



TELEHEALTH BOD P03-06-10-20 [Initial BOD P11-01-28-71] [Position]

Telehealth is the use of electronic communications to provide and deliver a host of health-related information and health care services, including, but not limited to physical therapy-related information and services, over large and small distances. Telehealth encompasses a variety of health care and health promotion activities, including, but not limited to, education, advice, reminders, interventions, and monitoring of interventions.

It is the position of the American Physical Therapy Association that telehealth is an appropriate model of service delivery for the profession of physical therapy when provided in a manner consistent with Association positions, standards, guidelines, policies, procedures, Standards of Practice for Physical Therapy, ethical principles and standards, and the *Guide to Physical Therapist Practice*.

Telehealth may be used to overcome barriers of access to services caused by distance, unavailability of specialists and/or subspecialists, and impaired mobility. Telehealth offers the potential to extend physical therapy services to remote, rural, underserved, and culturally and linguistically diverse populations.

(See also Telehealth – Definitions and Guidelines)

Relation to Vision 2020: Autonomous Practice
(Payment Policy & Advocacy Department, ext 8511)

[Document updated: 12/14/2009]

Explanation of Reference Numbers:

BOD P00-00-00-00 stands for Board of Directors/month/year/page/vote in the Board of Directors Minutes; the "P" indicates that it is a position (see below). For example, BOD P11-97-06-18 means that this position can be found in the November 1997 Board of Directors minutes on Page 6 and that it was Vote 18.

P: Position | S: Standard | G: Guideline | Y: Policy | R: Procedure