for Medicaid payment for intensive rehabilitative mental health services via telemedicine; SF 981 - Telehealth parity under private insurance and Medicaid
Mississippi	✓	✓		

State	Legislated Parity for Private Coverage	Legislated Medicaid Coverage (primarily interactive video)	Other Legislation Affecting Telemedicine Access or Coverage	Notes
Missouri	✓	Proposed	Proposed	SB 230 - Out-of-state telehealth providers and MO Medicaid; HB 319 - Amends Medicaid policies for telehealth; HB 320 - School-based telehealth; HB 340 - Adds school-based health centers to Medicaid originating site list; HB 965 - Coverage and reimbursement for home telemonitoring under Medicaid
Montana	✓		Proposed	SB 77 - Repeal telemedicine license and amend physician scope of practice; HB 429 - FSMB Compact
Nebraska		✓	Proposed	LB 518 - Establishes new health savings program under Medicaid and includes telephone triage program; LB 37 - Telepharmacy; LB 257 - Telemedicine descriptions for health plans; LB 258 - FSMB Compact
Nevada			Proposed	AB 115 - Telepractice standards for speech-language pathology and audiology
New Hampshire	✓		Proposed	SB 84 - Patient-practitioner relationship and APRN practice standards; HB 232 - Establish community mental health programs and include telemedicine in a study on the suicide risk assessment, treatment and management; SB 112 - Expands parity law to include managed care
New Jersey	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	S 2729 - authorizes telemedicine under scope of practice, creates reciprocal license for out-of-state providers, requires parity for Medicaid, MCOs, and state employee health plans; A 3675 and S 2338 - parity for managed care plans and state employee health plans (STATUS: NOT RECOMMENDED FOR ENACTMENT); A 3674 and S 2337 - parity for Medicaid FFS and managed care; S 1204 and AB 2161 - Medicaid coverage and reimbursement of telemental health in FQHCs (STATUS: CARRYOVER TO 2015 Session)

State	Legislated Parity for Private Coverage	Legislated Medicaid Coverage (primarily interactive video)	Other Legislation Affecting Telemedicine Access or Coverage	Notes
New Mexico	✓		Proposed	SB 6 - Includes telehealth under dental therapist scope of practice; HB 349 - Amends telemedicine definitions under dental scope of practice
New York	✓	✓	Proposed	AB 2527 - Supports 1115 Waiver application to establish Senior Care Choices Program; AB 2552 and SB 2405 - Telehealth Chapter Amendment; SB 1110 - Establishes a hospital-home care-physician collaboration program; AB 815 - Home telehealth payment reform; SB 621 - Telemedicine research and development fund; S07852--formerly A09129 and S04337b - Requires telemedicine coverage under private insurance and Medicaid (STATUS: SIGNED INTO LAW 12/29/14; LAW EFFECTIVE 1/1/16)
North Carolina				
North Dakota			Proposed	SB 1323 - State-wide stroke taskforce and telemedicine; HB 1038 - Telemedicine coverage under state employee health plans
Ohio	Proposed	Proposed		SB 32 - Private insurance and Medicaid parity
Oklahoma	✓		Proposed	SB 305 - Adds state employee and other health benefit plans to parity law; HB 1715 and SB 753 - Allows supervision of PAs via telemedicine; SB 758 - Cap Medicaid reimbursement rate for telemedicine; HB 1716 - FSMB Compact
Oregon	✓			SB 144 - Remove originating site restrictions and add state employee health plans to parity law; SB 151 - Adds state employee health plans to parity law
Pennsylvania				
Rhode Island	Proposed	Proposed		H 5177 - Telemedicine parity for private insurance and Medicaid; H 5422 and S 321 - Private insurance parity
South Carolina				

State	Legislated Parity for Private Coverage	Legislated Medicaid Coverage (primarily interactive video)	Other Legislation Affecting Telemedicine Access or Coverage	Notes
South Dakota			Proposed	SB 63 - FSMB Compact
Tennessee	✓	✓	Proposed	HB 976 and SB 1214 - Teledentistry
Texas	✓	Proposed	Proposed	SB 219 and HB 550 -Medicaid RPM reimbursment for hospice or personal assistance services; SB 190 - FSMB Compact
Utah			Proposed	HB 121 - FSMB Compact
Vermont	✓	✓	Proposed	SB 8 - FSMB Compact
Virginia	✓		Proposed	SB 1227 (Status: Passed Senate) and HB 2063 (Status: Passed) - Amends telemedicine definition under parity law; SB 718 and SB 5011 - Telemedicine pilot to reduce ED use; SB 647 - Teledentistry pilot (STATUS: Passed Senate and considered in House) (STATUS: CARRYOVER T0 2015 Session)
Washington	Proposed	Proposed	Proposed	SB 5175 and HB 1403 - Telemedicine coverage and reimbursement under private insurance and Medicaid; SB 5986 - Creates a telemedicine board
West Virginia			Proposed	SB 334 and HB 2497 - Amend physician practice standards regarding telemedicine; SB 330 - FSMB Compact
Wisconsin				
Wyoming			Proposed	HB 188 - Include telehealth in occupational therapy scope of practice; HB 107 - FSMB Compact

* Does Not Include State Administrative or Regulatory Orders

✓= Previously Enacted