

Telemental Health Nomenclature

Bandwidth: A measure of the information carrying capacity of a communications channel; a practical limit to the size, cost, and capability of a telemedicine service.

Bluetooth Wireless: An industrial specification for wireless personal area networks (PANs) that provides the means to connect and exchange information between devices such as mobile phones, laptops, PCs, printers, digital cameras and video game consoles over a secure, globally unlicensed short-range radio frequency.

Digital Signature: Mathematical scheme for authenticating digital messages or documents. Valid signatures give the recipient evidence that the message was created by a known sender and not altered in transit.

Distant Site: Site at which the physician or other licensed practitioner delivering the service is located at the time the service is provided via telecommunications system.

e-Pharmacy: The use of electronic information and communication technology to provide and support comprehensive pharmacy services when distance separates the participants.

Electronic Health Record (EHR): A systematic collection of electronic health information about individual patients or populations that is recorded in digital format and capable of being shared across health care settings via network-connected enterprise-wide information systems.

Electronic Medical Record (EMR): A computerized medical record generated in an organization that delivers health care, such as a hospital or physician's office. EMRs are often part of a local stand-alone health information system that allows storage, retrieval and modification of records.

Electronic Patient Record (EPR): An electronic form of individual patient information that is designed to provide access to complete and accurate patient data, alerts, reminders, clinical decision support systems, links to medical knowledge, and other aids.

Encryption: A system of encoding electronic data where the information can only be retrieved and decoded by the person or computer system authorized to access it.

e-Prescribing: The electronic generation, transmission and filling of a medical prescription, as opposed to traditional paper and faxed prescriptions. e-prescribing allows for qualified healthcare personnel to transmit a new prescription or renewal authorization to a community or mail-order pharmacy.

Firewall: Computer hardware and/or software that block unauthorized communications between an institution's computer network and external networks.

Health Information Exchange (HIE): the mobilization of healthcare information electronically across organizations within a region, community or hospital system. (Wikipedia)

HIPAA: Acronym for Health Information Portability and Accountability Act. The HIPAA Privacy Rule protects the privacy of individually identifiable health information. The HIPAA Security Rule sets national standards for the security of electronic protected health information.

Interactive Video/Television: Video conferencing technologies that allow for two-way, synchronous, interactive video and audio signals for the purpose of delivering Telemental Health, telemedicine or distant education services.

Licensure: A restricted practice requiring a license, which gives a "permission to practice."

Local Area Network (LAN): Computer network within an organization, supporting devices, linking computers, printers, servers, etc. and supporting audio, video, and data exchange

m-Health: Practice of medicine and public health supported by mobile communication devices, such as mobile phones, tablet computers and PDAs for health services and information.

Meaningful use: The set of standards defined by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Incentive Programs that governs the use of electronic health records and allows eligible providers and hospitals to earn incentive payments by meeting specific criteria.

Medical Codes: A process of describing medical diagnoses and procedures using specific universal medical code numbers.

Multi-point Teleconferencing: Interactive electronic communication between multiple users at two or more sites which facilitates voice, video, and/or data transmission systems: audio, graphics, computer and video systems. Multi-point teleconferencing requires a MCU or bridging device to link multiple sites into a single videoconference.

Originating Site: Location of the patient at the time the service being furnished via a telecommunications system occurs.

Personal Health Record (PHR): Health record maintained by the patient to provide a complete and accurate summary of an individual's medical history accessible online.

Presenter (Patient Presenter): An individual with a clinical background (e.g., LPN, RN, etc.) trained in the use of telehealth equipment who must be available at the originating site to “present” the patient, manage the cameras and perform any “hands-on” activities to complete the Telemental Health exam successfully.

Protected Health Information (PHI): Part of the HIPAA Privacy Rule that protects all "individually identifiable health information" held or transmitted by a covered entity or its business associate, in any form or media, whether electronic, paper, or oral. Individually identifiable health information," includes demographic data, i.e., name, address, birth date, social security number.

Router: Device that provides an interface between two or more networks or connects sub-networks within a single organization.

Synchronous: Interactive video connections that transmit information in both directions during the same time period.

System/Network Integration: The use of software that allows devices and systems to share data and communicate with one another.

Teleconferencing: Interactive electronic communication between multiple users at two or more sites that facilitates voice, video, and/or data transmission systems: audio, graphics, computer and video systems.

Teleconsultation: Consultation between a provider and specialist at distance using either store and forward telemedicine or real time videoconferencing.

Telemedicine: Telemedicine is the use of medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications to improve patients' health status.

Telemental Health: The use of videoconferencing to connect a behavioral health practitioner with a member for service delivery when face-to-face services are not proximal, or otherwise cannot be accessed.

Transmission Rate: Speed at which data travels over a communications channel typically expressed in bits or bytes per second.

Videoconferencing: Real-time transmission of digital video images between multiple locations.

Virtual Private Network (VPN): Method to carry private communications network traffic over the public Internet using tunneling or port forwarding which is the transmission of private data over public lines in an encapsulated form.

WiFi: The underlying technology of wireless local area networks. It is used for mobile computing devices, Internet and VoIP phone access, gaming, and basic connectivity of consumer electronics such as televisions and DVD players, or digital cameras.

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