

STRETCH YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF TELEPRACTICE

Regulation, Reimbursement, Implementation

Disclosure

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Director State Education and Legislative Advocacy

Financial: I am a paid employee of ASHA.

Non-Financial: I am an ASHA member. I support ASHA's Public Policy Agenda which includes the advocacy initiatives that the association supports.

Definition

"Telepractice is the application of telecommunications technology to the delivery of speech-language pathology and audiology professional services at a distance by linking clinicians to client/patient or clinician to clinician for assessment, intervention, and/or consultation."

<http://www.asha.org/PRPPrintTemplates.aspx?folderid+859934956>

Terms

Teletherapy, Telespeech, Telerehabilitation, Telehealth, Teleaudiology, Telepractice, Telemedicine

Use of Telepractice

Audiology

Cochlear Implants, Videotoscopy, Audiometry, Hearing Aids, Speech in Noise Testing, Hearing Screenings, Aural Rehabilitation

Use of Telepractice

Speech-Language Pathology

Articulation, Autism, Dysphagia, Fluency, Dysarthria, Language, Voice, Cognitive

Benefits

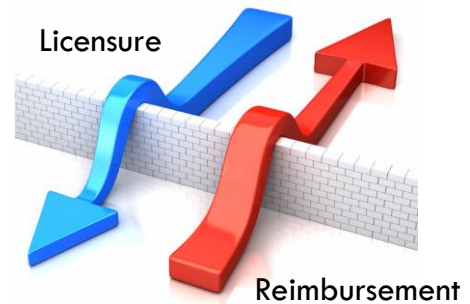
Education Setting

- Provides access to services in rural areas
- Decreases the requirement for audiologist or SLP to cover large territories
- Saves the school system on travel costs and loss of time
- Allows more flexibility in schedule
- Assists with collaboration among staff

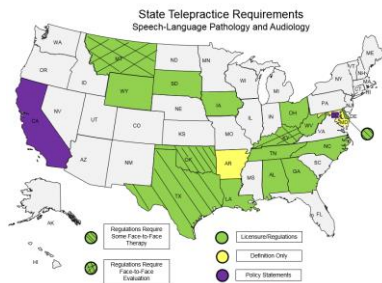
Healthcare Setting

- Provides access to services in rural areas
- Decreases the requirement for patients with decreased mobility to travel to a provider
- Saves the patient money on travel and loss of work
- Saves provider money if transportation costs are covered in policy

Barriers



Licensure



Licensure

- Delaware
 - Licensees shall not evaluate or treat a client with speech, language, or hearing disorders solely by correspondence. Correspondence includes telecommunication.

<http://regulations.delaware.gov/AdminCode/title24/3700.shtml>

Licensure

- Kentucky
 - A practitioner-patient relationship shall not commence via telehealth. An initial, in-person meeting for the practitioner and patient who prospectively utilize telehealth shall occur.

<http://slp.ky.gov/Documents/Speech%20Language%20Pathology%20and%20Audiology%20laws%20and%20regulations%202013.pdf>

Licensure

- Arkansas
 - Definition Only
 - Telepractice: means telespeech, teleaudiology, teleSLP, telehealth, or telerehabilitation when used separately or together; and "Telepractice service" means the application of telecommunication technology equivalent in quality to services delivered face-to-face to deliver speech-language pathology or audiology services, or both, at a distance for assessment, intervention or consultation, or both.

http://www.abespa.com/pdf/Practice_Act.pdf

Licensure

- Iowa
 - Licensure Required
 - The provision of speech pathology or audiology services in Iowa through telephonic, electronic, or other means, regardless of the location of the speech/language pathologist or audiologist, shall constitute the practice of speech pathology or audiology and shall require Iowa licensure.

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/ACO/chapter/645.300.pdf>

Licensure-Alternate Models



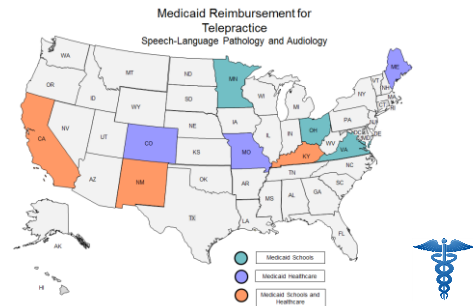
Licensure-Alternate Model

- Louisiana House Bill 1280/Louisiana Act 442
 - Licensure
 - Registration

PASSED



Medicaid



Medicaid

- Minnesota
 - Reimburses for Medicaid eligible children if all IEP service requirements are met
- New Mexico
 - Reimburses for school-based and healthcare based SLP services
- Ohio and Virginia
 - Cover Medicaid eligible children in the schools

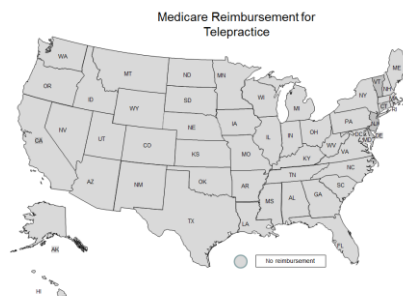
Medicaid

- California
 - Reimburses all licensed providers
- Missouri
 - Lists SLPs as participating providers. However, they have another network that must approve the technology first.
- Colorado and Maine
 - Reimburses under broad provisions

Medicaid

- Kentucky
 - Covers telepractice services provided by SLPs employed by a physician, hospital, outpatient department, home health agency and nursing facility.
 - Providers must be an approved member of the [Kentucky Telehealth Network](#) and comply with standards and protocols established by the [Kentucky Telehealth Board](#).
 - There are no stipulations on the site location per the Telehealth Network and Board
 - There is potential for hospital based SLPs who receive a contract with the schools to provide services for Medicaid eligible children and bill Medicaid.

Medicare



Telepractice Resources



State Liaisons

Northeastern Region
Susan Adams, Director, State
Legislative & Regulatory
Advocacy
sadams@asha.org
301-296-5665



Central Region
Janet Deppe, Director, State
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Southern Region
Cheris Frailey, Director, State
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Western Region
Eileen Crowe, Director, State
Association Relations
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Telepractice Resources

- State-by-State pages - licensure requirements and contacts
 - <http://www.asha.org/advocacy/state/>
- States - Telepractice Requirements
 - <http://www.asha.org/Advocacy/state/State-Telepractice-Requirements/>
- Telepractice Portal
 - <http://www.asha.org/Practice-Portal/Professional-Issues/Telepractice/>

Telepractice Resources

Questions About...

- SLP Practice Issues: Janet Brown, jbrown@asha.org
301-296-5679
- Medicaid Reimbursement: Laurie Alban-Havens,
lalbanhavens@asha.org 301-296-5677
- Federal Bills on Telepractice: Sam Hewitt,
shewitt@asha.org 202-624-5961
- Sig 18
 - <http://www.asha.org/SIG/18/default/>

Advocacy

- Advocate for reimbursement
- Advocate for licensure/regulations
- Conduct outreach to the community and potential patients

Questions



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