TELEHEALTH: FOR SCHOOL-BASED OT

Cynthia Abbott-Gaffney, OTD, MA, OTR/L Karen Jacobs, OT, EdD, OTR, CPE, FAOTA





Disclaimer

- The presenters are not attorneys and do not provide legal advice. Any legal issues should be directed to licensed practicing attorneys of the state.
- The presenters are OT practitioners and OT faculty and do not represent any entities such as the government, insurance companies, universities or state school districts.
- Fact-based specific policy or procedure questions should be referred to the appropriate entity addressing those issues.
- Seminar content is presented for informational purposes and is as accurate as possible; however, because telehealth is ever evolving, information is subject to change.
- Specific discussions are for example purposes only. All names have been changed and comply with all HIPAA laws.

Meet the Presenters





Cynthia Abbott-Gaffney, OTD, MA, OTR/L

Karen Jacobs, OT, EdD, OTR, CPE, FAOTA





Learning Objectives

Overview of the Essentials

We will look at....

- Difference between telemedicine, telepractice, telerehabilitation and telehealth
- Different types of telehealth
- Define originating site and distant site
- Define telehealth as per the AOTA and WFOT definitions

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Define key terms essential to understanding OT telehealth.
- Describe resources necessary for navigating licensing and regulatory issues related to delivering school-based occupational therapy telehealth services to or from respective states
- Discuss three benefits of OT services delivered via telehealth.
- Discuss three barriers for OT services delivered via telehealth.
- Identify appropriate versus inappropriate uses of OT telehealth.

Important that we begin with.....



In Summary

1) Determine the following relevant to your location and location of child:

- Licensing
- Regulatory
- Reimbursement
- Privacy
- Documentation requirements

3) For each child and family:

- Consider the person: use clinical judgement to determine if telehealth/ which type can be a match
- Consider the family: what is the environment like? Privacy? Available materials? Available equipment? Availability of an e-helper?
- What are the occupations of focus?
 - Consider goals and objectives
 - Consider options to integrate real-life activity
 - Facilitate by direct intervention? Consultation with caregivers?

2) Prepare:

- Investigate platform and features
- Practice with a colleague or friend
- Do a trial run of activities before trying with a child
- Screen and trial interactive websites before using
- Set realistic expectations for incorporating telehealth into practice (start small and increase as you experience success)

Reflect, Connect and Refine:

- Reflect on sessions: what went well? What didn't?
- Connect with other OT practitioners (FaceBook, YouTube, Pintrest)
- Plan & practice for upcoming sessions.
- Be creative! This is where we as OTs accel!

Resources

Organization	
AOTA - Join if you can! There are resources there that are available to members only.	https://www.aota.org/
AOTA-OT and Telehealth in the Age of COVID-19	https://www.aota.org/Practice/Manage/telehealth/coronavirus.aspx
AOTA - Occupational Therapy and Telehealth State Statutes, Regulations and Regulatory Board Statements **Requires Membership	https://www.aota.org/~/media/Corporate/Files/Secure/Advocacy/State/Telehea <u>Ith-State-Statutes-Regulations-Regulatory-Board-Statements.pdf</u>
American Telemedicine Association - 2019 State of the States: Coverage and Reimbursement	https://cdn2.hubspot.net/hubfs/5096139/Files/Thought%20Leadership_ATA/2019%2 0State%20of%20the%20States%20summary_final.pdf
Northeast Telehealth Resource Center	https://netrc.org/
Northwest Regional Telehealth Resource Center	http://nrtrc.org
US Department of Health and Human Services- Notification of Enforcement Discretion for Telehealth Remote Communications During the COVID-19 Nationwide Public Health Emergency	https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/special-topics/emergency-preparedness/notification-enforcement-discretion-telehealth/index.html

References

- American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) (2018). Telehealth in occupational therapy. *American Journal of Occupational Therapy*, Vol. 72, 7211515293 p1.
- AOTA (2020). CMS Reverses Decision, Denies Telehealth Therapy Coverage in Medicare Advantage. Retrieved from: https://www.aota.org/Advocacy-Policy/Congressional-Affairs/Legislative-Issues-Update/2019/CMS-MA-Rule-Fails-To-Cover-Therapy-Telehealth.aspx
- AOTA, 2019. Proposed rule that would enable MA plans to provide OT services via telehealth in last stages of review process. Retrieved from: https://www.aota.org/Advocacy-Policy/Federal-Reg-Affairs/News/2019/Medicare-Advantage-Proposed-Rule-Telehealth.aspx
- American Telemedicine Association. (2019). State of the states: Coverage and reimbursement. Retrieved from: https://www.aota.org/~/media/Corporate/Files/Secure/Advocacy/State/Telehealth-State-Statutes-Regulations-Regulatory-Board-Statements.pdf
- Center for Medicare and Medicad Services (CMS) (2020). Medicare telemedicine provider fact sheet. Retrieved from: https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/medicare-telemedicine-health-care-provider-fact-sheet
- Pennsylvania Department of State (2020). Pennsylvania authorizes licensed health care professionals to provide services via telemedicine during Coronavirus emergency. In Retrieved from: https://www.dos.pa.gov/Documents/2020-03-18-Telemedicine-Summary.pdf
- Richmond, T., Peterson, C., Cason, J., Billings, M., Terrell, E. A., Lee, A. C., . . . Brennan, D. (2017, 11). American Telemedicine Association's principles for delivering telerehabilitation services. *International Journal of Telerehabilitation*, 9(2), 63-68. doi:10.5195/ijt.2017.6232
- World Federation of Occupational Therapy (2018). WFOT human resources project 2018. Retrieved from: http://www.wfot.org/ResourceCentre.aspx



Thank you for Caring



Cynthia Abbott-Gaffney, OTD, MA, OTR/L
Assistant Professor
Occupational Therapy Program
Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
College of Public Health
Temple University
1913 N Broad Street, 201f
Philadelphia PA 19122
cynthia.abbott-gaffney@temple.edu

Facebook: Cynthia Abbott-Gaffney **OT**

Karen Jacobs, EdD, OT, OTR, CPE, FAOTA
Associate Dean of Digital Learning & Innovation at the College of Health
& Rehabilitation Sciences: Sargent College
Clinical Professor
Program Director, On-line post-professional doctorate in occupational
therapy (OTD) program
Department of Occupational Therapy
Boston University
635 Commonwealth Ave.
Boston, MA 02215
kiacobs@bu.edu