



JAINA Announces the Telehealth Initiative to Improve Access to Quality Health Care

Telehealth, sometimes referred to as telemedicine, is the use of electronic information and telecommunications technologies to extend care when you and the patient aren't in the same place at the same time. Technologies for telehealth include videoconferencing, store-and-forward imaging, streaming media, and terrestrial and wireless communications.

Geographic and socioeconomic status are common barriers to oral health services (i.e., long travel distances to clinics, time missed from school or work). Telehealth offers a flexible alternative for patients while addressing these barriers that contribute to overall health inequities. It also has the potential to reduce disparities in oral health outcomes among rural and urban communities.

Telehealth allows health care providers to:

- Increase continuity of care
- Extend access to care beyond normal hours
- Reduce patient and provider travel burden
- Help overcome clinician shortages, especially among rural and other underserved populations
- Provide support for patients managing chronic health conditions
- Screen patients with symptoms of COVID-19 and refer as appropriate
- Enable patients who are vulnerable to COVID-19 to continue receiving medical care safely
- Help stop the spread of infectious diseases
- and more.

The use of Telehealth for dental services, also known as Tele-dentistry, is one part of this emerging field. Tele-dentistry is the delivery of dental care using telehealth information technology and methodology.

Common Tele-dentistry modalities include live video consultation, store-and-forward, and remote patient monitoring. These advances in technology provide the opportunity for a patient to receive services when they are in one location and their care provider is in another. Examples of Tele-dentistry services include but are not limited to risk assessment, oral exams using photos and videos, motivational interviewing, self-management goal setting, and emergency care triage.

Among the first Telehealth pilot projects to get underway, the Primary Care Program will allow physicians and Dentists in JAINA providers listing to offer remote patient consults using a secure, low-cost digital connection.

JAINA is excited to announce that Girish J Shah DDS, MPH, Ph. D, is leading this initiative and inviting physicians and dentists from USA and Canada to join the team.

If you are interested in joining our provider network, please provide with below basic

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Telehealth implementation is a team effort that requires on the-ground knowledge, open communication and long-term commitment for success. While you won't need to directly engage all the teams right away, it's helpful to identify who will be on which teams and consider when and how different players will be involved in Core, Leadership, Advisory, and Implementation teams.

We look forward to partnering with
you. Thank You,



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