

To meet the needs of your patients during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic, you may consider developing your practice's Teledentistry capabilities.

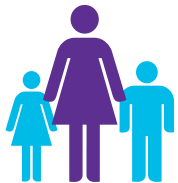


What is Teledentistry?

Telehealth is the use of technology to deliver virtual patient care. The American Dental Association defines Teledentistry as the use of telehealth in dentistry¹. Two modalities commonly used include:

- **Live video (synchronous):** Live, two-way interaction between the patient/ caregiver and provider using audio-visual technology.
- **Store-and-forward (asynchronous):** Transmission of recorded health information (e.g., photographs, video) through a secure electronic communications system to a provider for use in patient evaluation or to render a service (not real-time).

During this epidemic, it is likely patients using Teledentistry will do so from their homes. In the future, you may consider using these modalities in an office setting with a dental hygienist present as a means of expanding the geographic reach of your practice.



Practice Considerations:

- You must continue to operate within scope of practice and licensure requirements.
- Video capabilities must be real-time and through a secure service.
- You may consider establishing referral protocols for when a patient has an urgent need to be seen (if you do not offer after hours/weekend services).



Provider Resources:

LIBERTY Dental Plan has partnered with the following vendors and recommends them to our network providers. Additional resources on these vendors can be found on the LIBERTY website:

1. **Teledentistry** – LIBERTY's after hours emergency dental provider (www.teledentistry.com). Your office may choose to contract with Teledentistry to provide after hours support to your patients.
2. **Virtual Dental Care, Inc.** – Provides the technology platform and technical assistance for providers interested in deploying Teledentistry services (Virtualdentalcare.com).

¹ADA, <https://www.ada.org/en/about-the-ada/ada-positions-policies-and-statements/statement-on-teledentistry>