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# Sustainable Models of Telehealth in the Safety Net In-Person Workshop

November 15, 2019

Sacramento, CA



**Welcome health center leaders,  
telehealth coordinators, and health  
plan representatives!**





# Today's Agenda



1. Opening Plenary: *Changes in the Telehealth Policy Environment: Opportunities and Challenges*
2. Telehealth Spotlight #1
3. Team Time: Review Progress in the SMTSN Initiative
4. Lunch with health plan partners
5. Telehealth Spotlight #2
6. Making Telehealth Sustainable
  1. Telehealth Coordinators Break Out
  2. Health Center Leaders and Payers Break Out
7. Closing & Evaluation Survey

STAY UP TO DATE!

# Sustainable Models of Telehealth Community Portal

OVERVIEW

TELEHEALTH RESOURCES

REPORTING

COMMUNITY

## WELCOME, TELEHEALTH TEAMS!

This website is a support center for the use of **Sustainable Models of Telehealth in the Safety Net** participants. Program updates, report due dates, resources, newsletters and more will be posted to this website. This website is managed by Center for Care Innovations.

For more information about Sustainable Models of Telehealth in the Safety Net, please visit the [program page](#).

# [www.careinnovations.org/telehealth-portal/](http://www.careinnovations.org/telehealth-portal/)

# Housekeeping



**Restroom location**



**Lunch from 12:00 -  
12:45**



**Finish by 3pm**

# Promising Practices for Health Centers – Clinic Site Feedback Form

## Promising Practices for Health Centers – Clinic Site Feedback Form

Clinic Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Definition:** A promising practice is a strategy that shows potential to support the growth and sustainability of telehealth programs in the safety net.

**Instructions:** Below you will find a listing of promising practices, identified by the RAND interview process with each SMTSN participating site. **Next to each promising practice, please place a check mark in the box that corresponds with your answer and turn the form in at the end of the day.**

To reduce or deal with no-shows	this SHOULD NOT be a promising practice	you have TRIED this at your organization	you would WANT to try this strategy in the future
Double book appointments			
Send multiple reminders			
Help patients with transportation			
Encourage telehealth coordinator(s) to develop a relationship with patients			
Arrange to have blood draws completed same-day, on-site (if requested by specialist) to save the patient a trip and bundle multiple activities into one telehealth visit			
Additional Promising Practices? (please add below)			

To improve patient buy-in for telehealth	this SHOULD NOT be a promising practice	you have TRIED this at your organization	you would WANT to try this strategy in the future
Include signage about telehealth in waiting rooms			
Have PCP socialize the idea of telehealth/discuss its benefits prior to it being offered by referral coordinator (e.g., reassure patients that the telehealth visit is similar to something familiar like using facetime to talk to family members.			
Have patient participate in a telehealth demo			
Integrate telehealth into the clinical workflows, including team-based decision making around patient readiness for telehealth services (this is especially salient for behavioral health telehealth)			
Additional Promising Practices? (please add below)			

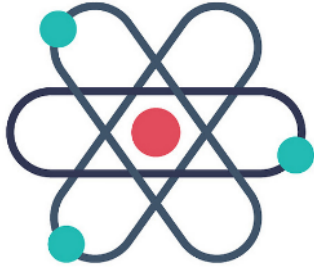
We want to hear from YOU!

Please complete and return this form by the end of the day. Thank you!

To improve provider buy-in for telehealth	this SHOULD NOT be a promising practice	you have TRIED this at your organization	you would WANT to try this strategy in the future
Appoint a clinic champion			
Train all MAs, PCPs, referral coordinators, and front desk staff on telehealth offerings and workflows during the onboarding process			
Have the telehealth coordinator attend provider meetings to share regular updates on telehealth offerings and to proactively address clinician concerns; also have a clinic champion discuss the benefits of telehealth at these meetings			
Have the telehealth coordinator build relationships and establish open lines of communication with administrative staff in other departments, particularly for specialties that are provided both in-person/on-site and via telehealth.			
Additional Promising Practices? (please add below)			

To facilitate PCP and specialist communication	this SHOULD NOT be a promising practice	you have TRIED this at your organization	you would WANT to try this strategy in the future
Include PCPs in telehealth visits (this also can help to ensure the visit is billable)			
Hold a huddle that includes the PCP, nurse, MA and specialist prior to the live video telehealth visit, using the video (this allows for communication about things that the specialist might not pick up on during the telehealth visit, such as whether the patient smells of alcohol)			
Encourage direct lines of communication between PCP and specialist (i.e., try to prevent requiring coordinator to serve as a middle man)			
Designate a telehealth coordinator or MA to monitor for lab/x-ray results and facilitate communication between PCP and specialist			
Establish workflows for PCP-specialist communication (if not via EHR)			
Additional Promising Practices? (please add below)			

# SMTSN Program Goals



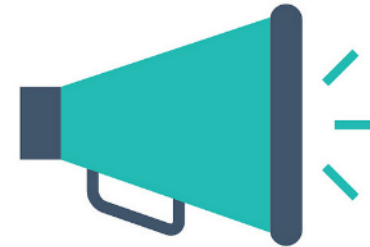
Expand access to specialty telehealth services



Develop **sustainable telehealth programs** in the safety net



Understand **how to expand** and sustain telehealth programs



**Share lessons** with other safety net organizations



# “Telehealth Trifecta” Team



Veenu  
Aulakh



Alexis  
Wielunski



Chris Perrone



Jeanne Russell



Kathy Chorba



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# Participating Sites and Health Plans



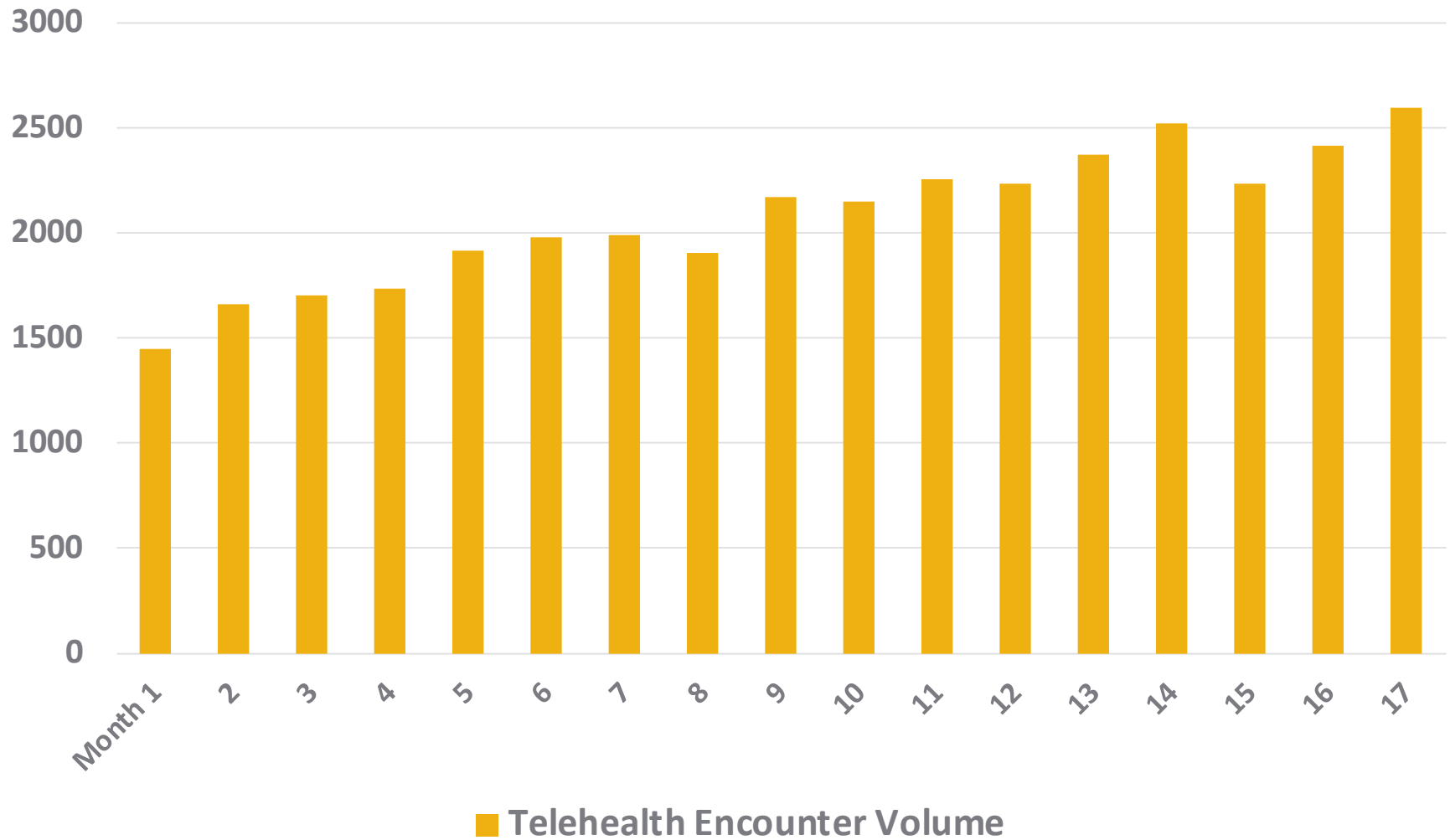
## Participating Sites and Health Plans

# Over 50,000 Completed Telehealth Encounters to Date





## All Sites Total Encounters in SMTSN Initiative



# What has caused changes in volume?

## Drivers of volume increases

- Gain a provider
- Start a new service
- Increase in provider availability
- Gain support staff
- Promotion of services

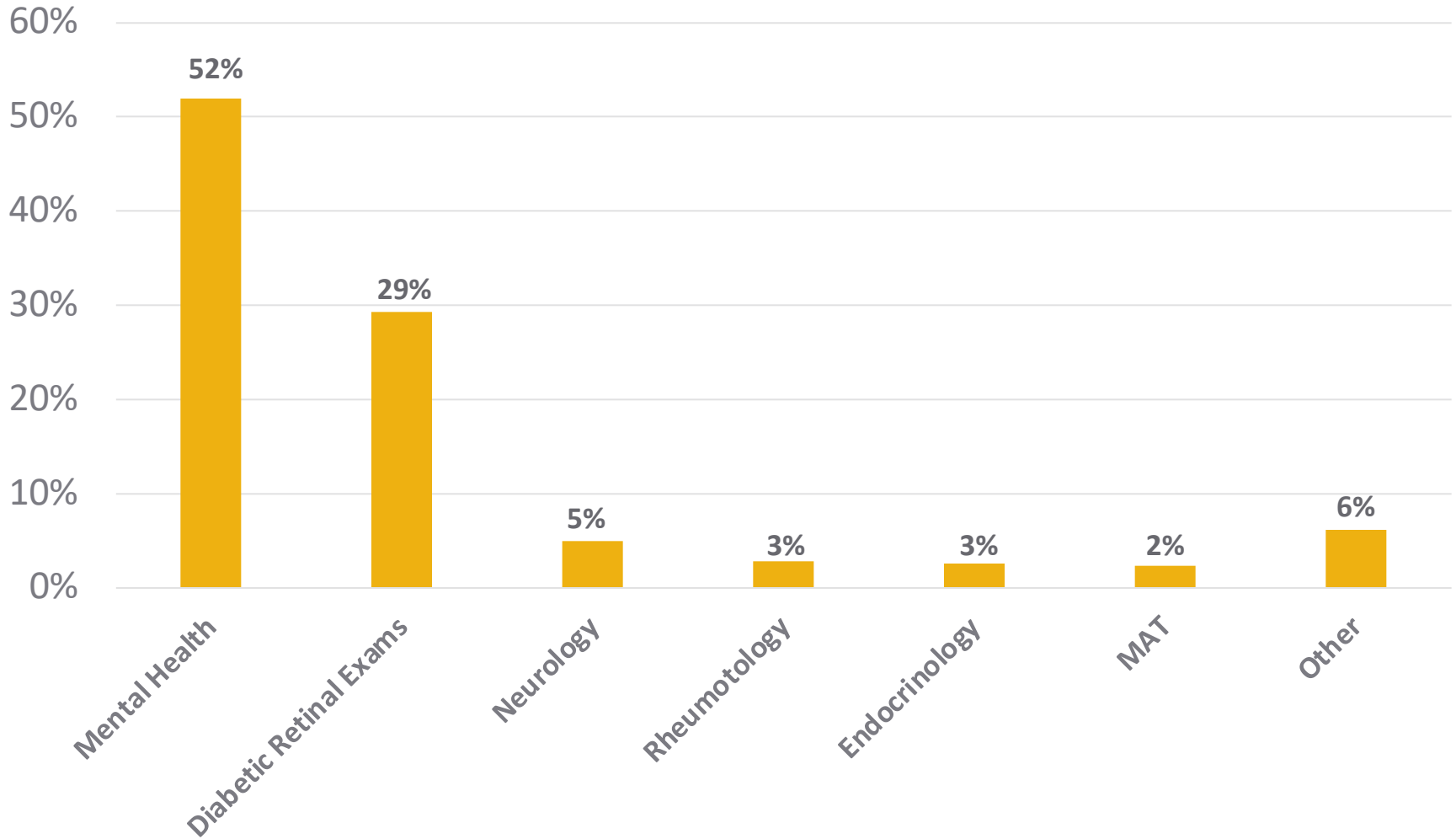
## Drivers of volume decreases

- Contract ends
- Loss of a provider or support staff
- Loss of grant funding
- Specialist cancels clinic
- Natural disasters



# Telehealth Utilization by Specialty Type

June 2019 Snapshot



Other: Dental, Pediatric (Endo, Neuro), Nephrology, Transgender care

# Key Changes in Telehealth Policy for FQHCs in 2019

Rebecca Picasso, Program Director, California Telehealth  
Resource Center



## Key Changes in Telehealth Policy for FQHCs in 2019



Rebecca Picasso, Program Director  
California Telehealth Resource Center  
[picassor@ochin.org](mailto:picassor@ochin.org)  
916.265.2765

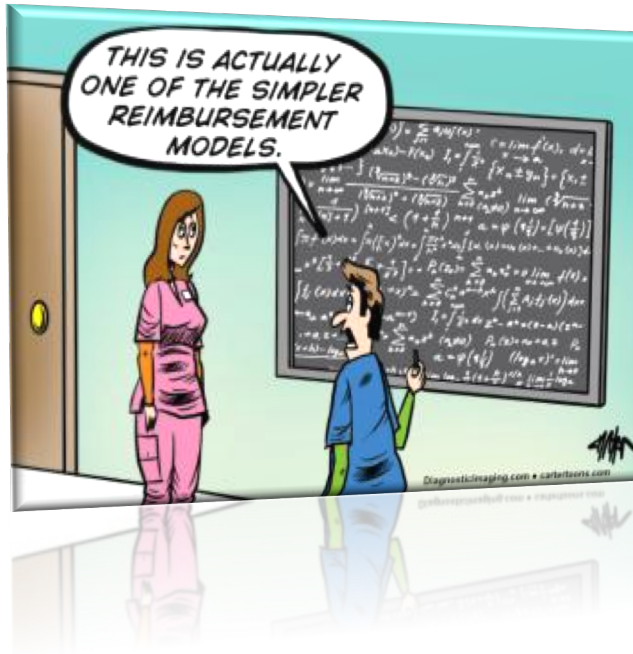


Small  
Changes

✦ + **BIG** ✦ +

**IMPACT**





FQHCs or RHCs are only allowed to be an originating site for traditional Medicare services, as long as they are in an eligible location.

- a. If a billable provider has a medical need to be in the room with the patient during the telehealth consult, an FQHC or RHC may bill their PPS rate for an in person visit
- b. If there was no medical need for a provider to be present during the consult, the FQHC or RHC is eligible to bill a **Q3014** as a part B payment to the MAC

FQHCs and RHCs are eligible to utilize some of Medicare's Virtual Care services as of 1/1/2019. There are no geographic or place of service restrictions for Virtual Care.

1. Virtual Check-Ins are billed with **G0071**. The rate charged will be the physician fee schedule rate, not the PPS rate.
2. Remote Evaluation of Pre-Recorded, Patient Submitted Photos or Recorded Video are also billed with **G0071**.
3. Chronic Care Management and Remote Physiological Monitoring: If a FQHC or RHC has a CCM program, they are allowed to bill for RPM services. The code billed is **G0511**.

# Expansion of Telehealth 2019 Overview

## **SUPPORT for Patients Act**

- Removed the geographic and originating site restrictions for OUD and cooccurring BH disorders

## **BRIEF COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY-BASED SERVICE**

### **(AKA Virtual Check-Ins)**

- When a physician or other qualified health care professional has a brief, non-face-to face, check-in with a patient via communication technology to assess whether the patient's condition necessitates an office visit
- Not labeled telehealth, therefore not subject to telehealth restrictions
- Must be an established patient
- **Code G0071 (FQHC/RHC)**

## **REMOTE EVALUATION OF PRE-RECORDED PATIENT INFORMATION (AKA Store and Forward)**

- Remote professional evaluation of patient-transmitted information conducted via pre-recorded "store and forward" video or image technology
- Not labeled telehealth, therefore not subject to telehealth restrictions
- Must be an established patient
- **Code G0071 (FQHC/RHC)**

## **CHRONIC CARE MANAGEMENT (CCM)**

- FQHC/RHC bill for chronic care management services using **G0511** and includes

## **REMOTE PHYSIOLOGICAL MONITORING (AKA Remote Patient Monitoring)**

One of the most frequently asked questions is "What activities count towards the 20 minute requirement for the G0511"?

The answer would be:

- Video chat, phone calls, emails, and messaging with the patient and their caregiver and family members
- Lab, report, and image review and processing
- Care plan creation, revision, and review
- Chart documentation
- Med reconciliation, overseeing patient self-management of meds
- Med refills
- Referring to, and consulting with other providers and time spent closing the referral loop
- Communicating with home and community based providers
- Remote monitoring of physiological data
- Post-discharge follow-up



# SUPPORT for Patients Act

As of **July 1, 2019** CMS removed the geographic restrictions and the home was made an eligible originating site for Medicare patients for purposes of treating substance use disorder with or without co-occurring mental health disorders.

Please note that the home does not qualify for the originating site fee.



Let's talk openly about your use of substances.

# Virtual Check-Ins



These interactions are **patient initiated** telephone or live video interactions. They involve a physician or non-physician practitioner having a brief, **at least 5 minute**, check-in with an **established patient to assess whether the patient needs to come in for an office visit.**

The virtual check-in must be for a condition not related to an E/M service provided within the previous 7 days and does not lead to an E/M service or procedure within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment.

There are no frequency limitations at this time.

Billable providers are physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, certified nurse midwives, clinical psychologists, and clinical social workers. If the discussion could be conducted by a nurse, health educator, or other clinical personnel, it would not be billable as a virtual communication service.

The practitioner may respond to the patient's concern by telephone, audio/video, secure text messaging, email, or use of a patient portal.

FQHCs and RHCs are allowed to bill for a Virtual Check-In. Virtual Check-Ins at an FQHC or RHC are billed with **code G0071**. The rate charged will be the physician fee schedule rate, not the all-inclusive rate (AIR) or prospective payment system (PPS).

# Remote Evaluation Services – Store & Forward

Remote evaluation services are patient initiated and consist of a practitioner evaluating an established patient's transmitted information via pre-recorded video or image.

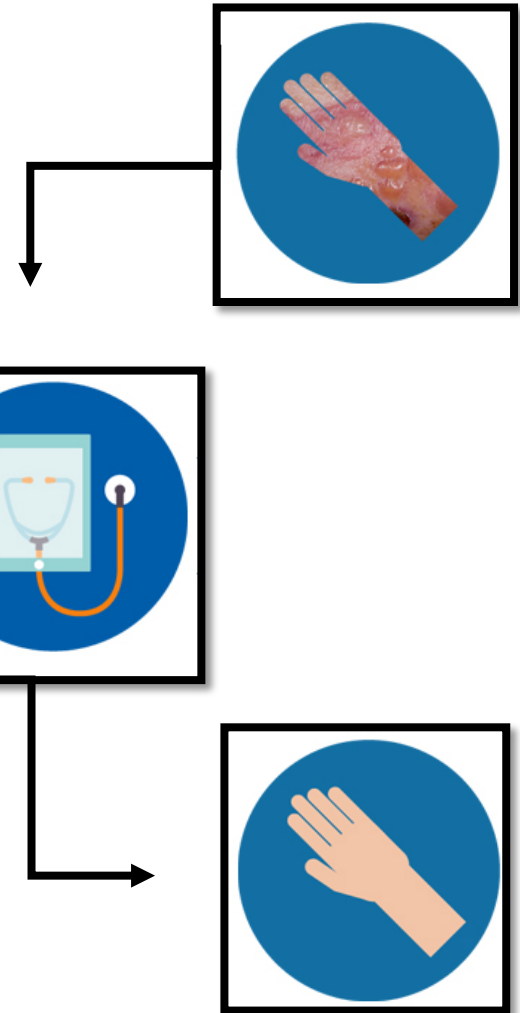
The services can only be billed if the condition is not related to a service provided within the previous 7 days and does not lead to a service provided within the next 24 hours or soonest available appointment.

There are no frequency limitations at this time.

Billable by physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, certified nurse midwives, clinical psychologists, and clinical social workers. If the discussion could be conducted by a nurse, health educator, or other clinical personnel, it would not be billable as a virtual communication service.

The practitioner may respond to the patient's concern by telephone, audio/video, secure text messaging, email, or use of a patient portal.

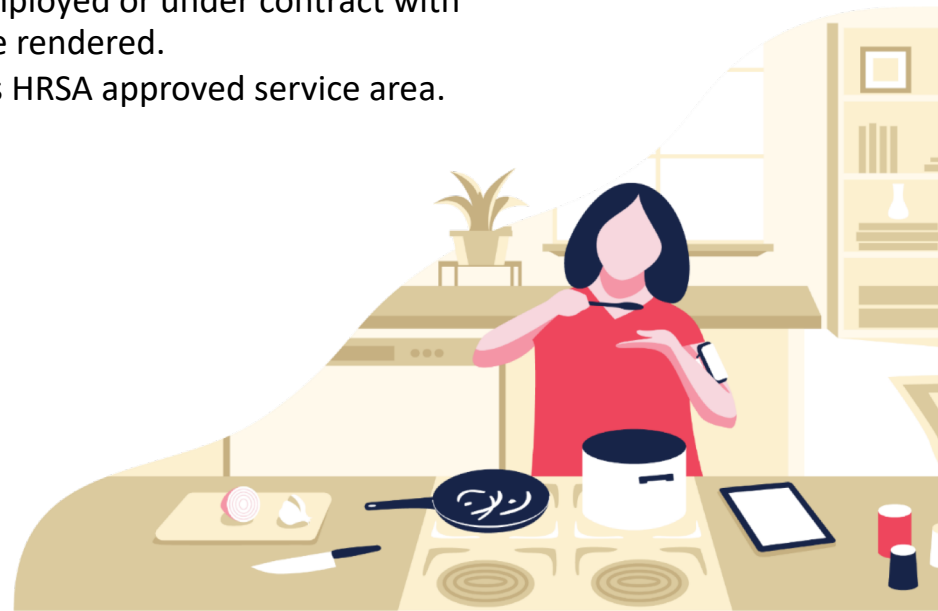
FQHCs/RHCs are allowed to bill for Remote Evaluation services when an established patient sends recorded video or images to the FQHC/RHC. Remote Evaluation Services are billed with **code G0071**.



# Fee-For-Service Recap for FQHCs or RHCs

**Telehealth to the patient's home:** FQHCs/RHCs are allowed to provide live video telehealth services to the patient home, however, the following conditions will be in place:

1. The patient must be an established patient and either homeless, homebound, or a migratory or seasonal worker.
2. The FQHC or RHC may bill its PPS rate for services provided outside the four walls. The FQHC or RHC must maintain documentation demonstrating that the person is homeless, homebound, or a migratory or seasonal worker. The FQHC or RHC shall meet all of the following requirements:
  - a. The visit must be at the patient's residence.
  - b. The person rendering the service must be employed or under contract with the FQHC or RHC at the time the services are rendered.
  - c. Services must be rendered within the FQHC's HRSA approved service area.



**Originating Site** is where a patient is located at the time health care services are provided. The type of setting where services are provided for the patient or by the health care provider is not limited. The type of setting may include, but is not limited to, a hospital, medical office, community clinic or the **patient's home**.

**Distant Site** is where a health care provider who provides health care services is located. The distant site for purposes of telehealth can be different from the administrative location.

1. Be licensed in the State of California
2. Enrolled as a Medi-Cal provider
3. Be located in California or reside in a border community \*
4. A health care provider who is part of a group, with an office physically located in California, may reside outside California.

\* Border communities:

**Oregon:** Ashland, Brookings, Cave Junction, Grants Pass, Jacksonville, Klamath Falls, Lakeview, Medford, Merrill

**Nevada:** Carson City, Henderson, Incline Village, Las Vegas, Minden, Reno, Sparks, Zephyr Cove

**Arizona:** Bullhead City, Kingman, Lake Havasu City, Parker, Yuma



# eConsult

The health care provider at the distant site may use the following CPT code in conjunction with the modifier GQ:

**99451:** Interprofessional telephone/Internet/electronic health record assessment and management service provided by a consultative physician, including a written report to the patient's treating/requesting physician or other qualified health care professional, 5 minutes or more of medical consultative time.

99451 is not separately reportable or reimbursable if any of the following are true:

- The distant site provider (consultant) saw the patient within the last 14 days.
- The e-consult results in a transfer of care or other face-to-face service with the distant site provider (consultant) within the next 14 days or next available appointment date of the consultant.
- The distant site provider did not spend at least five minutes of medical consultative time, and it did not result in a written report.

**FQHCs and RHCs are not eligible to bill for eConsult. Some Managed Medi-Cal plans may reimburse for an FQHC/RHC to use eConsult. This is done on a plan by plan basis.**





**COMING SOON**



## **Medicare OUD and MAT Treatment Codes**

In the 2020 proposed Physician Fee Schedule, Medicare is proposing to add 3 monthly bundled payments for MAT treatment. The proposed codes are:

G2086: Office-based treatment for opioid use disorder, including development of the treatment plan, care coordination, individual therapy and group therapy and counseling; at least 70 minutes in the first calendar month.

G2087: Office-based treatment for opioid use disorder, including care coordination, individual therapy and group therapy and counseling; at least 60 minutes in a subsequent calendar month.

G2088: Office-based treatment for opioid use disorder, including care coordination, individual therapy and group therapy and counseling; each additional 30 minutes beyond the first 120 minutes (list separately in addition to code for primary procedure).

## **Medicare Advantage Plan Expansion**

CMS finalized changes that would allow Medicare Advantage beneficiaries to access additional telehealth benefits, starting Jan 1, 2020. These additional telehealth benefits offer patients the option to receive health care services from places like their homes, rather than requiring them to go to a healthcare facility.

Historically, Medicare Advantage plans have been able to offer more telehealth services, compared to Traditional Medicare, as part of their supplemental benefits. Starting in 2020, it will be more likely that Advantage plans will offer the additional telehealth benefits outside of supplemental benefits, expanding patients' access to telehealth services from more providers and in more parts of the country than before, whether they live in rural or urban areas.





# Health Plan Updates

Partnership HealthPlan of California

Inland Empire Health Plan

California Health & Wellness





## **Sustainable Models of Telehealth Workshop**

**Date: Friday November 15, 2019**

**Time: 9:30am – 3:00pm**

**Location: UC Davis Medical Center,  
Sacramento, CA**

# 4 Key Changes to PHC's Telehealth Program

1. Telehealth (TH) Policy Changes
2. Billing, Reimbursement & Reporting
3. Data and Information Request & Sharing
4. Expanding Network Adequacy

# TH Policy Changes

- Telehealth Criteria
- Econsult reimbursement for Distant Sites
- Telephone Visits In Lieu Of Office Visits
- Provider To Patient Telehealth Communication (Consumer on-demand)
- Patient Consent
- Telehealth Provider Requirements
- Telehealth Equipment
- Store & Forward Specialty Expansion
- Originating Site Fees
- Professional Services
- Eligible Covered Services
- Non-eligible Services
- Exclusions/Limitations

# Billing, Reimbursement & Reporting

- Claims systems updated (decrease denials)
- Configuration of new codes for FQHC's, RHC's and IHS providers
- Provider manual and information dissemination
- Align telehealth reporting requirements with DHCS, DMHC and CMS
- Understand PPS and wrap rates
- Modifying telehealth coordination support

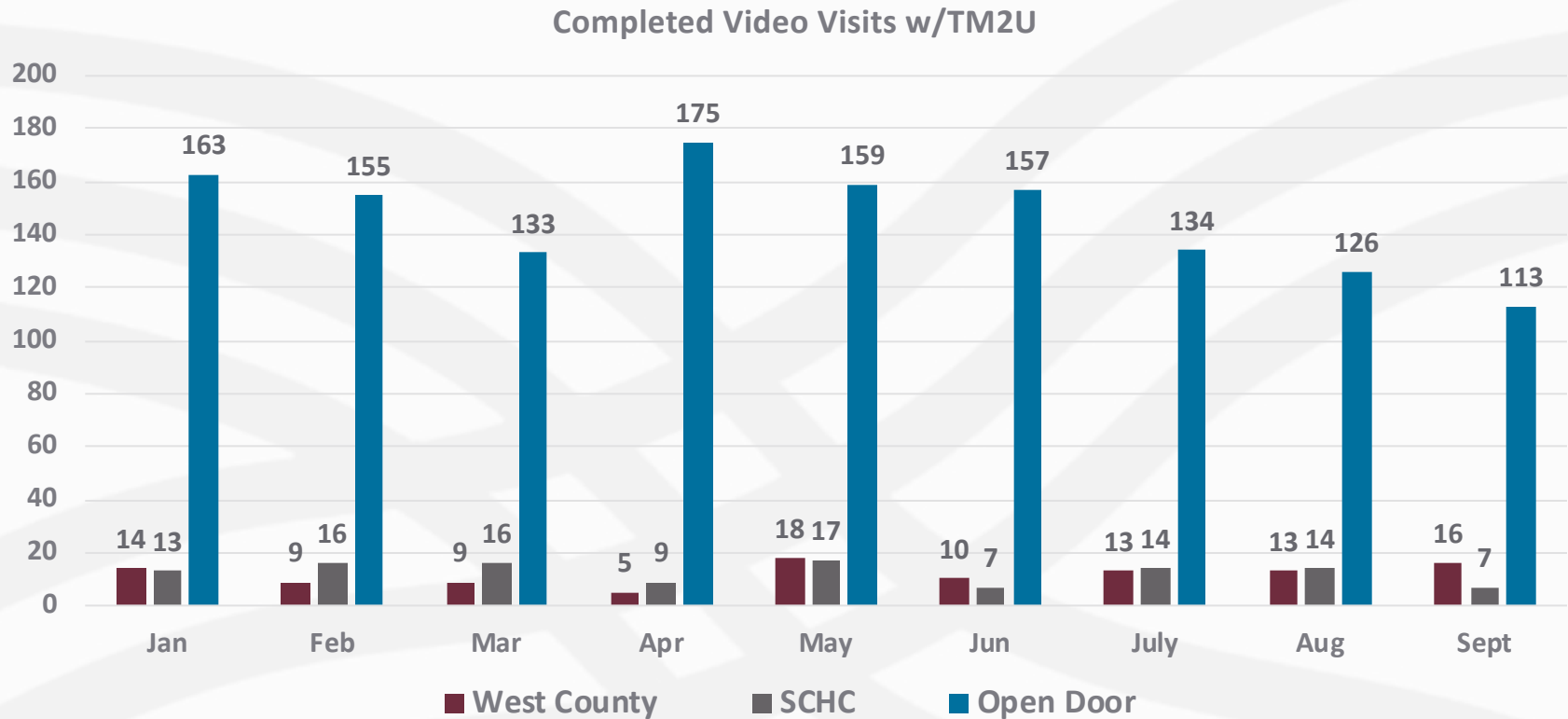
# Data & Information Sharing

- Sustainability measures & efforts
- Provider satisfaction & metrics
- Time to care
- Distance to care
- Total Population (adults vs. peds)
- # of outside referrals
- Specialties provided
- Telehealth provider & vendor usage
- % of membership serviced
- Workflow processes

# Expanding Network Adequacy

- Partnering with multiple specialist groups
- Broadening specialist base
- Provide access to care for minors
- Modifying existing provider contracts to include telehealth

# Total Video Visits Jan – Sept 2019



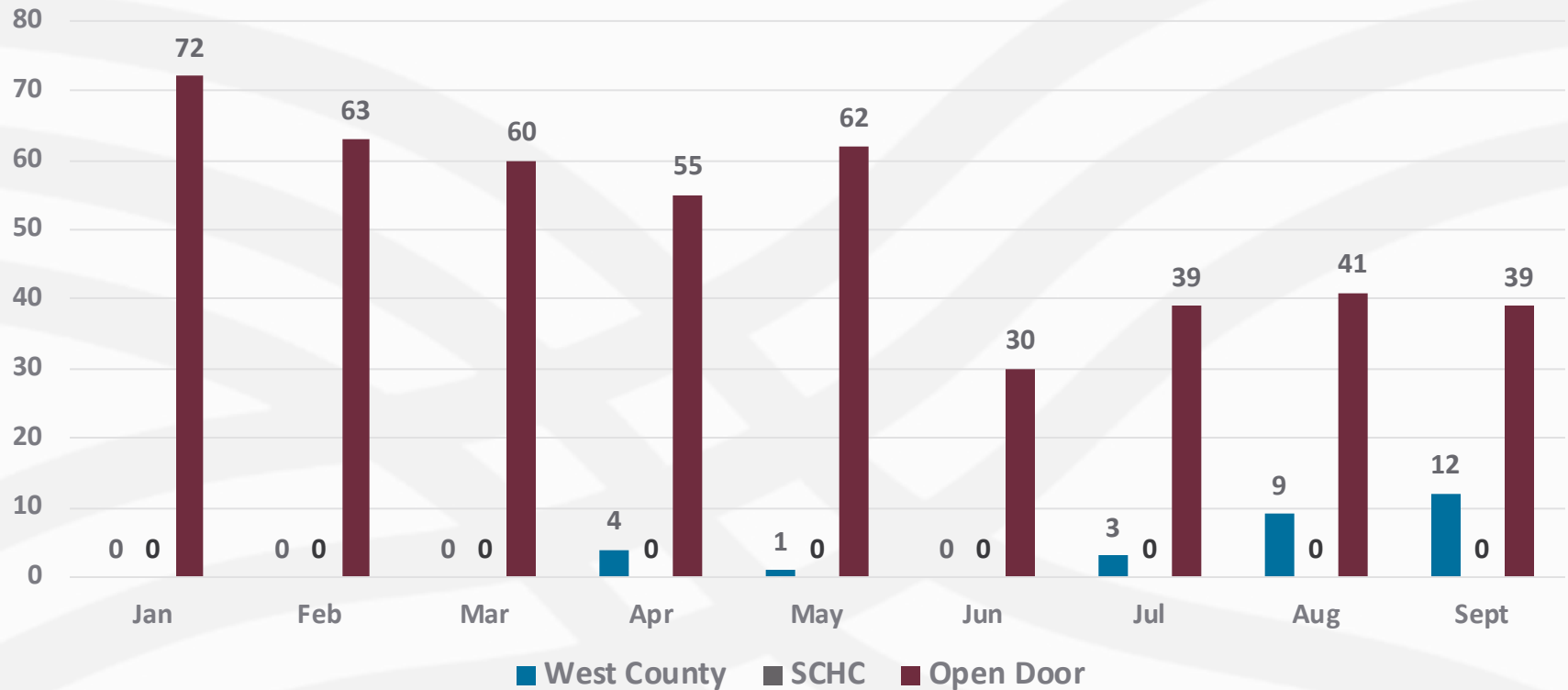
## Total Visits by Site

- West County - 107
- SCHC - 0
- Open Door - 1315



# Total eConsults Jan – Sept 2019

Closed eConsults by Site



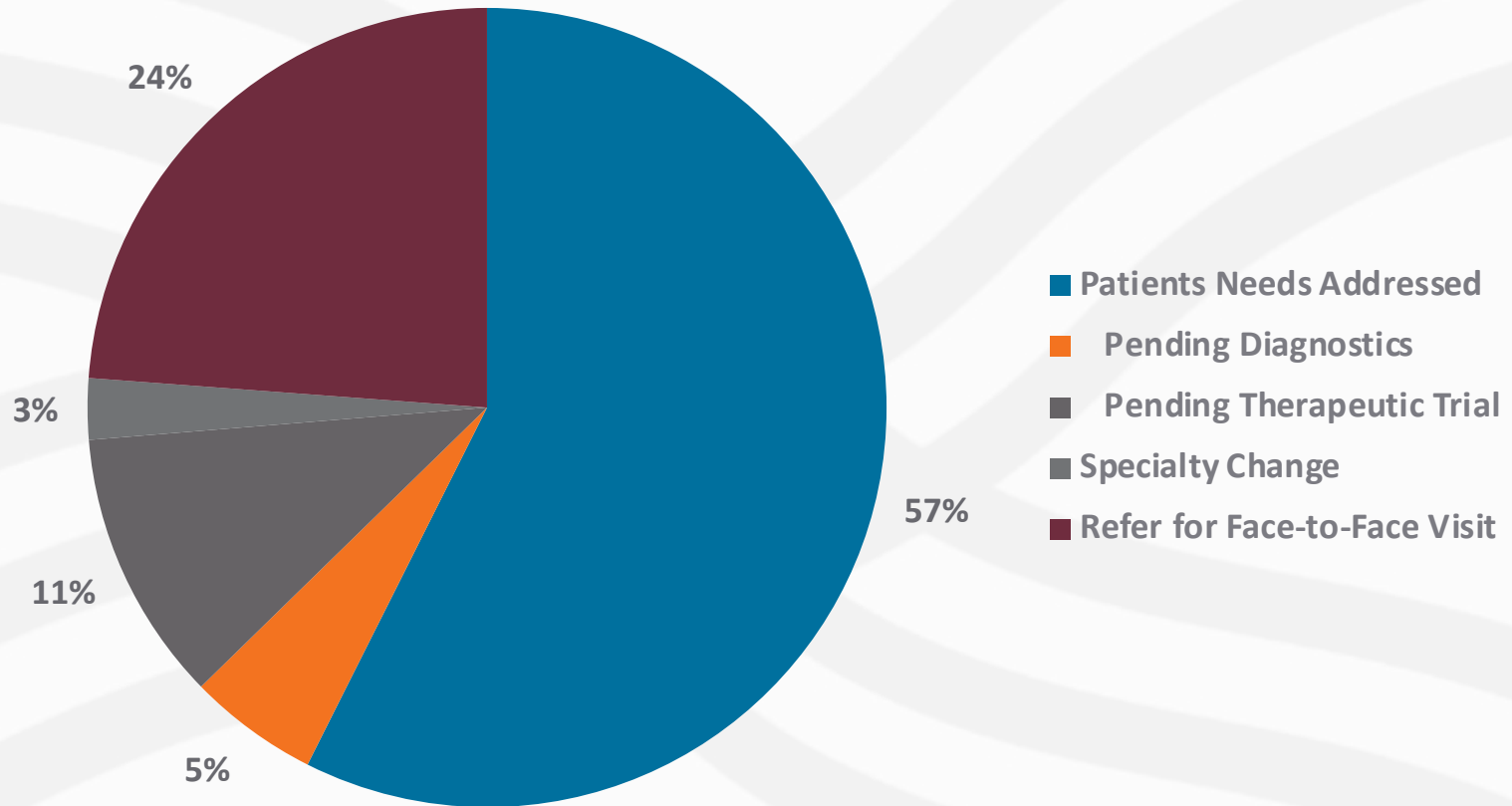
## Total Consults by Site

- West County - 107
- SCHC - 0
- Open Door - 1315

# Jan - Sept 2019

## eConsults by Close Code

% of eConsults Closed



# Grant Details – 2 Leg Structure

- Making a two-pronged incentive program:
  - 1st component based on total utilization
  - 2nd component is based on utilization percentage of total member population
- Incentivizing eConsult: each count as 3 telehealth visits
- Incentivizing Outside Referrals: each count as 3 telehealth visits
- Video visits count as 1 telehealth visit: all sources

# Questions???

## **Reminder: Telehealth Coordinator Call**

Date & Time: November 22, 2019 at 11am PT

Topic: No-Show Mitigation Strategy

Speaker: Dr. Ursula Hempstead

Location: Webex



A Public Entity

Inland Empire Health Plan

# Virtual Care Programs



**Call Our Nurse Advice Line.**

1-888-244-IEHP (4347) • 1-866-577-8355 TTY

Get medical advice 24 hours a day, even on holidays.  
If you need more help, our nurse will point you to an open urgent care clinic nearby.



**MDLIVE**  
Virtual Care, Anywhere.



- Continue to expand to 150 total PCP sites by 2020
- Require eConsults as the first step in any specialty referral request, for participating PCPs
- Sustain buy-in from PCPs
  - Incentive or reimbursement opportunities?
  - Improve on built in “clinical triage” (*When is an eConsult not needed?*)
- FQHCs

- Strategies for expansion of Telehealth Services
- Revise Referral System
- Use telehealth to expand the specialty network
  - Vendors (“telehealth only”) groups where appropriate
  - Allow existing contracted Providers to expand scope of practice
- Improve marketing techniques





**california  
health & wellness™**

# Questions & Discussion

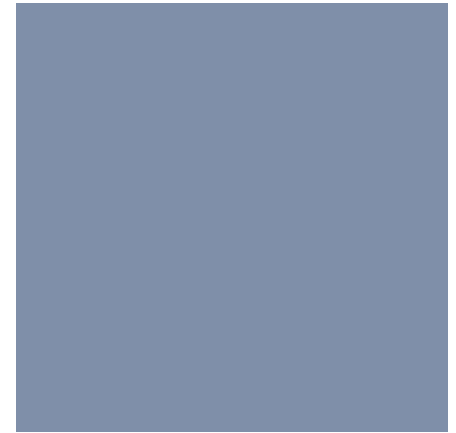
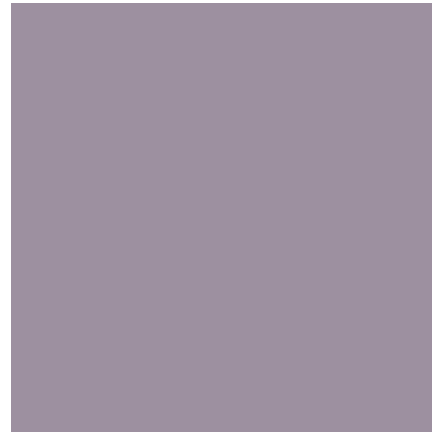
Chris Perrone



# **Telehealth Spotlight #1: Developing the right “combo” of contracts to sustain telehealth**

*Leslie Warner, Telemedicine Manager, Shasta Community  
Health Center*





# Telemedicine Contracting

Leslie Warner  
Telemedicine Program and Promotion Manager  
Shasta Community Health Center



# Current Specialties



- Pediatric Psychiatry
- Pediatric Endocrinology
- Pediatric Neurology
- Pediatric Immunology
- Perinatology
- Rheumatology
- Adult Psychiatry
- Adult Neurology
- Pain Management
- Pediatric Infectious Disease





# Models of Telemedicine



- Provider in the room:
  - UC Davis pediatric appointments require MD in visits
    - SCHC provider writes note, can bill for their encounter
- SCHC staff in the room:
  - Majority of visits, clinical staff assist the specialist
    - Specialist are credentialed and can bill under their name
- No staff in the room:
  - Only for adult mental health appointments
    - Specialist are credentialed and can bill under their name





# Current Specialist Vendors





# Types of Telemedicine Contracts



- SCHC invoiced per encounter:
  - Ideal contract type for the health center
    - Health center does not pay for missed appointments
      - Higher rates as an incentive for specialist
  
- SCHC invoiced for the specialist time:
  - Typically hourly rate, purchase blocks of time
    - Health center pays for missed appointments
      - Less expensive rates, still not inexpensive







# Why Contracting Matters



- Credentialing:
  - Specialist is then included in EMR, and considered a provider
- Reimbursement:
  - Charges can be submitted under specialist name
- Negotiations:
  - Contracts can be negotiated to better serve both parties
- Expansion:
  - Allow more access to other specialties and specialist





# Elements of a Good Contract



- Term:
  - Term should not be evergreen, but instead should aim for a renewal period between 1-5 years. This requires that all parties review the existing contract for appropriateness, and change what is necessary in subsequent agreements.
- Termination:
  - Termination without cause is an important clause in any contract. The ability to leave a contract outside of material breach can benefit an organization in many ways. It is important to always ensure that this clause is present in any agreement.





# Elements of a Good Contract



- Scope of Services

- A clear Scope of Services that lays out deliverables and timelines is essential in maintaining a strong working relationship. This will hold both parties accountable and enforce clear standards of work.

- Access to Books and Records

- This clause is required by the General Controller of the United States. It states that in case of an audit, the other party has kept historical books and records of financial data in regards to the agreement.





# Elements of a Good Contract



## ■ Excluded Persons

- Health centers should include in all contracts, whether clinical or administrative, a clause that pertains to prohibiting person(s) that have been excluded from participating in Medicare or Medicaid. This clause solidifies an understanding that the health center will not contract with anyone that is prohibited from participating in federal programs.

## ■ Credentialing

- All telemedicine contracts, or contracts that let's physicians outside of your own facility treat your patients, must have a clause that clarifies who is responsible for credentialing. Either your health center will credential, or the other party. If the other party is responsible, use language in the clause that shows you will accept and acknowledge their credentialing.





# Elements of a Good Contract



- **Governing Law**

- Ensure that governing law takes place where services are rendered, or in an uninterested state.

- **HIPAA**

- Make sure that all contracts adhere to state and federal confidentiality laws and regulations, including but without limitation to HIPAA regulations 45 CFR parts 160-164.

- **Other Elements to Consider:**

- Technical problems, equipment failures, power outages
- Cancellations of clinics, time frames and cost
- Method and rate of compensation





# Why Mixed Models Work



- Health center can make a profit
- Not all vendors will invoice per encounters
- Industry standard is to invoice hourly rate
- Not all visits will be billable
- Ability to create better access for patients



# **Team Time: Review Progress in the SMTSN Initiative**

Kathy Chorba, Executive Director, California Telehealth Resource Center



# SMTSN Progress Overview

## GOALS

Discover best practices and efficiencies in telehealth clinic workflow

Illuminate profitability (and therefore sustainability) for different models of care

Increase volume of telehealth services offered (thereby increasing access to care)

## PROGRESS

Learning Community collaboration via webinars, in-person meetings and site visits to share best practices

Partnership with Workflow Engineer to document “present state” and discover improvements for “future state” clinic workflow

Completed the Sustainability Worksheet to discover a basic understanding of the factors that affect profit/loss

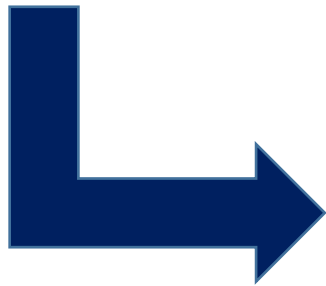
Clinics have been able to meet volume goals, some despite major setbacks







1. Review and discuss your clinic portfolio
  - Charter
  - Monthly volume data
  - Workflow diagrams
  - Sustainability worksheet
  - Annual report
2. Identify challenges and opportunities for post-grant sustainability
3. Complete challenges and opportunities form and be ready to present to the group

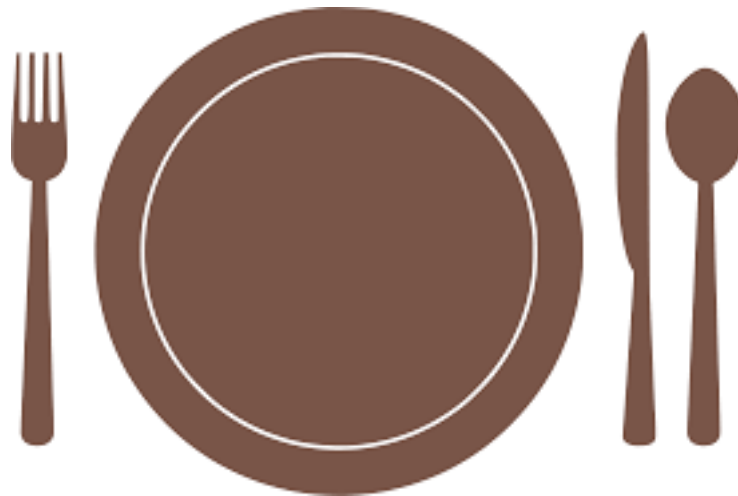


**Report Back:  
1 Minute per clinic group**



# Lunch

**12:00 – 12:45**



# Telehealth Spotlight #2: Using Telehealth with In-house Specialists

*Alex Delira, Retinal Scan & Telehealth Coordinator,  
Neighborhood Healthcare*





# Neighborhood Healthcare: Telepsych Program

Alex Delira

November 15, 2019





# Who We Are

---

Location: San Diego & Riverside Counties

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Population Served:

- Low-income, medically underserved, uninsured, and underinsured
- 5% Homeless (approximately 3700)
- Behavioral Health integrated in all primary care clinics

Approximately 67k unique patients, 271k visits/year

- 61% Female, 39% Male
- 73% Medi-Cal, 5% Dual Elig, 7% Medicare
- 40% Monolingual Spanish

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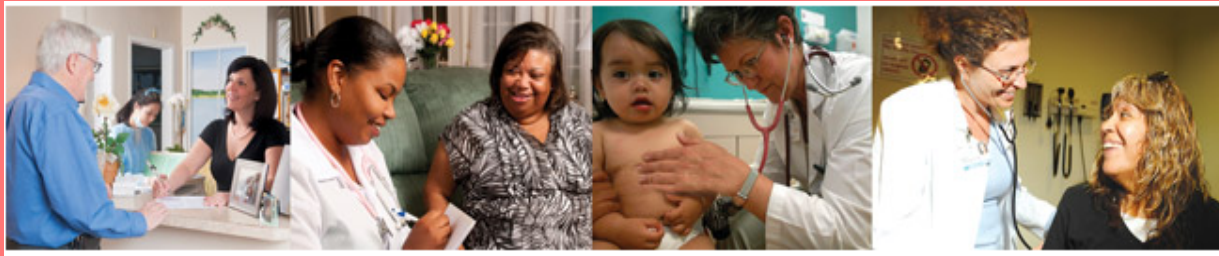
# of Clinic Sites: 16

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Services: Primary Care, Behavioral Health, Dental, Women's Health, Podiatry, Pharmacy, Lab, Prenatal, Pediatrics, Chiropractic, Acupuncture



“Community health is about more than just vaccines and checkups. It’s about giving people the resources they need to live their best lives. At Neighborhood, this is our vision. A community where everyone is healthy and happy.  
At Neighborhood, we are Better Together.”



## Telepsych Team Members

Success is dependent upon teamwork!

- Multiple clinics
  - One for Provider
  - One for Patient
- Multiple Teams
  - Customer Care Representatives
  - Patient Service Representatives
  - Medical Assistants
  - Translators (as needed)
  - IT
- Communication
  - Training, retraining, and retraining
  - Live time program oversight (visit types, scheduling, billing)
  - Care coordination



## Telehealth with In-house Telepsych Specialist

### Benefits for using In-house Specialist:

- A single provider can provide services to multiple clinics from their home site
- Decrease on provider's travel time and mileage reimbursement
- Increase patient panel at a faster rate
- Short notice cancellations or reschedules for Telepsych, we can use appointment slots to schedule face-to-face appointments to continue increasing productivity
- Filling up appointment gaps helps reduce provider down time and patient wait

### Process to start Telehealth Provider:

- Strategically assign provider for Telehealth Services based on patient and clinic needs
- Credential provider with appropriate insurance carriers, including cross county credentialing as needed
- Equipment training with Telehealth Coordinator
- Assigning provider Dept and visit types for accurate appointment scheduling



## Telepsych Workflow

### Patient Home Site:

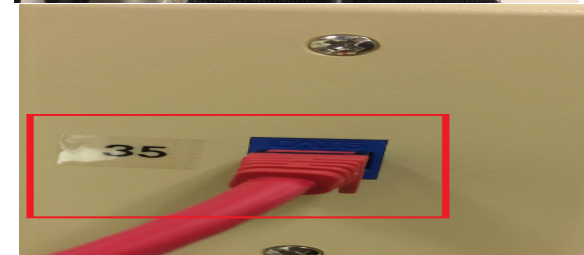
- Schedule appointment accurately (Clinic site, Dept, Visit type, Provider, Reason)
- 2 Days prior to appointment
  - Appointment Confirmations (Text message and/or phone confirmation)
  - Scrub Schedule
- Day of appointment
  - PSR:
    - Check-in patient: provide consent/screening forms, scan all completed forms immediately
  - MA:
    - Start of Telepsych Clinic: Turn on cart and make sure equipment is working
    - Take vitals and collect UA (if needed). MA communicates with provider through Skype
    - MA will call provider through Telehealth Cart
    - Introduce patient to provider and confirm patient identification
    - MA exits room once provider is ready to start Telepsych session
    - End of session: provider skypes MA to request forms or labs and confirm follow up visit
    - MA escorts patient to lab or front desk

### Provider's site:

- Provider's MA will set up and turn on Telehealth Cart

## Telepsych Trouble Shooting Guide

Telehealth Cart	
➤ Telepsych Cart Trouble Shooting:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure all cables are completely connected</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TV monitor is turned on</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remote Control is charged</li> </ul>
➤ If you get “No Connection Message”:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check wall/ phone connection is an active line at BOTH sites</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check IT room for wall/ phone connection number, make sure line is connected to portal</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Telepsych cable line should be labeled in IT room</li> </ul>



Thank you for your time and  
attention. Any questions?

[www.nhcare.org](http://www.nhcare.org)

[Alejandra.Delira@nhcare.org](mailto:Alejandra.Delira@nhcare.org)





# Making Telehealth Sustainable Break Outs







# Sustainability Break Outs

Break Out 1:  
Telehealth Coordinators  
*[stay in this room]*

Break Out 2:  
Health Center Leaders & Health Plans  
*[Follow Veenu]*

# Making Telehealth Sustainable – Telehealth Breakout

Jeanne Russell, Project Coordinator,  
CTRC

Alexis Wielunski, Program Manager, CCI



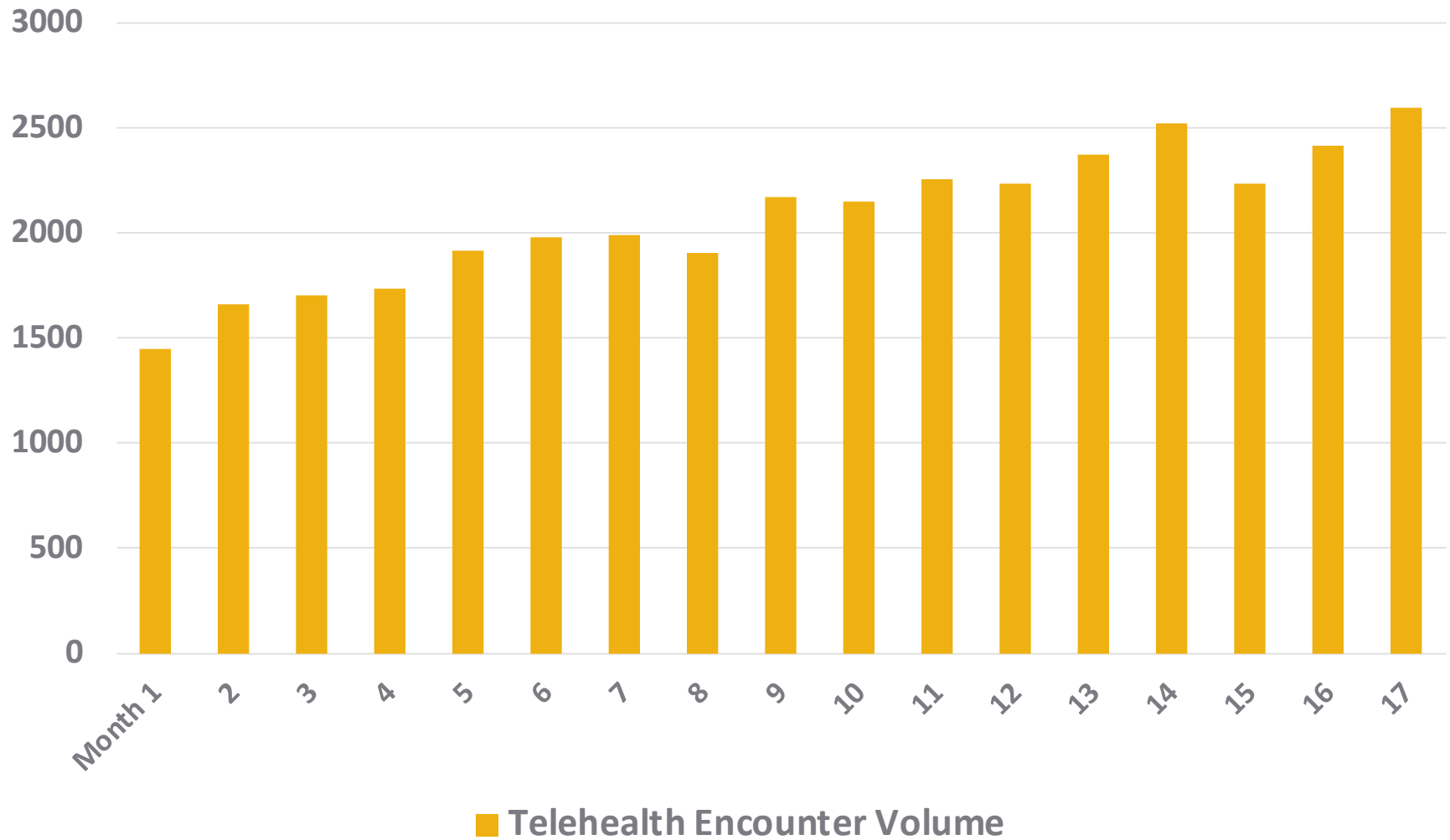


## Participating Sites and Health Plans

# Over 50,000 Completed Telehealth Encounters to Date



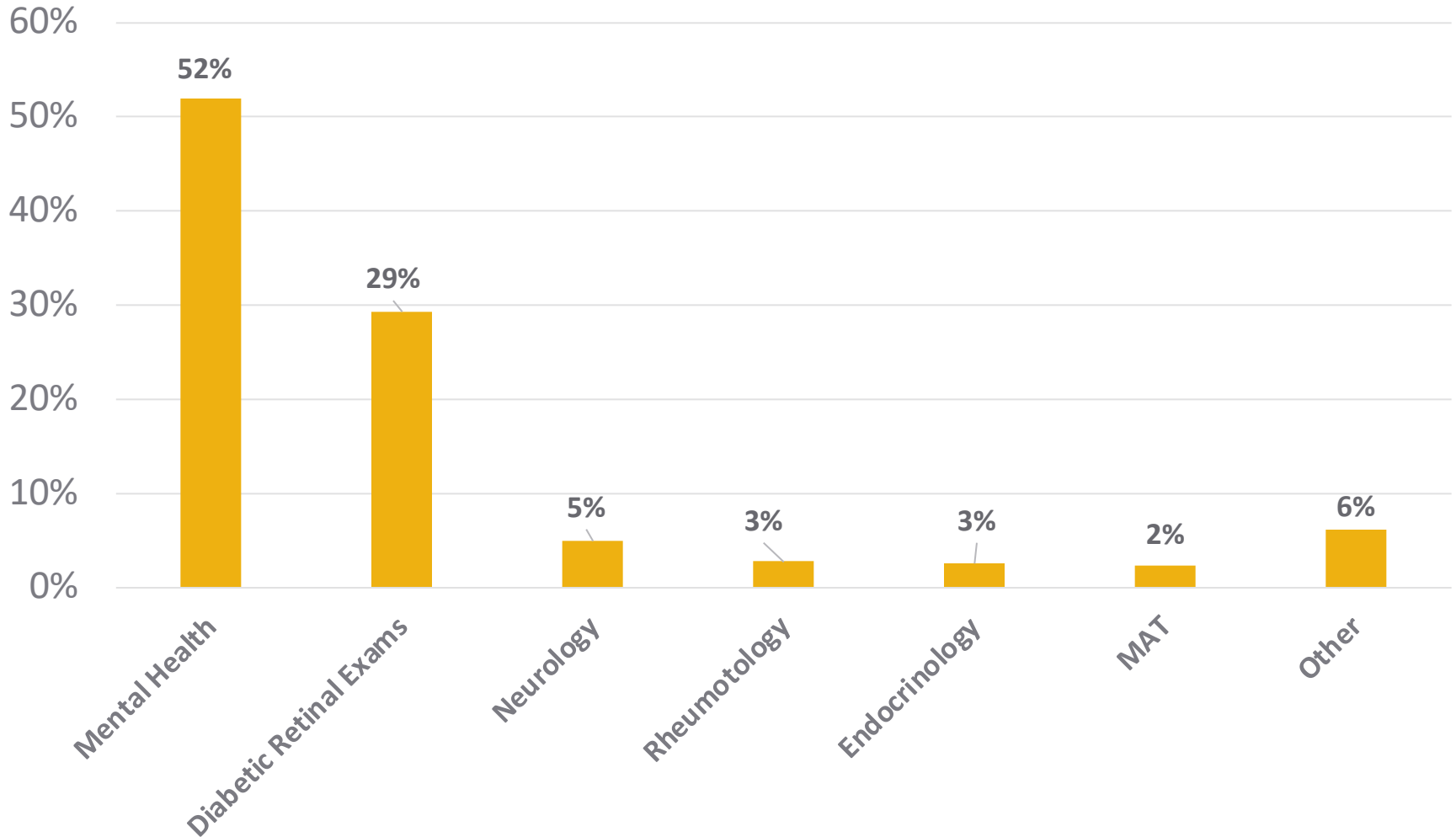
## All Sites Total Encounters in SMTSN Initiative





# Telehealth Utilization by Specialty Type

June 2019 Snapshot



Other: Dental, Pediatric (Endo, Neuro), Nephrology, Transgender care

# What has caused changes in volume?

## Drivers of volume increases

- Gain a provider
- Start a new service
- Increase in provider availability
- Gain support staff
- Promotion of services

## Drivers of volume decreases

- Contract ends
- Loss of a provider or support staff
- Loss of grant funding
- Specialist cancels clinic
- Natural disasters



# Small Group Discussions

- What is the current state of your telehealth program? (current contracts & specialties, # of visits/staff/sites, etc.)
- What is one challenge you are facing in your telehealth program? Or, what questions do you have for other coordinators?



# Support for Coordinators

- Brainstorm:
  - How can we help you in the last 6 months of the initiative?
  - What questions do you still have about telehealth operations and sustainability? What needs more clarity?
  - What would be helpful for staying connected and sustaining this learning community of telehealth coordinators?
- Write one idea per sticky – write as many ideas as you can



# Closing and Evaluation



# Promising Practices Group Activity

**Include PCPs in telehealth visits (this also can help to ensure the visit is billable)**

Place a sticker in this box <u>if this is your current practice</u>	Place a sticker in this box <u>if this is a practice you would like to begin</u>



# Reflections from Today

Chris Perrone



# What's Next? Program Updates & Resources

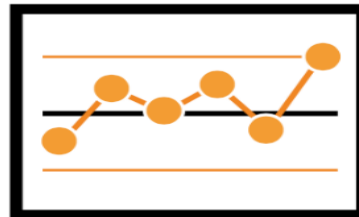


Final Report



Final In Person  
Workshop

May 2020



Continue to Submit  
Monthly Data  
through March 2020





STAY UP TO DATE!

# Sustainable Models of Telehealth Community Portal

OVERVIEW

TELEHEALTH RESOURCES

REPORTING

COMMUNITY

## WELCOME, TELEHEALTH TEAMS!

This website is a support center for the use of **Sustainable Models of Telehealth in the Safety Net** participants. Program updates, report due dates, resources, newsletters and more will be posted to this website. This website is managed by Center for Care Innovations.

For more information about Sustainable Models of Telehealth in the Safety Net, please visit the [program page](#).

# [www.careinnovations.org/telehealth-portal/](http://www.careinnovations.org/telehealth-portal/)



# **Sustainable Models of Telehealth in the Safety Net: Evaluation Update**

November 15, 2019

## *To refresh your memory ....*

**CHCF**

hired RAND to conduct a third-party evaluation of SMTSN

RAND is a  
nonprofit research  
organization  
based in Santa  
Monica



*The evaluation team has  
expertise in telehealth and  
program evaluation*

### Q1: ACTIVITIES

- *To what extent were the SMTSN elements implemented?*
- *Which features of the initiative contributed to impact?*

### Q2: CHALLENGES AND FACILITATORS

- *What are the barriers/facilitators to telehealth? To SMTSN?*

### Q3: OUTCOME

- *What was the impact of the initiative on telehealth utilization? Patient and provider experience?*

## ***Our evaluation aims to answer several research questions***

### Q4: ADDITIONAL COSTS

- *What additional costs were incurred by the health centers to implement and maintain increased volume of telehealth?*

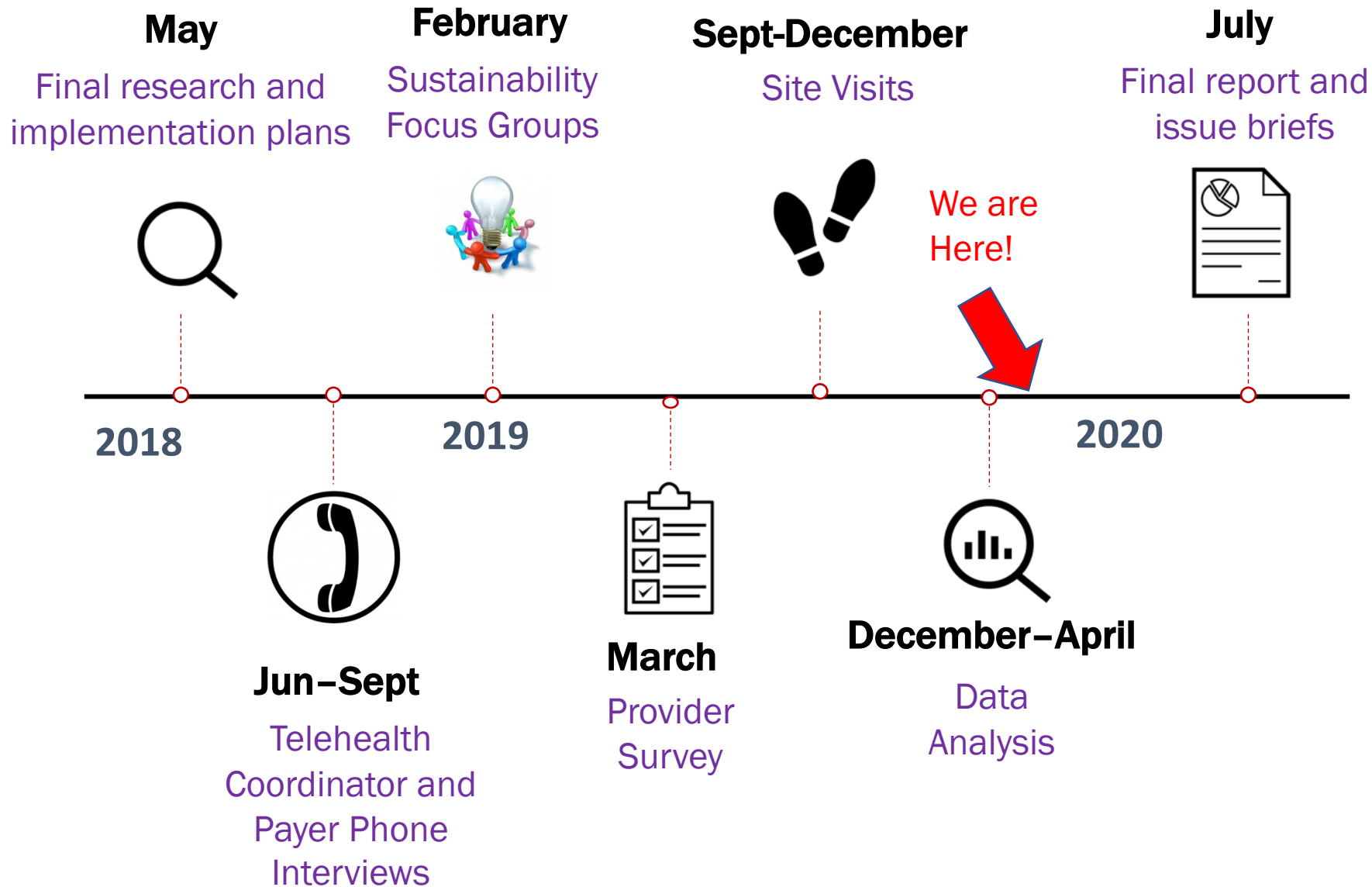
### Q5: SUSTAINABILITY

- *How can the initiative be sustained in health centers?*

### Q6: LESSONS LEARNED

- *What lessons were learned from the initiative?*
- *What are the implications for replication and scale-up?*

# *With your help, we've made great progress!*



# ***The evaluation will result in four products***



Main Report: Focus on experiences of FQHCs in expanding telehealth

Issue Brief 1: Costs to maintain a high volume telehealth program

Issue Brief 2: Promising practices for telehealth implementation

Issue Brief 3: The role of payers in telehealth; payer's perspective



**Questions about  
the evaluation?  
Email us!**

- Allison:  
[Ober@rand.org](mailto:Ober@rand.org)
- Lori:  
[Luscherp@rand.org](mailto:Luscherp@rand.org)



Kathy Chorba, Executive Director  
California Telehealth Resource Center

# Telehealth Coordinator Online Curriculum Update





# Presentation Overview



- **Why** are we doing this?
- **Who** is developing the content?
- **What** is included in the curriculum?
- **Where** will this be posted?
- **How** can people access this?
- **When** will it be available?

# Why are we doing this?

*“Doesn’t this content already exist somewhere?”*



## Excellent content is available

### Payment Required

- Online certificate and certification courses
- single use, per customer
- Classroom based
- single use, per customer, + travel expense
- Onsite - customized+ hands-on for entire staff
- single use per site

### Free - Online

- Not available to the public – members only
- Available to the public
- Single topic focus, not all-inclusive
- Have to search lots of websites to find content
- Outdated

## Why are we doing this?

*A comprehensive collection of basic information developed specifically for the telehealth coordinator should be available in one location, free of charge to everyone*

- Requested by health plans interested in extending telehealth services to new clinic sites
- Requested by HRSA funded clinic sites
- Requested and “last-mile” funding provided by the California Health Care Foundation (CHCF)
- Basic telehealth orientation for new and existing telehealth coordinator staff to be used for pre, post, or refresher training





## Something to Keep in Mind

- *This eTraining provides an **introduction to key concepts and resources to assist telehealth coordinators in building the knowledge and skills needed to successfully fill their role.** It can also be used as a refresher course for those looking to revisit core information and/or update skills.*
- *This eTraining **does not provide a certification,** nor is it meant to replace certification for those interested in pursuing that level of training. To find resources for more in-depth, certificate training, please visit our website:  
<http://caltrc.org/knowledge-center/training/>*

# What's Included in the Curriculum?



**Telehealth Overview**



**Technology**



**Defining your  
Program Needs**



**Team Roles and  
Preparing for the  
Visit**



**Reimbursement and  
Legal Considerations**



**Developing  
Successful Programs  
Part 1**



**Developing  
Successful Programs  
Part 2**



**Challenges,  
Solutions and  
Funding**



# Module 1: Telehealth Overview

## Telehealth history

## Expansion

## The future of telehealth

## Benefits of telehealth

## What does telehealth look like?

- Definitions and subcategories
- Provider site
- Patient site

## Applications

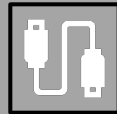
- live video
- store and forward
- remote monitoring
- mHealth, etc.



## Module 2: Technology Overview



Basic technology terminology



Simple solutions: laptop,  
tablet, cellular devices



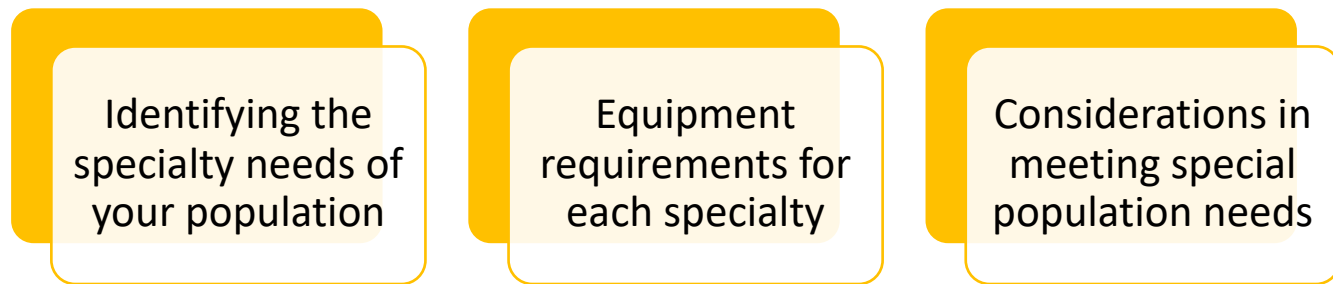
Telemedicine system solutions  
and set-up



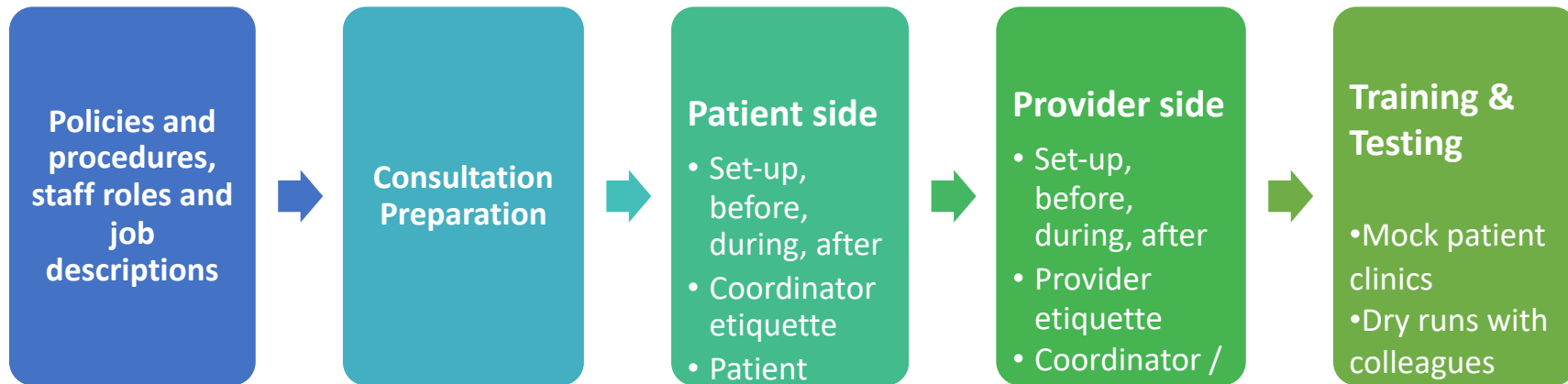
Medical peripherals



## Module 3: Defining Your Program Needs



## Module 4: Team Roles and Consultation Preparation



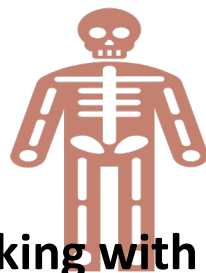


## Module 5: Reimbursement and Legal Considerations



### Billing & Reimbursement

Medicaid  
Medicare  
Private Payers



### Working with Health Plans: Demonstrating the benefit of telehealth

Providing access to care for (\_\_) volume of patients in (\_\_) specialties for (\_\_) length of time with (\_\_) success



### Legal considerations

Privacy issues  
State & Federal legal issues  
Credentialing  
Contracting



# Modules 6 & 7: Developing Successful Telehealth Programs

- Time and Project management
- Workflow
- Staff training

**Elements contributing to success**



- Realistic goal setting and timeline (developing a program charter)
- Data collection and

**Measuring program success**



- Multi media video clips
- Articles

**Success stories**



- No show rates
- Patient and Provider buy-in

**Handling challenges**



- Provider joins in the last few minutes
- Patient only; f/u with PCP later
- Contracted provider

**3 models**



- Importance of keeping updated on new technologies, procedures, and using available resources
- Continuing education with peers
  - Peer to peer collaborative events to share new developments and best practices

**Education**



- Tracking visits
- Tracking technology issues and solutions
- Tracking operational problems and solutions

**Record Keeping**



- Developing material to demonstrate the benefits of telehealth to different targeted audiences
- Patients, providers, leadership and staff
- General public education

**Marketing**



## Module 8: Challenges, Solutions and Funding



The screenshot shows the CalTRC website. The header includes the National Telehealth Policy Resource Center and California Telehealth Network logos, along with links for Log In, Sign Up, and a search bar. The main navigation bar lists About Us, Telehealth, Resources, News & Events, Contact Us, and Telehealth Summit. The page title is "Training". The content area states: "We are proud to offer easy-to-access training resources for healthcare administrators, physicians and other medical staff across the country. For information on upcoming conferences, live courses and events, [click here](#)". Below this is a section titled "Telehealth Coordinator Online Training Modules" with a description of the eTraining and its availability. A sidebar on the left lists various resources like 2019 Telehealth Summit, Legislation & Regulation, and more.

**790** visits in 30 days

**36** Different states viewing content

**4.5** Satisfaction rating (scale = 1-5)

Where is this content posted?

[www.caltrc.org/knowledge-center/training/](http://www.caltrc.org/knowledge-center/training/)



#### RESOURCES

BEST PRACTICES

CTRC PUBLICATIONS

PROGRAM GUIDES

POLICY & RESEARCH

- Legal and regulatory considerations
- Reimbursement and other payment models
- Strategic and/or business planning
- Clinical and administrative protocols
- Workforce development



## Telehealth Coordinator Online Training



### Registered Users

 Email

 Password

Sign in 

[Forgot password?](#)

Not registered?

[Create your account here](#)

This eTraining provides an introduction to key concepts and resources to assist Telehealth Coordinators in building the knowledge and skills needed to successfully fill their role. It can also be used as a refresher course for those looking to revisit core information and/or update their skills.

Learn more



How can people access  
the content?

[www.caltrc.org/knowledge-center/training/](http://www.caltrc.org/knowledge-center/training/)

## Telehealth Coordinator Online Training

### Welcome and Telehealth Overview

In this module, you'll learn about telehealth history and expansion, predictions on the future of telehealth, benefits of Telehealth, and introduction to types of telehealth technology and applications.



VIEW

### Telehealth Technology

This module provides a general background on telehealth technology, types of telehealth technologies available; when different types of telehealth technologies are most appropriate; and resources to learn more.



VIEW

### Defining Your Telehealth Program Needs

This module assists Telehealth Coordinators in defining specific telehealth program needs, based on the patients you are looking to serve, and clinicians who will provide the services, including examples of specific telehealth programs and specialties.



VIEW

### Telehealth Team Roles and Visit

This module provides an overview of telehealth team roles, how these roles aid in program workflows, and what a typical telehealth visit is comprised of, from the view of the patient and the participating providers.



VIEW

### Overview of Telehealth Billing, Reimbursement and Legal Considerations

In this module, Telehealth Coordinators will learn about various billing and reimbursement methods including federal and state public payers, and private insurance models. We'll also discuss the various legal considerations that play into both the funding and credentialing of a telehealth program.



VIEW

### Developing Successful Telehealth Programs

This module digs into what factors create a successful telehealth program, provides examples of accomplished programs and delivery models, and also highlights programmatic challenges and means of addressing these common barriers.



VIEW

### Telehealth Challenges/Solutions and Funding

In this module, you'll hear about common challenges with telehealth programs, and gain insight into potential solutions. You'll also learn helpful skills to research, secure, and maintain funding opportunities for your program.



VIEW





## Menu Audio

- ▼ Introduction
  - An Overview of TRCs
  - Training Menu
- ▼ Section 01: The History of Telehealth
  - Timeline of Telehealth
  - The Evolution of Telehealth
  - Telehealth Defined
- ▼ Section 02: Key Drivers in Telehealth
  - Key Drivers in Telehealth
  - Shrinking Workforce
  - Advancements in Technology
  - Healthcare Reform
- ▶ Section 03: The Benefits of Telehealth
- ▼ Section 04: Telehealth Terms and Definitions
  - Telehealth Terms and Definitions
  - The Basics
  - Telehealth Mechanisms
  - IT Definitions
- ▼ Section 05: Telehealth Applications
  - Telehealth Applications**
  - Live Video
  - Live Video Applications
  - Store-and-Forward
  - Store-and-Forward Applications
  - Remote Patient Monitoring
  - mHealth
  - Telehealth Potential
  - Telehealth Potential Continued
  - Telehealth As An Evolving Tool
- ▼ Quiz

## Module 1 - Welcome and Overview of Telehealth

Resources

# 05

**Telehealth includes four distinct types of applications, or modalities. In this section, we'll highlight each type of modality, and some common uses, including clinical and non-clinical.**



Live Video  
(Synchronous)



Store-and-Forward  
(Asynchronous)



Remote Patient  
Monitoring (RPM)

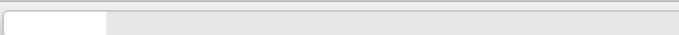


Mobile Health  
(mHealth)



CALIFORNIA  
TELEHEALTH  
RESOURCE  
CENTER

MENU



◀ PREV

NEXT ▶



Menu		Audio
	Improved Health Care Deliver...	▲
	Improved Patient and Provide...	
▼	Section 04: Telehealth Terms an...	
	Telehealth Terms and Definiti...	
	The Basics	
	Telehealth Mechanisms	
	IT Definitions	
▼	Section 05: Telehealth Applicatio...	
	Telehealth Applications	
	Live Video	
	Live Video Applications	
	Store-and-Forward	
	Store-and-Forward Applications	
	Remote Patient Monitoring	
	mHealth	
	Telehealth Potential	
	Telehealth Potential Continued	
	Telehealth As An Evolving Tool	
▼	Quiz	
	Instructions	
	Question 1	
	Question 2	
	Question 3	
	Question 4	
	Question 5	
	Question 6	
	Question 7	
▼	Completed	
	Evaluation	
	Completed	

## Module 1 - Welcome and Overview of Telehealth

Resources

# Quiz

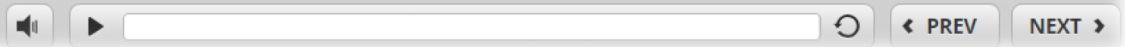
Let's take a moment and test what you've learned throughout the module.

Please answer all questions on the following slides. You must score 80% or higher to pass. You may retake the quiz as many times as needed.

Good luck!



MENU








# Future Content Suggestions?

## Contact Us

California Telehealth Resource Center  
Sacramento, California

Toll Free: (877) 590-8144

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Contact Us

Organization Name \*

Address \*

CityState / Province / Region

Name \*

FirstLastYour Title

Comments and recommendations for additional content and resources are always welcome!

Please visit: [www.caltrc.org/about-us/contact-us/](http://www.caltrc.org/about-us/contact-us/)



# Final Learning Community Workshop!

May 12, 2020

## SAVE THE DATE

The California Telehealth Resource Center  
announces the

**8th ANNUAL TELEHEALTH SUMMIT**  
at the Resort at Squaw Creek  
Lake Tahoe, CA.

**May 12-14, 2020**

To learn more about telehealth and the  
upcoming summit, visit [www.caltrc.org](http://www.caltrc.org)





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Foundation



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CENTER

# Thank you!

**\*Please fill out the evaluation form\***