



Telehealth Solutions: A State Perspective

Alliance for Health Reform Briefing

The Healthcare Workforce: Prescription for the Future

March 22, 2013

Center for Connected Health Policy

- CREATED WITH FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION IN 2009
- CONDUCTS RESEARCH & ANALYSIS OF TELEHEALTH POLICIES & PRACTICES
- PROVIDES ADVICE AND GUIDANCE ON POLICY, REGULATORY AND LEGAL ISSUES



Telehealth Resource Centers

Home

Operations Tools

Reimbursement

Legal & Regulatory

Marketing

Training

Program Development

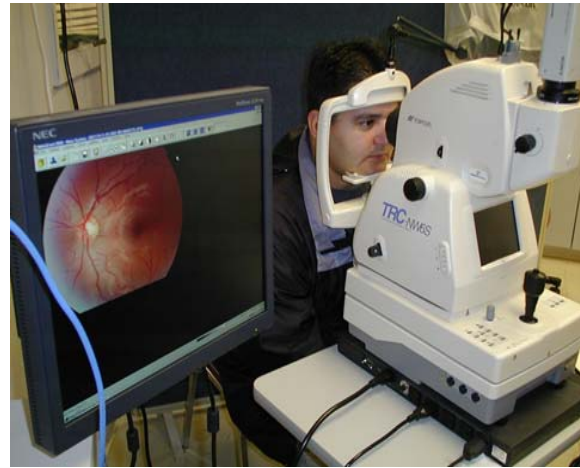
Webinars

- **One National Policy
Resource Center - CCHP**

- Established in 2006, funded by the Office for the Advancement of Telehealth
- Twelve regional centers
- One national technology assessment center
- Collectively form a network of telehealth program expertise and experience
- Independently serve a designated region



What is Telehealth?



Telehealth is the use of telecommunications, health information, and videoconferencing technologies to deliver medical care, health education and public health services.



Specialty Care Access Initiative 2009-2012

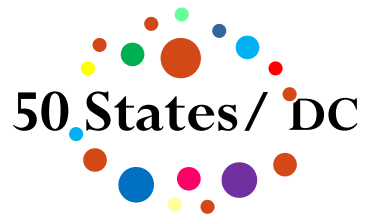


Staffing Considerations



- × **Administration** - leadership and stability
- × **Clinical** - clinician champion to promote integration and buy-in & redefining roles
- × **Technical** - technical and user support
- × **Coordinator** - runs the program





**Telehealth/Telemedicine
State Laws & Regulations
State Medicaid provider
manuals**



**50 State
Report**

Report released
February 2013
Updates on website
PDF updated quarterly



Conclusions

State Policies

No uniform policies
across states:
NOT READY FOR ACA

States should explore
telehealth policy
w/contiguous states

Telehealth Utilization

Telehealth not
being utilized to
fullest potential

States should promote
policies that
incentivize use of the
technology

Impact on Others

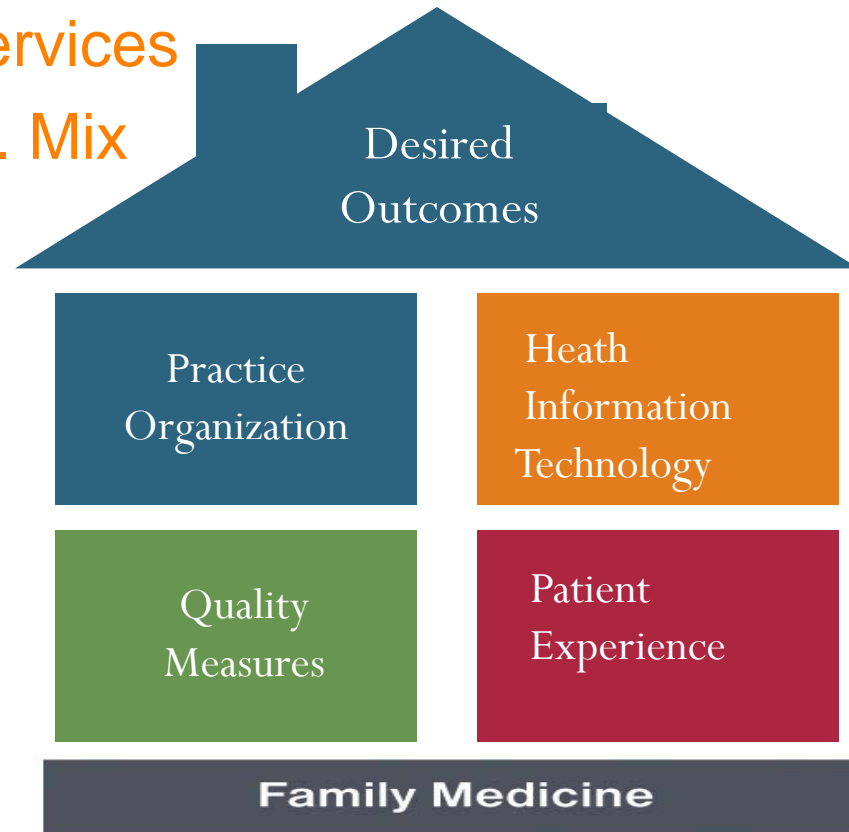
Federal policies
influence states'
policies

Federal agencies
should expand policies
& encourage states to
do the same



The Patient Centered Medical Home

- Value-based Care
- Integrated Services
- Different W.F. Mix



Patient-centered | Physician-directed



Project Echo

- Force multiplier using community clinicians to provide specialty care
- Now being used in many specialties (Cardiology, HIV, Chronic pain, Pulmonary, Rheumatology)
- Standardizing quality
- Rapidly spreading across the country



National Policy Reform Ideas

- **Medicare**
 - All services will be covered to the same extent whether provided in person or “via a telehealth”
 - Removal of language detailing what qualifies as a “telehealth service” (current law specifically limits it to professional consultations, office visits, etc.)
 - Eliminate limitations on Store and Forward
 - Remove the HPSA and MSA “rural” limitation on location
- **Medicaid CHIP program** – Services covered under Medicaid in a State Plan will be covered to the same extent whether provided in person or “via telehealth



Coming April 1....

www.telehealthpolicy.us

- A one stop shop for accurate and up-to-date information on telehealth policy, legal issues and Health Information Technology
- Includes an interactive “Policy Map” that will reveal telehealth laws, regulation, state Medicaid policy and pending legislation for all 50 states and D.C.



[POLICY MAP >>](#)

[REIMBURSEMENT >>](#)

[About the Program](#)

[What is Telehealth](#)

[Telehealth Policy](#)

[Legal Issues](#)

[Health Information Technology](#)



Telehealth

technologies are valuable assets to help achieve the “Triple Aim” of improved quality of care, better health outcomes, and lowered costs.

[Learn More >>](#)



A stylized sunburst graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of a semi-circle on the left and several lines radiating outwards to the right. The lines vary in length and angle, creating a fan-like effect. The entire slide has a solid orange background.

Thank You

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