

Definitions of Telehealth

Telemedicine: The use of medical information “exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications for the health and education of the patient or health care provider and the purpose of improving patient care.” (*American Telemedicine Association*)

Telehealth: Using information and communication technologies to bridge geographic distance between participants for the delivery of clinical, educational, or other supportive care services.

Telehomecare: The use of telehealth technologies to support the delivery of home care services, including remote monitoring of patients at home and the use of video to facilitate live video-based interactions between home care patients and health care providers.

Store-and-forward: Transmission of static images or audio-video clips to a remote data storage device, from which they can be retrieved by a medical practitioner for review and consultation at any time.

Teleconsultation: Geographic separation between two or more providers during a live consultation.

Telediagnosis: The detection of a disease by evaluating data transmitted to a receiving station from instruments monitoring a distant patient.

Bandwidth: A measure of the information carrying capacity of a communications channel; a practical limit to the size, cost and capability of a telemedicine service.

Broadband: Communications (e.g., broadcast television, microwave, and satellite) capable of carrying a wide range of frequencies; refers to transmission of signals in a frequency-modulated fashion, over a segment of the total bandwidth available, thereby permitting simultaneous transmission of several messages.