

Teledentistry

Quick Facts

State-by-State Guide

What to know about
teledentistry in your state

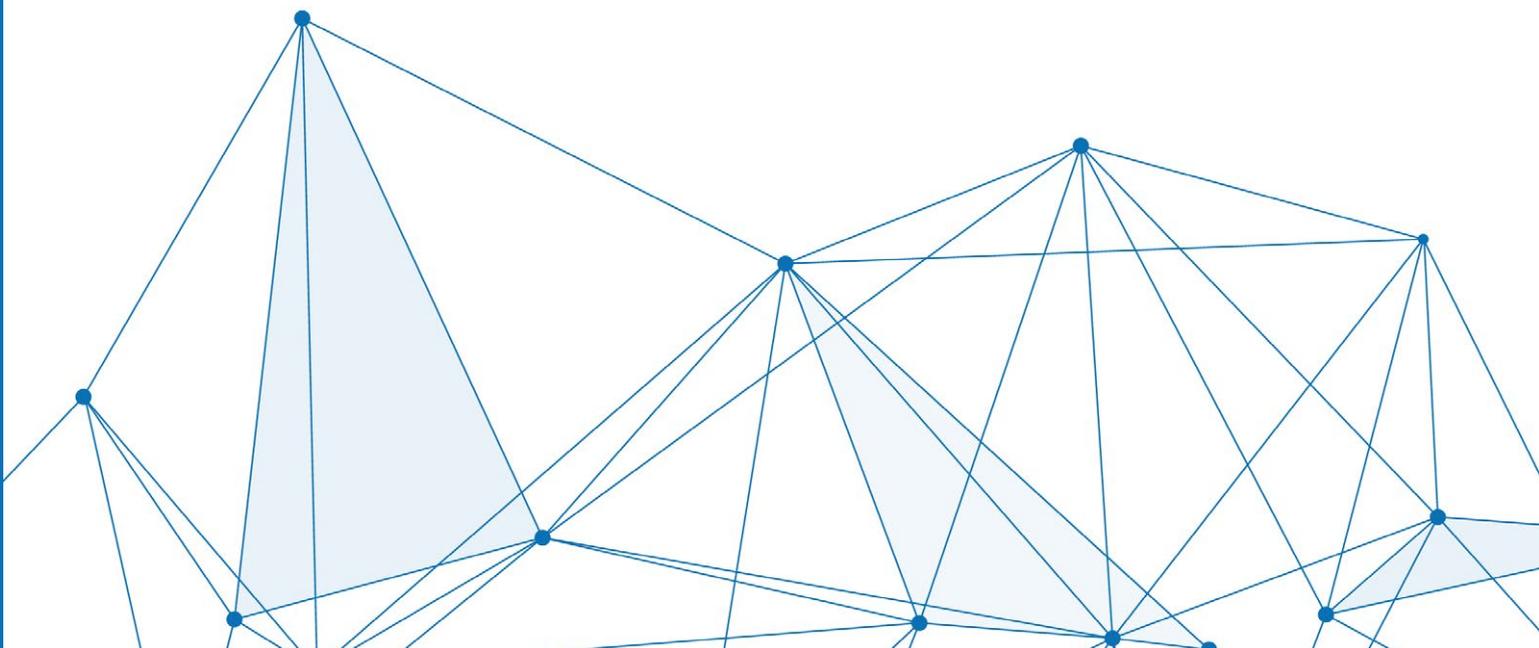
Introduction

This ebook is for teledentistry adopters. We hope it opens the door to thinking broadly about the use cases of teledentistry and how the technology of connecting, capturing, and coordinating care can be used to not only mitigate risk during crisis situations, not only expand access to care in public health settings, but also expand dental opportunities for care everywhere across multiple specialties — while improving patient experience.

State regulations and state dental board policies vary widely by state. During Covid-19 we also saw rapid changes happen. It's also true though that in every US state, even the most restrictive ones, there are ways to use a teledentistry platform to solve real-world problems and create opportunities for care.

Have further questions? Want to know more about what to look for in a teledentistry platform? Contact us to schedule a 1-to-1 brief consultation on how teledentistry can work in your setting for your goals.

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1. Use Cases

Use Cases

There are multiple kinds of use cases for teledentistry. Not all are available in every state due to state practice acts, laws and insurance variability.

Patient live video consultations

Dentists can use live video consultations to complete limited exams for patients located outside the dental office. Dentists may also use them to facilitate live consultations with other healthcare providers during a patient appointment or afterward for case collaboration and treatment planning. Live video communication is also a good way to calibrate staff located in other facilities or mobile-locations.

Patient and provider messaging

Providers can triage patients' needs through messaging and sending photos, if necessary, prior to the appointment. Additionally, providers can use this tool to send patient paperwork before an appointment and to send follow-up information such as visual treatment plans, treatment recommendations, and post-procedure check-ins. Dental providers can use messaging to send patient information (eg. intra oral photos, radiographs, digital impressions, etc) for case collaboration and treatment planning with other providers.

In-office teledentistry

Hygienists equipped with intraoral cameras and a teledentistry platform can capture intraoral images to share with the dentist for asynchronous review and evaluation together with other diagnostic assets such as radiographs, patient notes, and periodontal charting. This means the dentist does not need to use PPE for a quick consultation with the patient. It means mitigating risk and being more efficient. Further, teledentistry can be used to remotely treatment plan and (if the teledentistry platform supports it) do remote visual case presentations to the patient through a patient portal.

Develop a network for referrals

Teledentistry makes it easy for dental hygienists, dentists, and specialists to communicate with each other as well as work with pediatric, geriatric and special needs medical practices for referral of patients in need of oral health care.

Enhance public oral health programs

Dental hygienists working under general supervision can support public health programs to reach more patients in need of preventive and certain types of restorative care. Reduce costs by limiting the amount of time that a supervising dentist needs to be on-site while increasing the number of patients that can be provided treatment.

Co-locate a dental hygienist at a medical care facility

Use Cases

Patients with dental pain or other issues often present at hospitals or clinics, which may not have a dentist on staff. Dental therapists and dental hygienists can practice under collaborative practice arrangement in medical facilities and use teledentistry to visually and quickly communicate with a dentist when required, making triage, diagnosis and appointment planning more efficient.

Launch a mobile dental or dental hygiene practice

Mobile dentistry kits combined with teledentistry software facilitate the administration and delivery of mobile dentistry and hygiene practices.

Mentor and supervise multiple locations

Growing group practices can now encourage consistency and quality in case presentations and treatment plans without the founding dentists being on-site at every location. Teledentistry allows remote monitoring of associate dentists' treatment plans, live consultations with patients, and robust visual collaboration. Asynchronous messaging and/or a patient portal.

Offer expanded access to hygiene and preventive services

Having dental hygienists available in your practice before or after normal office hours (evening or weekends) is an easy way to accommodate patients with challenging schedules or reach new patients and improve patient satisfaction. Or, offer hygiene services in out-of-office locations like workplaces or other settings that are convenient for patients. In either case, a dentist can easily provide general supervision and conveniently be available to communicate through teledentistry, being aware and available when needed.

Expand access with a dental assistant

In specific situations, an Expanded Function Dental Assistant may apply fluoride varnish, sealants, interim therapeutic agents and temporarily recement crowns without the onsite presence of a supervising dentist. Additionally, an Expanded Function Orthodontic Assistant may provide limited "emergency" services without the onsite supervision of a dentist if a patient is in discomfort.

Establish a "collaborative practice" relationship

Under a collaborative relationship with a licensed dentist, a dental hygienist may perform dental hygiene services in settings other than the traditional dental office without the patient first being examined by the dentist. These settings can include schools, nursing homes, clinics, Head Start programs, and more. Using teledentistry, a dentist can immediately diagnose and propose restorative treatment while the patient is still with the hygienist, which encourages the patient (or guardian) to schedule an office appointment.

2. States



Alabama

01

Does Alabama allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

No. Note: In Alabama, dental hygienists are not required to go to an accredited school but are required to have a license.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

No, dental assistants may only function under direct supervision only.

03

Does Alabama define “teledentistry”?

Alabama Medicaid does not provide an explicit definition of “telemedicine.” However, the provider manual requires services must be provided via an interactive audio/visual system which allows two-way communication.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed for live video telemedicine services only. No reference found for asynchronous services or for private payer laws.

05

Does Alabama provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Alabama does not have parity laws in place and has no pending telemedicine legislation.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
- 2 www.adha.org/resources-docs/7513_Direct_Access_to_Care_from_DH.pdf
- 3 www.cchpca.org
- 4 www.beckershospitalreview.com/healthcare-information-technology/telemedicine-laws-and-developments-a-state-by-state-analysis.html
- 5 www.prognocis.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Telemedicine-Whitepaper.pdf
- 6 <http://scopeofpracticepolicy.org>
- 7 <https://www.cqstatetrack.com/texis/redirect?id=58f01f1342aa>
- 8 <https://www.danb.org>
- 9 <https://www.citaexam.com/pdf/states/adpa-2014.pdf>



Alaska

01

Does Alaska allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Hygienists who have obtained a collaborative agreement may provide their entire scope of practice in settings “outside of the usual place of practice.” Hygienists practicing under general supervision can practice without the onsite presence of a dentist as long as the procedures are authorized and being carried out in accordance with the dentist’s diagnosis and treatment plan.

Dental Health Aid Therapists (DHAT) are permitted to provide services under general supervision. DHATs are not dual licensed as a dental hygienist, though can provide some of the same services.

02

Does Alaska allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Dental assistants must work under the indirect/direct supervision of a dentist.

03

How does Alaska define teledentistry?

While the state does define telemedicine/telehealth, it does not specifically define teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Medicare will reimburse for synchronous and asynchronous services

05

Does Alaska provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Alaska does have parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

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- 3 olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB0786/Enrolled
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- 7 www.law.justia.com/codes/alaska/2013/title-08/chapter-08.32/article-02/section-08.32.115
- 8 www.touchngo.com/lglcntr/akstats/Statutes/Title08/Chapter32.htm
- 9 www.dalefoundation.org/Resources-And-State-Requirements/State-Dental-Assistant-Requirements/Alaska



Arizona

01

Does Arizona allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

All dental hygienists in Arizona can practice in the traditional dental office under general supervision without the onsite supervision of a dentist. Dental hygienists who work for public health institutions or schools may provide screenings and fluoride without supervision. Affiliated Practice Dental Hygienists practicing with a written agreement may provide preventive services in “specified settings.”

Dental therapy has been approved by the Arizona legislature. A dental therapist who completes 400 clinical hours under the direct supervision of a dentist may enter into a written collaborative practice agreement and subsequently practice without the onsite presence of a dentist.

02

Does Arizona allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

An Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA) may apply fluoride varnish and sealants under general supervision of a dentist. EFDAs may also place interim therapeutic restorations under the direction of a licensed dentist following a consultation conducted through teledentistry.

A dental assistant may expose radiographs and provide coronal polishing under the general supervision of a dentist.

03

How does Arizona define teledentistry?

Arizona defines teledentistry as “...the use of data transmitted through interactive audio, video or data communications for the purpose of examination, diagnosis, treatment planning, consultation and directing the delivery of treatment by dentist and dental providers in settings...”

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed for both synchronous and asynchronous telemedicine services. Arizona statutes specifically mandates live video coverage of teledentistry services for enrollees under the age of 21.

05

Does Arizona provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Arizona has parity laws in place that allow coverage under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Single-Page-Layout-Final_July_2017.pdf
- 2 www.cchpca.org/jurisdiction/Arizona
- 3 www.olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB0786/Enrolled
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- 10 www.azleg.gov/viewdocument/?docName=https://www.azleg.gov/ars/36/03611.htm
- 11 www.danb.org/Meet-State-Requirements/State-Specific-Information/Arizona.aspx
- 12 dentalboard.az.gov/statutes-rules



Arkansas

01

Does Arkansas allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes. There are several types of supervision for dental hygienists that affect how they can use teledentistry.

General Supervision- Arkansas permits dental hygienists with one full year of clinical experience to provide limited services without the onsite presence of a dentist if the dentist has authorized the procedures. This is to be kept to “brief intervals” when the supervising dentist cannot be in the treatment facility and is not to exceed two consecutive days. General supervision is only permitted in dental clinics, community health centers, or government sponsored dental facilities.

The supervising dentist must have examined the patient not more than 12 months prior. Hygienists may not perform root planing, curettage, local anesthesia, or nitrous oxide. Sealants may be placed if it has not been more than 30 days since the teeth were examined by a dentist.

Collaborative Care Permit I- With a collaborative agreement, hygienists with 1200 hours of clinical practice experience may provide limited services outside of the dental practice on children. Services may take place in a public setting, without the onsite presence of a dentist, and without prior examination of the patient by the dentist.

Collaborative Care Permit II- With a collaborative agreement, hygienists with 1800 hours of clinical practice experience may provide limited services on children, seniors 65+, and those with developmental disabilities. Services may take place in a public setting, without the onsite presence of a dentist, and without prior examination of the patient by the dentist.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

No, dental assistants may only work under the personal or indirect supervision of a dentist.

03

Does Arkansas define “teledentistry”?

While Arkansas does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.



Arkansas

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed for live video. Store and forward is included in Medicaid's definition of telemedicine, but there was no specific information found regarding reimbursement. Arkansas Medicaid also requires distant site providers to utilize real-time telemedicine to establish a "professional relationship" between the provider and patient.

05

Does Arkansas provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Since 2015, Arkansas has parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid. Legislation to ensure that telemedicine is the least restrictive method to deliver healthcare services remotely is pending.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
- 2 www.adha.org/resources-docs/7513_Direct_Access_to_Care_from_DH.pdf
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- 4 www.beckershospitalreview.com/healthcare-information-technology/telemedicine-laws-and-developments-a-state-by-state-analysis.html
- 5 www.prognosis.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Telemedicine-Whitepaper.pdf
- 6 scopeofpracticepolicy.org
- 7 www.cqstatetrack.com/texis/redirect?id=58f01f1342aa
- 8 www.asbde.org/Websites/dental/images/NEW%20Dental%20Practice%20Act%20-%20May%202018.pdf
- 9 www.danb.org



California

01

Does California allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Registered dental hygienists in alternative practice (RDHAPs) provide direct services, practice as a sole proprietor or employee, and are directly reimbursed by Medicaid. RDHAPs provide their full scope of services to a patient prior to examination by a dentist, but must obtain written verification that the patient has been examined by a dentist or physician within 18 months. To qualify as an RDHAP, a licensed dental hygienist must meet minimum clinical practice hours, possess a bachelor's degree or equivalent, complete 150 hours of an approved educational RDHAP program, and pass a written examination.

Direct access permits a hygienist to practice as an RDHAP and connect virtually with another healthcare provider for live consultations. For example, a hygienist providing services in a long-term care facility can easily complete a live consultation with a dentist regarding a medically complex patient.

General supervision allows for the expansion of hygiene hours in a traditional private practice without the necessity of an onsite dentist, with consultation with a dentist easily available through Teledent.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Under general supervision of a dentist, registered dental assistants and registered dental assistants in extended functions are permitted to complete charting and radiographs in a dental office or a board-approved facility. An unlicensed dental assistant may provide radiographs and extra-oral duties under general supervision in these same locations.

03

How does California define teledentistry?

“Teledentistry” means the mode of delivering dental health care services and public dental health via information and communication technologies to facilitate the diagnosis, consultation, treatment, education, care management, and self-management of a patient’s dental health care while the patient is at the originating site and the dental health care provider is at a distant site. Teledentistry includes synchronous interactions and asynchronous store and forward transfers.



What to know about teledentistry in your state

California

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Medi-Cal permits reimbursement for both synchronous and asynchronous teledentistry services, and may permit transmission costs (up to 90 minutes per patient, per day, per provider), originating site facility fee, and interpretation/report of X-rays performed via telehealth.

05

Does California provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

California has a telemedicine parity law mandating private payer reimbursement for telemedicine, and specifies that reimbursement rates are equivalent to in-person rates.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Single-Page-Layout-Final_July_2017.pdf
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Colorado

01

Does Colorado allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

There is no requirement that a dentist must authorize or supervise most dental hygiene services (exception: use of lasers and local anesthesia). Dental hygienists may also own a dental hygiene practice.

A dental hygienist may place interim therapeutic agents in a dental office setting under indirect supervision of a dentist or through telehealth supervision for purposes of communication with the supervising dentist (synchronous and asynchronous). A dentist can supervise up to 5 dental hygienists under telehealth supervision and must diagnose and provide a treatment plan and instruction prior to the procedure.

02

Does Colorado allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Dental assistants are required to work under direct supervision.

03

How does Colorado define teledentistry?

While the state does define telemedicine/telehealth, it does not specifically define teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Primary care providers are specified as an 'originating provider' for telehealth services.

05

Does Colorado provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Colorado does have parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Single-Page-Layout-Final_July_2017.pdf
- 2 www.cchpca.org/jurisdiction/Colorado
- 3 www.adha.org/reimbursement
- 4 www.ada.org/en/publications/ada-news/2015-archive/december/house-passes-guidelines-on-teledentistry
- 5 prognosis.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Telemedicine-Whitepaper.pdf
- 6 www.codha.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Dental-Board-Rules-and-Regulations-10.04.16.pdf



Connecticut

01

Does Connecticut allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes. There are several types of supervision for dental hygienists that affect how they can use teledentistry.

General Supervision- Connecticut hygienists may provide general supervision to patients of record.

Public Health Dental Hygienists with two years of clinical experience can practice in non-traditional locations like institutions, public health facilities, group homes, and schools. Services include prophylaxis, SRP, sealants, and assessments.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants may practice under direct supervision only.

03

Does Connecticut define “teledentistry”?

While Connecticut does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed for both synchronous and asynchronous services by private payers. Reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid for live video telemedicine services and for limited asynchronous services.

05

Does Connecticut provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Since 2015, Connecticut has had telemedicine parity laws in effect that allow coverage under Medicaid. Legislation pertaining to telemedicine is currently pending.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
- 2 www.adha.org/resources-docs/7513_Direct_Access_to_Care_from_DH.pdf
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Delaware

01

Does Delaware allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

No, though it does allow general supervision.

General Supervision: Dental hygienists practicing under general supervision can practice in a dental office, school, state institution, federally qualified health center, or nonprofit organization. The following stipulations must be met:

1. The dentist must authorize the work to be performed.
2. The patient must have advanced notice and the option to reschedule when the dentist will be on the premises.
3. The dentist must review patient treatment records before and after the appointment.
4. The dentist must perform at least one “clinical” exam every 12 months.
5. General supervision services cannot be performed on patients for whom it is “medically or dentally contraindicated.”
6. For safety and security, a second person must be present in the office at all times.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

No, dental assistants may only work under direct supervision.

03

Does Delaware define “teledentistry”?

While Delaware does not have a definition of “teledentistry,” the state dental statutes do discuss telehealth, telemedicine, distant site, originating site, and store-and-forward services.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid and private payer for live video telemedicine services only.

05

Does Delaware provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Since 2015, Delaware has telemedicine parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
- 2 www.adha.org/resources-docs/7513_Direct_Access_to_Care_from_DH.pdf
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- 10 delcode.delaware.gov/title24/c011/sc02/index.shtml



What to know about teledentistry in your state

Florida

01

Does Florida allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes, via 3 different pathways:

General Supervision- General supervision means a dentist must examine the patient, diagnose the condition, and authorize the procedures to be performed but need not be present while a dental hygienist carries out the procedures.

Prescriptive Services- Dental hygienists may provide direct services to patients of record outside of the dental practice as long as the dentist has issued a prescription for services (valid for 2 years). Locations include licensed health facilities, homes, public institutions, and schools.

“Health Access Settings”- Dental hygienists may provide direct services in specified “Health Access Settings” as long as a dentist or physician gives a medical clearance prior to performance of a prophylaxis. A dentist must examine a patient within 13 months following treatment. An exam must be provided prior to additional services being performed.

Without supervision- Without supervision, dental hygienists may provide many services in many locations besides the dental office. Services include educational programs, faculty or staff training programs, authorized fluoride rinse programs, apply fluorides, and supervise the oral hygiene care of a patients.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Currently, dental assistants may provide limited services under general supervision. Services include oral hygiene instruction to individuals or in an educational program as well as fabrication of temporary crowns or bridges.

03

Does Florida define “teledentistry”?

While Florida does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Limited reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid for live video telemedicine services only. No references found for store-and-forward services or for private payers.

05

Does Florida provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Florida does not have telemedicine parity laws in effect. No current legislative activity.

References

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- 9 www.floridasdentistry.gov/Forms/laws-and-rules-dentistry.pdf



Georgia

01

Does Georgia allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

In limited settings, qualified registered dental hygienists may perform screenings, oral prophylaxis, and application of sealants and fluoride under general supervision of a dentist. A law recently took effect on January 1, 2018 which authorizes a supervising dentist to allow his/her hygienist to work under general supervision but does not define how the supervising dentist must provide the authorization.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants and expanded function dental assistants may work only under the direct supervision of a dentist.

03

Does Georgia define “teledentistry”?

Not at this time.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Georgia regulations require coverage of telemedicine services, subject to contract terms and conditions. Regulations require private payers to reimburse for live video. Georgia Medicaid lists dentists and dental hygienists as Eligible Distant Practitioners for live video reimbursement and lists store and forward transactions as a non-covered service.

05

Does Georgia provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Georgia has parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
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Hawaii

01

Does Hawaii allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Dental hygienists working under general supervision in public health settings may perform services on patients who have not yet been examined by a dentist. Dental hygienists working under general supervision in a dental practice may only do so on patients of record. A Community Service License is also available. Dental hygienists cannot own a dental business and cannot be directly reimbursed.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Currently, qualified assistants may only provide services under the direct supervision of a dentist.

03

Does Hawaii define “teledentistry”?

While Hawaii does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid for live video and store and forward services. Hawaii is also one of a few states to specify oral health services as prime candidates to be performed via telehealth.

05

Does Hawaii provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Hawaii does have telemedicine parity laws in effect that allow coverage under private insurance and Medicaid. Currently, legislation relating to telehealth is pending.

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- 6 scopeofpracticepolicy.org
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What to know about teledentistry in your state

Idaho

01

Does Idaho allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Dental hygienists may work under general supervision and without the onsite presence of a dentist as long as the dentist has authorized the procedure to be carried out. Dental hygienists with an Extended Access Endorsement (EAE) may provide services in public health facilities, schools, medical facilities, and more with written orders from a dentist.

02

Does Idaho allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Dental assistants in Idaho can work under direct supervision only.

03

How does Idaho define teledentistry?

While the state does define telehealth to include synchronous and asynchronous technology, it does not specifically define teledentistry. Medicaid specifies telehealth as synchronous communication only.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Idaho Medicaid will only reimburse for synchronous telehealth services. No reference found regarding private payers.

05

Does Idaho provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

There is no record of telehealth/telemedicine parity laws in Idaho.

References

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- 7 www.cqstatetrack.com/texis/redirect?id=5a5eff0510092
- 8 adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/2010/19/0101.pdf
- 9 www.dalefoundation.org/resources-and-state-requirements/State-Dental-Assistant-Requirements/Idaho



What to know about teledentistry in your state

Illinois

01

Does Illinois allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Under general supervision, Dental Hygienists may work without the onsite presence of a dentist as long as the dentist authorizes the procedure and has examined the patient beforehand. A dental hygienist also has capability to treat patients of record at offsite locations such as institutions and schools. A Public Health Dental Hygienist with a written agreement with a dentist may provide limited services in specified settings to underserved individuals.

02

Does Illinois allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Dental assistants may only work with the onsite supervision of a dentist.

03

How does Illinois define teledentistry?

While the state does define telehealth/telemedicine, it does not specifically define teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed for synchronous or asynchronous services. Legislation is pending to add dentists to the list of specified health care professionals who can utilize telehealth services.

05

Does Illinois provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Illinois does not have active parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine. However, pending legislation is being introduced.

References

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- 7 www.cqstatetrack.com/texis/redirect?id=5a7bced615bf3
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Indiana

01

Does Indiana allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Effective July 1, 2018, access practice dental hygienists who meet certain qualifications may practice in a location other than a dental office and without onsite supervision of a dentist.

Dental hygienists who meet certain qualifications may practice in a dental office under prescriptive supervision and without the onsite presence of a dentist.

All dental hygienists can provide screenings and referrals in public health settings without the onsite presence of a dentist.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants may be supervised by an access practice dental hygienist but may not provide direct clinical services to the patient. Dental assistants practicing in a dental office may work under direct supervision only.

03

Does Indiana define “teledentistry”?

Indiana law defines telemedicine but does not provide a distinct definition for teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Private payers and Medicaid will reimburse for limited live/interactive services only due to the state’s definition of telemedicine.

05

Does Indiana provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Since 2015, Indiana has parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

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Iowa

01

Does Iowa allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Public Health Dental Hygienists with standing orders and a written agreement with a dentist may provide their full scope of services (except local anesthesia) in limited settings and without the onsite presence of a dentist. All services may be provided one time, at which point the patient must be examined by a dentist before future treatment by a hygienist.

A dental hygienist may practice under general supervision if the dentist has examined the patient, authorized the services, and the treatment to be provided must be written in the chart.

All dental hygienists may provide educational services, assessment, screening, or data collection for the preparation of preliminary written records for evaluation by a licensed dentist without the authorization or onsite presence of a dentist.

Public Health Dental Hygienists may provide educational services, assessments, screenings, and fluoride repeatedly to a patient without the patient having been examined by a dentist.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Registered dental assistants can provide services under general supervision. Under Public Health Supervision and with a written agreement with a dentist, registered dental assistants are permitted to provide services in schools, public health agencies, hospitals or the armed forces.

03

Does Iowa define “teledentistry”?

Though Iowa defines telehealth, it does not define teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is provided for synchronous telehealth services, though legislation is pending to include asynchronous and remote patient monitoring.

05

Does Iowa provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Effective 1/2019, private payers are required to cover health care services via telehealth if those services are appropriate and follow applicable laws.

References

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Kansas

01

Does Kansas allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes: There are several types of supervision for dental hygienists that affect how they can use teledentistry.

Extended Care Permit I- Hygienists with 1200 hours of clinical experience can provide limited preventive services to children in non-traditional settings.

Extended Care Permit II- Hygienists with 1600 hours of clinical experience + 6-hour course can provide the same preventive services as ECI to seniors and persons with developmental disabilities in non-traditional settings.

Extended Care Permit III- Hygienists with 2000 hours of clinical experience + 18 hours of board-approved courses may treat a wider range of patients including underserved children, seniors, and developmentally disabled adults in non-traditional settings. Services include prophylaxis, fluoride, ART, adjustment and soft relining of dentures, local anesthesia, and extraction of mobile teeth

General Supervision- A dentist may use written or verbal authorization to delegate tasks to a hygienist provided that the dentist must examine the patient at the time the procedure is performed or during the 12 calendar months preceding performance.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Currently, qualified assistants may provide specified services under direct supervision of a dentist.

03

Does Kansas define “teledentistry”?

While Kansas does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid for live video and remote patient monitoring. New legislation: HB 2028 recently passed that requires all insurers, including Medicaid, to cover medically necessary services (subject to terms and conditions of the contract). This bill went into effect on January 1, 2019 and specifies store-and-forward technology is a part of the telemedicine/telehealth definition.

05

Does Kansas provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Kansas does have telemedicine parity laws in effect.

References

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Kentucky

01

Does Kentucky allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Hygienists who have a General Supervision Registration, meet qualifications for minimum clinical hours, and who have a written order may provide services under general supervision as long as it is within 7 months after an oral examination from the supervising dentist. These services are limited to a maximum of fifteen consecutive full business days.

Dental hygienists may provide fluoride, sealants, and screenings in a volunteer health setting without the supervision of a dentist.

The state does not allow for direct reimbursement to hygienists.

02

Does Kentucky allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

All variations of dental assistants must work under direct supervision only.

03

How does Kentucky define teledentistry?

“Teledentistry” means the use of electronic and digital communications to provide and deliver dentistry and dental hygiene-related information and services. To deliver teledentistry services in Kentucky, one must hold a current, valid dental or dental hygiene license issued by the Board of Dentistry. The practice of dentistry occurs where the patient is located at the time teledentistry services are initiated.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

SB 112 which was approved in April 2018 and will be in effect July 1, 2019 requires reimbursement for both synchronous and asynchronous teledentistry services.

05

Does Kentucky provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Kentucky does have parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

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Louisiana

01

Does Louisiana allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

No, Louisiana does not allow direct services. The state does allow for general supervision.

General Supervision- General supervision means the dentist has authorized the procedures on patients of record, which are carried out within 9 months by the dental hygienist in accordance with the dentist’s treatment plan. Qualified dental hygienists must have at least one year of full-time practice and may not perform root planing, or administration of local anesthesia or nitrous oxide. Locations are limited to public institutions, schools, or dental offices.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants must only work under direct supervision of a dentist.

03

Does Louisiana define “teledentistry”?

While Louisiana does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed for live video telemedicine services only.

05

Does Louisiana provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Louisiana has parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

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What to know about teledentistry in your state

Maine

01

Does Maine allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Independent Practice Dental Hygienists may provide a limited scope of services without supervision of a dentist.

Public Health Dental Hygienists may perform all services under general supervision in non-traditional settings and must include a review by a dentist.

Direct access permits a hygienist to provide limited services in many locations including healthcare facilities and schools, and also connect virtually with another healthcare provider for live consultations. For example, a hygienist providing services in a long-term care facility can easily complete a live consultation with a dentist regarding a medically complex patient.

General supervision allows for the expansion of hygiene hours in a traditional private practice without the necessity of an onsite dentist, and consultation with a dentist is easily available through Teledent.

Dental Hygiene Therapists are required to practice under direct supervision but, ironically, may supervise up to 2 dental hygienists and 3 unlicensed persons through a written practice agreement. Various legislation is currently pending regarding many dental therapy regulations.

02

Can dental assistants help expand teledentistry services?

Under general supervision of a dentist, dental assistants, Certified Dental Assistants, and Expanded Function Dental Assistants (EFDA) are permitted to complete limited services to patients.

General supervision allows expansion of dental assistant, Certified Dental Assistant, and EFDA hours to provide limited services and complete a live consultation with the dentist regarding patient care through teledentistry.

03

Does Maine define “teledentistry”?

Though Maine does define “telemedicine,” it does not have a specific definition for “teledentistry.”

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Since 2009, state law requires all health plans in the state to cover telemedicine, including synchronous and asynchronous services.

05

Does Maine provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Maine has a parity law in effect for reimbursement under private payers.

References

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Maryland

01

Does Maryland allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Qualified dental hygienists can provide limited services under general supervision in both private practices and facilities or long-term care homes. Dentists are required to regularly examine the patients. A written agreement is required.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Currently, dental assistants may provide limited services without the onsite presence of a dentist only for dental sealant programs specified by the board of dentistry.

03

Does Maryland define “teledentistry”?

While Maryland does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Medicaid reimbursement is allowed for live video telemedicine services in addition to limited coverage for store-and-forward services.

05

Does Maryland provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Maryland does have parity laws in place that allows coverage under private payers and Medicaid.

References

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Massachusetts

01

Does Massachusetts allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes, via 2 different pathways:

General Supervision allows DHs to provide hygiene services to patients without the onsite presence of a dentist if the dentist has given prior “instructions.”

Public Health Dental Hygienists with a written agreement with a dentist may provide their full scope of services in settings like hospitals, schools, community clinics, and more. To qualify, one must have 3 years of full-time (or 4500 equivalent hours) clinical experience practicing in a public health setting or any other training deemed appropriate by the department of health.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Yes, Certain types of dental assistants may provide limited services (such as radiographs/ intraoral photos, sealants, polishing) under general supervision.

03

Does Massachusetts define “teledentistry”?

Though Massachusetts does define telemedicine, it does not have a distinct definition for teledentistry. The definition of telemedicine includes synchronous services only.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Massachusetts makes no reference to reimbursement of telemedicine services within Medicaid policies. Private payers may reimburse for telemedicine services.

05

Does Massachusetts provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Massachusetts doesn’t explicitly have payment parity, though it does state that private payer coverage shall be consistent with coverage for health care services provided through in-person consultation.

References

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Michigan

01

Does Michigan allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

General supervision in Michigan means that the dentist is physically present in the office when the procedures are performed. Dental hygienists with PA161 grantee status can provide preventive services in various locations including schools, nursing homes, and medical facilities that service underserved populations.

02

Does Michigan allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Registered Dental Assistants may only work while the dentist is on the premises.

03

How does Michigan define teledentistry?

While the state does define telemedicine/telehealth, it does not specifically define teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Michigan only authorizes reimbursement for telehealth that uses interactive, live video. There is, however, pending legislation regarding telemedicine that adds “synchronous interaction” to the definition and also specifies that “Telemedicine services may be used to establish a physician-patient relationship.”

05

Does Michigan provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Michigan does have parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

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Minnesota

01

Does Minnesota allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Dental hygienists work under general supervision with prior knowledge and consent of the dentist but without the onsite supervision of a dentist. Collaborative Practice Dental Hygienists who obtain a written agreement with a dentist may provide their full scope of services without the authorization or onsite presence of a dentist in nursing homes, medical facilities, schools, non-profit clinics, and more.

02

Does Minnesota allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Dental assistants practicing under general supervision can provide limited services without the onsite presence of a dentist. Dental assistants who enter into a written agreement with a collaborating dentist and hygienist may provide services to patients without the authorization and onsite presence of a dentist.

03

How does Minnesota define teledentistry?

While the state does define telemedicine/telehealth and includes both synchronous and asynchronous services in the current definition, it does not specifically define teledentistry. Presently there are various legislative updates pending regarding telemedicine including one that specifies that “A physician-patient relationship may be established through telemedicine.”

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

MN Medicaid program reimburses for live video and store and forward technology. Dentists, dental hygienists, dental therapists, and advanced dental therapists are all listed as eligible to provide teledentistry. Telemedicine consults are limited to three per calendar week per patient; however, there is legislation pending that changes the limitation.

05

Does Minnesota provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Minnesota does have parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private payers and Medicaid.

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Mississippi

01

Does Mississippi allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Mississippi allows no direct access to dental hygienists and no general supervision with one exception: Dental hygienists in the employ of the State Board of Health or public school boards shall be limited to only performing oral hygiene instruction and screening when under general supervision of a dentist.

Legislation is pending to allow dental hygienists to provide services under general supervision and to introduce a dental therapist licensure within the state.

Stipulations: May not provide general supervision services for more than 15 consecutive days; to qualify a DH must have 1600 hours or 1 full-time year of clinical services; the patient must have had an examination by a dentist not more than 11 months prior.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

No, dental assistants are only permitted to provide services under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist.

03

Does Mississippi define “teledentistry”?

While Mississippi defines telehealth, it does not have a definition for teledentistry. The Division of Medicaid includes synchronous, asynchronous and remote patient monitoring in the telemedicine definition; however, their telehealth services definition only includes real-time communication.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

While MS provides limited reimbursement for telehealth, teledentistry is not specifically mentioned. MS Medicaid and private payers are required to provide coverage for live video consultations. Medicaid will allow reimbursement for asynchronous services.

05

Does Mississippi provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Mississippi has parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid. Private payers, MS Medicaid and employee benefit plans are required to provide coverage at the same level as in-person consultation for store-and-forward telemedicine services. Private payer health insurance plans must provide coverage for telemedicine services to the same extent as in-person consultations.

References

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Missouri

01

Does Missouri allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Dental hygienists with 3 years of experience may provide limited services (prophy, sealants, fluoride) without supervision in public health settings to Medicaid-eligible children and can be directly reimbursed.

A hygienist may provide oral hygiene instructions, conduct oral screenings, and apply fluoride without a dentist being present and with proper referrals in place.

Dental hygienists are permitted to perform many duties, including scaling and root planing, under general supervision.

02

Does Missouri allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

All dental assistants, certified dental assistants, and licensed professionals with expanded functions must work under direct supervision only.

03

How does Missouri define teledentistry?

While the state does define telemedicine/telehealth, it does not specifically define teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

MO HealthNet specifies dentists, oral surgeons, and dental hygienists as eligible providers for live video and does not typically provide coverage for asynchronous services. Exception: “Reimbursement for the use of asynchronous store-and-forward technology in the practice of telehealth in the MO HealthNet program shall be allowed for orthopedics, dermatology, ophthalmology and optometry, in cases of diabetic retinopathy, burn and wound care, dental services which require a diagnosis, and maternal-fetal medicine ultrasounds.”

05

Does Missouri provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Missouri does have parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

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Montana

01

Does Montana allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Hygienists with a Limited Access Permit (LAP) work under public health supervision and may be directly reimbursed. They provide limited services in mobile public health clinics, nursing homes, public health facilities, and other board-approved locations. Dental hygienists working in private offices may practice under general supervision without the onsite presence of a dentist but with the knowledge and permission from the dentist.

02

Does Montana allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Dental auxiliaries in Montana work under direct supervision only. However, legislation has been pending since 2017 to allow provision of limited services under general supervision.

03

How does Montana define teledentistry?

While the state does define telemedicine/telehealth, it does not specifically define teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

As of January 1, 2018, dentists and dental hygienists are specified as eligible providers for coverage of live video reimbursement for private payers.

05

Does Montana provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Montana has parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid. Private payers are required to provide coverage for services delivered through live video and store and forward technologies, equivalent to in-person coverage and also specifies required coverage of teledentistry.

References

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- 7 www.cchpca.org/mt-legislation-sb-129-teledentistry
- 8 www.mtrules.org/gateway/ChapterHome.asp?Chapter=24%2E138
- 9 www.dalefoundation.org/Resources-And-State-Requirements/State-Dental-Assistant-Requirements/Montana



Nebraska

01

Does Nebraska allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes, via 2 different pathways:

General Supervision- General supervision means the directing of authorized activities of a dental hygienist by a dentist and permits services without the onsite supervision of a dentist.

Public Health Dental Hygienist- The Department of Health may authorize an unsupervised dental hygienist to provide services in a public health setting or health care facility. To qualify, a dental hygienist must have 3,000 hours of clinical experience in 4 out of the last 5 years. Services are limited to prophylaxis for a healthy child, sealants, fluoride, and other preventive measures.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Yes, dental assistants are allowed to provide some services under general supervision and without the onsite presence of a dentist.

03

Does Nebraska define “teledentistry”?

While Nebraska does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry.” Telemedicine legislation is pending to expand the definition and specify providers.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Nebraska Medicaid reimburses for live video and limited store-and-forward services.

05

Does Nebraska provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Nebraska does have telemedicine parity laws in effect.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
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Nevada

01

Does Nevada allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Nevada does not have a specified “general supervision” definition—however, a dentist who provides written or oral authorization to a dental hygienist for provision of services by that dental hygienist is not required to be present when those services are provided. Public Health Dental Hygienists can own and operate a public health dental program and work in schools, community centers, hospitals, nursing homes and other locations without “authorization or supervision of a dentist.” Dental hygienists can be directly reimbursed.

02

Does Nevada allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Dental Hygienists and Public health Dental Hygienists may supervise dental assistants. Dental assistants are permitted to expose radiographs and take impressions for diagnostic models prior to the patient being examined by the dentist. A dentist who provides written or oral authorization to a dental assistant for provision of services by that dental assistant is not required to be present when those services are provided.

03

How does Nevada define teledentistry?

While the state does define telehealth, it does not specifically define teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Live video reimbursement is available, including for dental plans through private payers. Medicaid reimbursement is available for services delivered via asynchronous telehealth.

05

Does Nevada provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Nevada does have parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Single-Page-Layout-Final_July_2017.pdf
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New Hampshire

01

Does New Hampshire allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes, via 2 different pathways:

General Supervision DHs may practice under general supervision as long as a dentist has “authorized” the procedures (including a diagnosis and treatment plan). The dentist must personally evaluate the patient once every 12 months.

Certified Public Health Dental Hygienists with a written agreement with a dentist may provide radiographs or other services authorized under Public Health Supervision in schools, hospitals, institutions, and the homebound. A dentist must “authorize” these services but not be present. A dentist must review records once every 12 months.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Currently, dental assistants may perform basic tasks under general supervision and can also work under Public Health Supervision to assist a Certified Public Health Dental Hygienist.

03

Does New Hampshire define “teledentistry”?

Though the state defines telehealth/telemedicine, there is no current definition for teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid for live video telemedicine services only.

05

Does New Hampshire provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

New Hampshire has parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
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New Jersey

01

Does New Jersey allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes via 2 different pathways:

General Supervision allows DHs with a written protocol to provide their full scope of services to patients of record* in a dental office or institution without the onsite presence of a dentist. Additionally, a second employee who is also trained to implement the emergency protocol is required to be present at all times when patient care is rendered. A dentist is limited to providing supervision to any three DHs at one time.

*A patient of record is one who has been examined by a dentist in the preceding 365 days and who has a treatment plan. A dentist must review the record within 30 days.

In a **school setting** services are limited to preventive measures such as fluoride and sealants.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

No, dental assistants must practice with the onsite presence of a dentist.

03

Does New Jersey define teledentistry?

Though New Jersey defines telehealth/telemedicine, no definition of teledentistry has been found.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Medicaid reimbursement is allowed for live video telemedicine services; asynchronous coverage is not explicitly mentioned but could be covered within the definition of telemedicine.

05

Does New Jersey provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Since 2017, New Jersey does have telemedicine parity laws in effect for both private insurers and Medicaid.

References

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New Mexico

01

Does New Mexico allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

No supervision is required for any dental hygienist to apply topical fluorides and remineralization agents in schools, public and community medical facilities, and other limited settings. After meeting a minimal hour requirement and without general supervision, dental hygienists can practice in any setting with a collaborative agreement and can own or manage a collaborative dental hygiene practice. A dentist may not collaborate with more than 3 dental hygienists.

02

Does New Mexico allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Community dental health coordinators may provide educational preventive and limited palliative care and assessment services (including application of fluoride and sealants) under general supervision.

A **certified dental assistant** may provide limited services, including application of fluoride and sealants, under general supervision.

Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) may not work under general supervision with the exception of temporarily recementing a crown in an “emergency” situation.

Collaborative practice dental hygienists may work with and supervise dental assistants.

03

How does New Mexico define teledentistry?

While the state does define telemedicine/telehealth, it does not specifically define teledentistry. However, the dental practice act defines teledentistry as “...a dentist’s use of health information technology in real time to provide limited diagnostic treatment planning services in cooperation with another dentist, a dental hygienist, a community health coordinator or a student enrolled in a program of study to become a dental assistant, dental hygienist or dentist.”

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Dentistry is listed as a covered specialty and state law requires coverage of both synchronous and asynchronous services.

05

Does New Mexico provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Private payers and New Mexico Medicaid are required to provide coverage for services equivalent to in-person coverage.

References

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- 5 [/prognosis.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Telemedicine-Whitepaper.pdf](http://prognosis.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Telemedicine-Whitepaper.pdf)
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New York

01

Does New York allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes, via 2 different pathways:

General Supervision allows DHs in New York to work without the onsite presence of a dentist in a dental practice as long as a dentist has authorized the services and is available for consultation, diagnosis, and evaluation.

Collaborative Practice Agreements allow DHs with a written agreement to provide full scope of services in hospital and institutional settings.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

No, dental assistants may only provide services with the onsite presence of a dentist.

03

Does New York define teledentistry?

Though New York does define telehealth/telemedicine, it does not specifically define teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Dentists are listed as an Eligible Healthcare Provider and dental practices as Originating Sites for telemedicine services. Medicaid and private insurances both provide coverage for live video; Medicaid provides limited coverage for asynchronous services.

05

Does New York provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

New York has parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
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North Carolina

01

Does North Carolina allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

North Carolina allows for limited supervision (similar to general supervision). Dental hygienists working under limited supervision must meet clinical hour requirements and must provide the services within 120 days of a dentist authorizing and examining the patient. Similarly, a Public Health Hygienist is a specific designation who works under the Department of Health's direction and without the onsite presence of a dentist.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants may only provide services with the onsite supervision of a dentist, with the single exception of assisting hygienists under a specific school sealant program and pilot project run by the North Carolina Dental Society.

03

Does North Carolina define “teledentistry”?

While North Carolina does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid for live video telemedicine services only. No references found regarding private payers.

05

Does North Carolina provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

North Carolina does not have a parity law in place.

References

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North Dakota

01

Does North Dakota allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

North Dakota allows DHs to practice under general supervision- meaning the dentist has authorized the procedures but is not required to be present in the facility at the time the services are carried out. No references found as to where a DH may provide general supervision services.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants may provide limited services under general supervision.

03

Does North Dakota define “teledentistry”?

No pending telemedicine legislation.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed for live video telemedicine services only for Medicaid.

05

Does North Dakota provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

North Dakota does have telemedicine parity laws in effect for private payers.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
- 2 www.adha.org/resources-docs/7513_Direct_Access_to_Care_from_DH.pdf
- 3 www.cchpca.org
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- 6 scopeofpracticepolicy.org
- 7 www.legis.nd.gov/information/acdata/pdf/20-04-01.pdf



Ohio

01

Does Ohio allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes, via 3 different pathways:

General Supervision- Ohio does not explicitly define “general supervision,” however, it allows qualified DHs to provide hygiene services to patients without the dentist physically being on the premises; however, the dentist must have completed an examination within the previous year. DHs cannot provide general supervision services for more than 15 consecutive business days. To qualify, a DH must have at least one year and 1500 hours of experience and have completed a course in medical emergencies.

Oral Health Access Supervision Permits allow DHs with a written agreement to provide preventive services in public health settings. The dentist must review the patient’s medical and dental history prior to the hygienist treating the patient. The dentist must perform a clinical evaluation before the DH provides continuous care (may be accomplished using electronic communication/teledentistry). To qualify, a DH must have two years and a minimum of 3000 hours of clinical experience, 24 CE credits including an 8-hour course required by the board.

Other- A DH may provide fluoride and desensitizing agents at off-site locations without the patient ever having been examined by a dentist.

Under an authorizing dentist with valid teledentistry permit, dental hygienists can provide limited preventive services without the dentist first examining a patient in person. Restrictions: no local anesthesia, scaling and root planing

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Currently, qualified assistants may provide specified services without the onsite presence of a dentist. Legislation has been introduced to allow EFDA to perform teledentistry services.

03

Does Ohio define “teledentistry”?

“Teledentistry” means the delivery of dental services through the use of synchronous, real-time communication and the delivery of services of a dental hygienist or expanded function dental auxiliary pursuant to a dentist’s authorization.

“Synchronous, real-time communication” means a live, two-way interaction between a patient and a dentist conducted through audiovisual technology.



What to know about teledentistry in your state

Ohio

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid for live video telemedicine services only. Reimbursement for asynchronous services is allowable for speech pathology only. No references found regarding private payers.

05

Does Ohio provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Ohio does not have telemedicine parity laws in effect.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
- 2 www.adha.org/resources-docs/7513_Direct_Access_to_Care_from_DH.pdf
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Oklahoma

01

Does Oklahoma allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes, via two different paths:

General Supervision DHs may provide services under general supervision as long as they are provided within 13 months of an exam.

Offsite Exception DHs with two years of experience who provide care in off-site locations, such as treatment facilities, may provide services one time to patients who have not had a dental exam. The patient must be referred to the dentist, have an exam, and become a patient of record prior to further treatment by the hygienist.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants must practice with the onsite supervision of a dentist.

03

Does Oklahoma define “teledentistry”?

Though the state does define telemedicine, no definition of teledentistry has been found.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed for live video telemedicine services only. Limited reimbursement for asynchronous services is offered by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

05

Does Oklahoma provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Oklahoma has telemedicine parity laws in effect that allow coverage under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

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Oregon

01

Does Oregon allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes, via two different paths:

Hygienists who have obtained a **Limited Access Permit (LAP)** and meet qualifications for minimum hours and other requirements may initiate and provide limited services in a variety of non-traditional settings such as extended care facilities, schools, and medical offices.

Expanded **Practice Dental Hygienist (EPDH)** replaced LAP as of 2011. EPDHs require a written agreement with a dentist and can provide additional unsupervised services like assessments, local anesthesia, temporary restorations, and prescriptive authority. Insurance is required to reimburse EPDHs.

02

Does Oregon allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Oral health screenings may be performed by dental assistants under the written training and screening protocols adopted by the Oregon Board of Dentistry.

A dental hygienist working under **general supervision** in a dental office may supervise an assistant who will help assist hygiene services.

An **EPDH** may hire and supervise a dental assistant who will help assist hygiene services.

An **Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)** must work under indirect supervision, with the exception of temporarily recementing a crown.

An **Expanded Function Orthodontic Assistant (EFODA)** may provide limited “emergency” services under general supervision if the patient is in discomfort.

03

How does Oregon define teledentistry?

While the state does define telemedicine/telehealth, it does not specifically define teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Dental care providers are specified as an authorized telehealth provider by the Oregon Board of Dentistry, although the state only authorizes reimbursement for telehealth that uses interactive, live video.

05

Does Oregon provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Oregon does have parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

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- 7 www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors680.html
- 8 library.state.or.us/repository/2008/200801091150163/index.pdf



Pennsylvania

01

Does Pennsylvania allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes, via 2 different pathways:

Public Health Dental Hygiene Practitioner (PHDHP) allows a DH to provide preventive and therapeutic procedures in limited public health settings without preauthorization of a dentist. To qualify as a PHDHP, one must have 3600 hours of clinical experience and liability insurance.

General Supervision allows DHs to provide hygiene services to patients within one year of a dentist examining a patient.

Non-PHDHP hygienists who work in public/private institutions like hospitals, health care agencies, etc. may perform their full scope of services with a single authorization from a dentist.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

No, dental assistants in Pennsylvania must work under direct supervision of a dentist.

03

Does Pennsylvania define “teledentistry”?

Though Pennsylvania does define telemedicine, it does not have a distinct definition for teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Limited reimbursement is allowed for live video telemedicine services only.

05

Does Pennsylvania provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Pennsylvania has telemedicine parity laws in effect for coverage of telemedicine under Medicaid. Legislation has currently been introduced for private payers.

References

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Rhode Island

01

Does Rhode Island allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Yes, via 2 different pathways:

General Supervision Rhode Island allows for dental hygienists to initiate and provide limited services under general supervision in nursing facilities. Services include assessments, application of, fluoride, charting, and other general supervision duties the board may allow in the future.

Public Health Hygienists with a written agreement with a dentist or local/state government agency or institution may provide care in public health settings. Scope includes services that can be performed under general supervision.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants may provide services under direct supervision only.

03

Does Rhode Island define “teledentistry”?

While Rhode Island does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid for some live video telemedicine services only. No references found regarding asynchronous services.

05

Does Rhode Island provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Since 2016, Rhode Island has had parity laws in place that allow coverage of telemedicine under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

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South Carolina

01

Does South Carolina allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

General Supervision allows dental hygienists to provide fluoride, sealants, and prophylaxis in specified locations outside of the dental practice and with prior authorization from a dentist. These locations include schools, hospitals, health facilities, charitable institutions, and more. Further restrictions apply for general supervision within the dental office as well as for dental hygienists working with the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

Without prior authorization by a dentist, hygienists can provide oral hygiene instruction, perform oral screenings, and provide nutritional counseling.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants working with the Department of Health and Environmental Control can provide services without the onsite presence of a dentist.

03

Does South Carolina define “teledentistry”?

While South Carolina does have a definition for telemedicine, it does not define “teledentistry”.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid for some live video telemedicine services only. No reference found regarding private payers.

05

Does South Carolina provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

South Carolina does not have telemedicine parity laws in effect.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
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- 8 www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t40c015.php
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South Dakota

01

Does South Dakota allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

General supervision allows all dental hygienists to provide services without the onsite presence of a dentist if the patient is a patient of record and has had a complete evaluation by a dentist in the last 13 months. Dental hygienists with a written collaborative agreement may provide their full general supervision scope of services in limited public health locations and may provide services after 13 months as long as a dentist has completed a limited “oral health review”.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Registered dental assistants can be supervised by a dental hygienist.

03

Does South Dakota define “teledentistry”?

Though the state does define telemedicine/telehealth, the only definition of “teledentistry” is defined within the dental statutes.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Telemedicine reimbursement is allowed for live video only, although pending legislation includes asynchronous services within the updated definition.

05

Does South Dakota provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Currently, parity legislation has been proposed, though at this point rates for Medicaid are equivalent to in-person rates only for limited services. Parity Law is not enforced for private insurers.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
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- 8 sdlegislature.gov/docs/legsession/2016/Bills/ HB1104ENR.pdf



Tennessee

01

Does Tennessee allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Under the direction of a state or local health department, registered dental hygienists may apply sealants or fluoride without a prior evaluation by a dentist. Since 2016, dental hygienists who meet certain experience requirements and have a written protocol may provide preventive services under general supervision at limited off-site locations and may use teledentistry to fulfill requirements regarding examinations by a dentist.

Direct access permits a hygienist to provide limited services in many locations including nursing homes and public health programs, and also connect virtually with another healthcare provider for live consultations. For example, a hygienist providing services in a long-term care facility can easily complete a live consultation with a dentist regarding a medically complex patient.

General supervision allows for the expansion of hygiene hours in a traditional private practice without the necessity of an onsite dentist, and consultation with a dentist is easily available through Teledent.

Recent changes regarding general supervision has extended the time period between the examination of a patient by a supervising dentist and the service provided by a dental hygienist from seven months to eleven months.

Dental hygienists who meet certain qualifications may be certified to perform restorative or prosthetic functions under direct supervision only.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Registered dental assistants, with or without expanded functions, may provide services under direct supervision only.

03

Does Tennessee define “teledentistry”?

Tennessee law defines teledentistry as “the delivery of dental health care and patient consultation through the use of telehealth systems and technologies, including live, two-way interactions between a patient and a dentist licensed in this state using audiovisual telecommunications technology, or the secure transmission of electronic health records and medical data to a dentist licensed in this state to facilitate evaluation and treatment of the patient outside of a real-time or in-person interaction.”



Tennessee

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Teledentistry is stated as a covered specialty by both Medicaid and private insurance. Reimbursement of live video is allowed for private insurance and has limited reimbursement for Medicaid. Medicaid will not reimburse for store and forward procedures.

05

Does Tennessee provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Since 2014, Tennessee has had a telemedicine parity law in effect for coverage under private insurance and Medicaid. For private insurance, reimbursement rates are equivalent to in-person rates.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
- 2 www.adha.org/resources-docs/7513_Direct_Access_to_Care_from_DH.pdf
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Texas

01

Does Texas allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

All dental hygienists may provide services in-office without the onsite presence of a dentist if the patient has been examined by the dentist within the previous 12 calendar months.

Dental hygienists who have at least 2 years of practice experience may provide their full scope in specific public health settings and under general supervision. However, the hygienist may only treat the patient for six months, after which the patient must be examined by a dentist for the hygienist to continue care.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants can provide limited services under general supervision such as radiographs and interim treatment of minor emergencies.

03

Does Texas define “teledentistry”?

While Texas does define telehealth/telemedicine, a specific definition of “teledentistry” is not found.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Synchronous and asynchronous telehealth services are reimbursable under Texas Medicaid.

05

Does Texas provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Texas has a telemedicine parity law in effect for coverage under private insurance and Medicaid.

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Utah

01

Does Utah allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Under supervision of a written agreement with a dentist, Public Health Dental Hygienists can provide services in limited public health settings including patient homes, medical facilities, and mobile clinics. All dental hygienists can provide treatment to patients of record under general supervision as long as the dentist has authorized the treatment and is available for consultation. Dental hygienists in Utah cannot be directly reimbursed for services.

02

Does Utah allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Dental assisting is not a licensed profession in the state. As of 2020, under general supervision, a dental hygienist may direct a dental assistant when the supervising dentist is not on the premises.

03

How does Utah define teledentistry?

“Teledentistry” means the practice of dentistry using synchronous or asynchronous Technology. “Synchronous technology” means two-way audiovisual technology that allows a licensed dental professional to see and communicate in real time with a patient who is located

in a different physical location. “Asynchronous technology” means store-and-forward technology that allows a licensed dental professional to transmit a patient’s health information to a dentist for viewing at a later time. The law states that “a treating dentist may use teledentistry to collaborate with a dental hygienist within the relevant applicable scopes of practice and under the appropriate level of dentist supervision, in accordance with existing supervision laws.”

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

State law identifies asynchronous and synchronous services as part of “telemedicine services.” Medicaid does not cover asynchronous services. Currently there is legislation pending that specifies Medicaid to “reimburse for telemedicine services on the same basis that the Medicaid program reimburses for other health care services.”

05

Does Utah provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Utah does not currently have parity laws in place.

References

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Vermont

01

Does Vermont allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

General Supervision Agreement- Dental hygienists with 3 years clinical experience may provide limited services in schools or institutions with a general supervision agreement. The supervising dentist must review all patient records. Services include prophylaxis, sealants, varnish and radiographs. Periodontal maintenance is allowable to patients with mild periodontitis.

Dental Therapists- Dental therapist legislation passed in 2016 and requires practice under general supervision of a dentist (with a collaborative agreement).

- I. A dental therapist may provide direct supervision to dental hygienists (maximum of 2 assistants and/or hygienists in any one practice setting).
- II. No dental therapists actively practice yet—waiting on educational training programs to be established. Vermont Technical College is the first to pursue this and received a \$400,000 grant in 2018.
- III. To qualify as a dental therapist, one must hold a Vermont dental hygiene license. However, after licensure a dental therapist is not required to maintain their dental hygiene license.
- IV. Dental therapy scope includes prophylaxis but does not list SRP.

Public Health Dental Hygienists- Starting in 2016 by the Vermont Department of Health, PHDHs provide direct care service in WIC clinics. Services are limited to education, risk assessment, fluoride varnish application, coordinating care, and delivery outreach and training to the community. Four half-time and one-full time PHDHs were (are?) practicing. No current references found.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Currently, qualified assistants work under direct supervision of a dentist or dental therapist. A dental therapist may supervise a maximum of 2 assistants and/or hygienists in any one practice setting.

03

Does Vermont define “teledentistry”?

While Vermont does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.



Vermont

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Reimbursement is allowed by Medicaid and private payers for live video telemedicine services only.

05

Does Vermont provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Since 2012, Vermont has had telemedicine parity laws in place that allow coverage of under private insurance and Medicaid. The parity allows, but doesn't require private payer reimbursement for some store-and-forward.

References

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Virginia

01

Does Virginia allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Under general supervision, dental hygienists can provide treatment without the onsite presence of a dentist if the dentist has “ordered” and written the prescribed treatment in the chart, and as long as treatment is provided within 10 months after a clinical exam.

Dental hygienists practicing under remote supervision can practice in limited public health settings without the authorization or onsite presence of a dentist. A dentist can provide remote supervision for up to two dental hygienists at one time.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental hygienists who practice under general supervision of a dentist may supervise dental assistants.

03

Does Virginia define “teledentistry”?

While Virginia does define telehealth/telemedicine, it does not have a specific definition for teledentistry.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Virginia acknowledges reimbursement for both synchronous and asynchronous services, however synchronous services are only allowed under Medicaid.

05

Does Virginia provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Virginia requires payment on the same basis as in-person services under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
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Washington

01

Does Washington allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Registered dental hygienists with 2 years of clinical experience within the last 5 years may practice with off-site supervision of a dentist in limited health care facilities and must refer patients to a dentist. Public Health Dental Hygienists may provide limited services in community-based sealant programs in schools.

Direct access permits a hygienist to provide limited services in many locations including healthcare facilities and schools, and also connect virtually with another healthcare provider for live consultations. For example, a hygienist providing services in a long-term care facility can easily complete a live consultation with a dentist regarding a medically complex patient.

General supervision allows for the expansion of hygiene hours in a traditional private practice without the necessity of an onsite dentist, and consultation with a dentist is easily available through Teledent. General supervision allows for expansion of dental therapy services on tribal land, and consultation with a dentist available through Teledent.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Under general supervision of a dentist, Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) are permitted to complete limited services to patients.

General supervision allows expansion of EFDA hours to provide limited services and be able to complete a live consultation with the dentist regarding patient care.

03

Does Washington define “teledentistry”?

Though Washington does define “telemedicine,” it does not have a specific definition for “teledentistry.”

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

State law lists dental offices as an “Eligible Originating Site” for Medicaid. Limited reimbursement of live video and store and forward technology is allowable.

05

Does Washington provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Washington has a parity law in effect for reimbursement under private insurance and Medicaid.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/resources/variation-in-dental-hygiene-scope-of-practice-by-state/
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Washington D.C.

01

Does Washington DC allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

General Supervision All dental hygienists are permitted to practice under general supervision. Washington DC defines GS as supervision based on instructions given by a licensed dentist either in person or by a communications device, but not requiring the physical presence of a dentist on the premises at the time the actions are performed*

Specific procedures allowable under GS are as follows: preliminary dental exam, screenings, prophy, charting, radiographs, sealants.

Limitations: Local anesthesia is allowable only under direct supervision.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Currently, qualified assistants may only provide services with the onsite presence of a supervising dentist.

03

Does Washington DC define “teledentistry”?

While Washington DC does have a definition for telemedicine/telehealth, it does not define “teledentistry”.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Medicaid is required to pay for live video, store and forward, and remote patient monitoring. Note: The law was recently amended to include these things and won't apply to Medicaid until the budget is approved. Regulations and manuals have not been updated to reflect changes.

05

Does Washington DC provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Washington DC does have a telemedicine parity law in effect.

*Because the definition of general supervision specifically mentions a communications device, DC seems to be a teledentistry-friendly state.

References

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West Virginia

01

Does West Virginia allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Hygienists who may practice under general supervision and without the onsite presence of a dentist as long as the dentist has “...personally diagnosed the condition to be treated, has personally authorized the procedures and will evaluate the treatment provided by the dental auxiliary personnel.” A Public Health Dental Hygienist may provide oral hygiene instruction, screening, fluoride and sealants in specified facilities. A written agreement is necessary to complete a prophylaxis.

Two points of uncertainty:

- I. Since a dentist has to “evaluate the treatment” under general supervision, does that mean a dentist needs to physically “evaluate” prior to the patient leaving the appointment? This is unclear. One can assume that this is meant to align with most definitions of general supervision in which the dentist does not have to physically evaluate the treatment provided by the hygienist.
- II. A dental hygienist may (1) Perform a complete prophylaxis, including the removal of any deposit, accretion or stain from supra and subgingival, the surface of a tooth or a restoration This definition of a “complete prophylaxis” is atypical, perhaps outdated, and does not align with most other state statutes. Is this definition supposed to include scaling/treatment for gingivitis, periodontitis, and other oral diseases? By current definition, the prophylaxis procedure is geared specifically towards prevention—which contradicts what is stated here in the statutes. One can assume they mean preventive and therapeutic scaling.

02

Does West Virginia allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Dental assistants function under direct supervision only.

03

How does West Virginia define teledentistry?

While the state does define telemedicine/telehealth, it does not specifically define teledentistry. The definition of telemedicine includes synchronous and asynchronous services.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

WV Medicaid recognizes real time communications only.

05

Does West Virginia provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

West Virginia does not have parity laws in place.

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Wisconsin

01

Does Wisconsin allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

As of June 2017, a dental hygienist in Wisconsin can practice as an employee or independent contractor in limited settings other than a dental office, without the authorization and presence of a licensed dentist. The state also allows direct Medicaid reimbursement to the hygienist.

02

Can dental assistants help with teledentistry services?

Dental assistants in Wisconsin are unlicensed and must be directly supervised.

03

How does Wisconsin define teledentistry?

While the state does not specifically define teledentistry, it does provide the following:

1. **Telehealth-** ...a service provided from a remote location using a combination of interactive video, audio, and externally acquired images through a networking environment between an individual at an originating site and a provider at a remote location with the service being of sufficient audio and visual fidelity and clarity as to be functionally equivalent to face-to-face contact. “Telehealth” does not include telephone conversations or Internet-based communications between providers or between providers and individuals.
2. **Telemedicine-** ...the practice of medicine when patient care, treatment or services are provided through the use of medical information exchanged from one site to another via electronic communications. Telemedicine does not include the provision of health care services only through an audio only telephone, email messages, text messages, facsimile transmission, mail or parcel service or any combination thereof.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Teledentistry services by a dentist are not explicitly covered. However, Wisconsin’s Medicaid program specifies limited coverage for synchronous telehealth services and does not reimburse for asynchronous services.

05

Does Wisconsin provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Wisconsin does not currently have a telemedicine parity law in place which means commercial payers are not yet legally obligated to reimburse for telemedicine services.

References

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Wyoming

01

Does Wyoming allow for direct access to dental hygiene services?

Dental Hygienists may provide services under general supervision if the dentist has diagnosed and authorized the procedures to be carried out. New legislation allows a dental hygienist with 2 years of clinical experience, liability insurance, and a collaborative agreement with a dentist, to provide “public health services” (limited to prophylaxis, fluoride, oral health education, and screenings). This Public Health Dental Hygienist can practice in schools, mobile clinics, nursing homes, correctional facilities and more.

02

Does Wyoming allow dental assistants to participate in teledentistry services?

Dental Assistants may provide services under general supervision if the dentist has diagnosed and authorized the procedures to be carried out. Dental assistants with a pit and fissure sealant permit may provide sealants under direct supervision only.

03

How does Wyoming define teledentistry?

While the state does define telehealth, it does not specifically define teledentistry. As of 2017, the state passed legislation to allow professional boards to have the power to adopt telehealth/telemedicine definitions and standards applicable to their regulated profession.

04

Is it possible to be reimbursed for teledentistry services?

Only live video reimbursement is provided for Medicaid.

05

Does Wyoming provide a Parity Law regarding teledentistry?

Wyoming does not have parity laws in place.

References

- 1 www.oralhealthworkforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Single-Page-Layout-Final_July_2017.pdf
- 2 www.cchpca.org/state-laws-and-reimbursement-policieshttps://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB0786/Enrolled
- 3 www.adha.org/reimbursement
- 4 www.ada.org/en/publications/ada-news/2015-archive/december/house-passes-guidelines-on-teledentistry
- 5 prognosis.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Telemedicine-Whitepaper.pdf
- 6 www.wyoleg.gov/2017/Enroll/HB0164.pdf
- 7 dental.wyo.gov/board/rules

3. Resource links

Resource links

1. U.S. Map of Teledentistry Regulations by State
<https://www.mouthwatch.com/teledentistry-in-your-state-regulations-quick-facts/>
2. Center for Connected Health Policy: Research Laws and Track Regulation Map
<https://www.cchpca.org/>
3. COVID-19 Coding and Billing Interim Guidance: Virtual Visits (ADA)
https://success.ada.org/~media/CPS/Files/COVID/ADA_COVID_Coding_and_Billing_Guidance.pdf
4. D9995 and D9996 – ADA Guide to Understanding and Documenting Teledentistry Events
https://www.ada.org/~media/ADA/Publications/Files/CDT_D9995D9996-GuideTo_v1_2017Jul17.pdf?la=en
5. MoutWatch Blog
<https://www.mouthwatch.com/blog/>

Teledentistry Quick Facts

State-by-State Guide

Visit mouthwatch.com for more resources on teledentistry and to explore TeleDent by MouthWatch.

