

Workers' Comp

Telemedicine - Telehealth

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Technology Tools for Enhanced Clinical Support

What is telemedicine?

In essence, telemedicine is the use of electronic communication technologies to improve the patient's health status by connecting him or her with a health care provider who need not be in the same location. The information exchange might take place via phone calls, video chats or email, on tablets, smart phones, or other wireless tools. Definitions may vary slightly from one organization to another as the field advances in technology and adapts to the changing health needs of various populations. Some distinguish between telemedicine — a service delivered by a physician — and telehealth, which may involve a nurse, pharmacist, or any health professional. In addition, some talk about mHealth, or mobile health, specifically referring to wireless devices and cell phone technology as a medium for practicing telemedicine, which makes it possible to deliver clinical care through consumer-grade hardware, allowing for greater patient and provider mobility.

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