



Defense Health Agency (DHA) Clinical Communities Speaker Series

Resource List – May 2020

Review of Current Trends and Best Practices in Primary Care

How to Use Health Technologies with Your Patients in Primary Care

The American Psychological Association created an [office and technology checklist](#) for setting up a space in which to perform telepsychology. This resource provides a checklist to determine which members of your caseload may be appropriate for telepsychology services, including cognitive abilities, comfort with technology and patient safety. This also provides a review of needed office technology and office set up to ensure privacy. Once a telepsychology session is occurring consent must be secured, as well as confirming the patient's identity and location. Contingency plans should also be in place should technological difficulties occur.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provide a review of a multitude of studies of telemedicine in primary care within their Public Health Anthologies. [Telehealth and Telemedicine: A Research Anthology of Law and Policy Resources](#) provides access to resources and barriers to the expansion of telehealth, evidence of cost and health outcome, telehealth statutes and regulations and policy recommendations.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) created a fact sheet of information for providers to guide them in telehealth protocols. [Medicare Telehealth Health Care Provider Fact Sheet](#) reviews the broadened parameters for telehealth so that beneficiaries have increased access to virtual services. These expansions and adjustments have been made due to the President's emergency declaration, the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act. These measures by CMS have been adopted on a temporary basis.

[Increasing the Capacity of Primary Care Through Enabling Technology](#) is an article that explores the ever expanding roles of the primary care clinicians. One manner in which primary care has expanded is the care coordinator role for increasingly complex conditions. Technologies that allow primary care clinicians to coordinate consultation with specialists to help manage patient care have become more and more available. This article reviews technologies in four domains; the body, the home, the community and the primary care clinic.

[Veterans Health Administration Investments in Primary Care and Mental Health Integration Improved Care Access](#). The national Primary Care-Mental Health Integration (PC-MHI) initiative commenced by the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) placed case managers or specialists within primary care settings in order to improve mental health care access for veterans with psychiatric illness. Patient primary care and mental health visits between the years of 2013 and 2016 were analyzed. It was found that the costs of these collaboratively provided services increased, as well as the number of yearly visits for both primary care services and mental health services. Therefore, the initiative to improve care access was successful, and it did warrant significant investment.



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References

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The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). (2020, March 17). *Medicare Telemedicine Health Care Provider Fact Sheet: Medicare Coverage and Payment of Virtual Services*. <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/medicare-telemedicine-health-care-provider-fact-sheet>

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