

Telehealth Task Force (TTF) Meeting Talking Points for July 29, 2020

Subject Matter Expert presentations were provided by: a) Jenni Gudapati, TTF, Co-Chair spoke briefly on applications for Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) and the benefits of deploying additional services in Idaho; Krista Stadler, TTF Co-Chair provided statistics from St. Luke's on the utilization of RPM and how that has impacted the reduction in emergency room use; b) Nate Fisher from the Governor's office spoke about the contemplated recommendations from the Office of Drug Policy Telehealth Sub-committee Workgroup; c) Sara Stover, Senior Policy Advisor for Governor Little underscored the importance of the work of the Telehealth Task Force; d) Eric Forsch spoke about the Department of Commerce Broadband Office initiatives and how they are approaching the extension of broadband in Idaho. Eric also gave suggestions on how to align and strengthen collaborative efforts between telehealth and broadband. He also discussed the broadband grants program recently introduced to further broadband infrastructure development in Idaho.

The balance of the meeting centered on discussion and recommendations of what is to be included in the TTF final report/action plan due in October to HTCI and HQPC.

Overarching Policy Recommendations from Subject Matter Experts:

Focusing on key outcomes across the entire care continuum, healthcare systems and providers will be able to easily utilize the right telehealth mode at the right time and monitor the success and performance over time.

Telehealth should also be leveraged for active outreach in rural communities to make it easier, accessible, and convenient for patients and providers.

Policies, regulation, and legislation need to favor all modes and types of telehealth solutions including synchronous and asynchronous options.

By favoring all modes and types of telehealth solutions, healthcare systems and providers will feel empowered to choose the right solution for the right use case with a strategy that meets the needs of providers, patients, and payers.

Emerging themes in July were:

- 1) Review of the Telehealth Access Act to determine if any revisions are appropriate; (TTF members are to review and provide feedback on potential revisions prior to August Meeting - the current Act will be forwarded to TTF members shortly for their comments).
- 2) Explore ways to develop telehealth education and marketing programs for providers, consumers and engage educational institutions to collaborate;
- 3) Collaborate and align efforts with other agencies addressing telehealth and broadband in Idaho; and
- 4) Consider formation of a collaborating body or council to address telehealth policy and utilization issues in Idaho

TTF members wrap up regarding what to include in the Action Plan?

Discussion topics in August are:

Payer parity

- o Coverage
- o Reimbursement

Billing and Coding practices

Guidelines/standardization of recommended practices for working with payers

Regulations and Waivers



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