



ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2021 VIRTUAL MEETING

APRIL 21- 22, 2021

Presented virtually again this year, the theme is

Telehealth's Big Bang: From Challenge to Opportunity

Join us as we discuss, reflect, and respond with subject matter experts on the impact the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency has had on telehealth.

What to Expect

Keynote Speakers

Day One

Adimika Arthur, PhD
Executive Director, Healthtech 4 Medicaid

Adimika will offer her insights on improving health equity and access to care for vulnerable populations especially those who are part of the Medicaid program. She will discuss the critical need for telehealth technology and innovation to reach Medicaid enrollees and other disadvantaged populations.

Day Two

Stewart Ferguson, PhD
Chief Information Officer, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Stewart, a long-time international leader in telehealth and digital technology will offer his unique insights on changing telehealth challenges to opportunities in a post-pandemic world.

Panel Discussions

Panel #1: Engaging Patients to Use Telehealth for Their Care

Engaging patients with their health care is challenging, but it became even more so when the pandemic moved many health care providers to limit in-person visits and engage patients using telehealth. The panelists will discuss strategies used to encourage patients to utilize telehealth including preparing the patient for a telehealth visit; offering technical support; engaging the patient during the visit. What strategies have been most successful?

Panel #2: Keeping Providers Healthy and Committed to Virtual Care

Burnout among health care workers has been an issue. With the onset of the pandemic, the physical and mental toll of working on the front lines has grown dramatically and could have lasting implications for many years to come. Panelists will describe how they have used telehealth tools to assist providers with their self-care and to keep them safe and moving forward. What does their data show us about the success of these programs in the short term? What more will providers need to manage their recovery in the future?

Panel #3: Overcoming Telehealth Inequities

Telehealth has been heralded as a solution to health care disparities and access issues, but as the utilization of telehealth has skyrocketed during the Public Health Emergency, issues have emerged regarding inequities in telehealth care related to culture and language, social determinants of health, and various digital divides. The panel will discuss some of these inequities and access issues, and possible ways to overcome them.

Panel #4: Strategies for Maintaining Regulatory Flexibilities

The declaration of a Public Health Emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic has allowed the federal government and states to relax many of the restrictive rules surrounding the use of telehealth. Many would like to see some of the relaxations in the rules made permanent. The panel will describe strategies that are being developed to ensure that these rules are made permanent and the components needed for a successful strategy.

Other Highlights

Utah Education and Telehealth Network

Ray Timothy, PhD, Executive Director and CEO at Utah Education & Telehealth Network (UETN) will discuss how Utah has built a statewide fiber network that allows health care organizations, schools, technical colleges, universities and public libraries to connect and utilize resources. UETN has collaborated with stakeholders to create a 100 Gig backbone along with strategic access points that allow for Gig or 10 Gig connections to the network. The robust infrastructure provides for access to a suite of applications and services for both health care and educational stakeholders.

Virtual Telehealth Technology Showcase

The National Telehealth Technology Assessment Center (TTAC) provides a Telehealth Technology Showcase that gives conference attendees an opportunity to review and assess similar medical peripherals side-by-side in a vendor-neutral environment. Over the past year, TTAC adapted the Technology Showcase to a virtual format using a combination of pre-recorded video device

demonstrations, and live virtual demonstrations of the technology. During the Virtual Showcase, TTAC staff discuss and demonstrate a range of current and up and coming telehealth technologies. This demonstration includes a range of medical peripheral devices, including innovative watch equipment that is new to the market or soon to be released.

Virtual Networking Opportunity

Meet with telehealth stakeholders from your state for an interactive discussion on the aspects of telehealth at the local level. Breakout rooms will be available for Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming and Tribal communities.

- Alaska
- Idaho
- Montana
- Oregon
- Utah
- Washington
- Wyoming
- Northwest Regional Tribal Members