

Telepractice: Where Do I Go From Here?

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TOTS TO TEENS THERAPY SERVICES



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Disclosures

Financial: SCSHA invited speakers and offered payment of SHSHA conference registration fee. Interviewed for First Bite Podcast and offered an honorarium.

Non-Financial: Jennifer is Chair of the SHAV Telepractice Committee and Patti is a founding member of the SHAV Telepractice Committee, members of SIG 18, Training from the National Center for Speech Telepractice ATA Accredited Training program offered through Waldo Hospital, Telepractice Certification Community, and several telepractice Facebook groups.

We have no financial interests in any of the companies, websites, products, software, telepractice training groups or anything shown during the presentation.

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<https://www.ispot.tv/ad/dRYi/cox-communications-g1gablast-panda-ping-pong>

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Where did Telepractice originate?

tel-e-med-i-cine /'telə,medisin/ noun

- the remote diagnosis and treatment of patients by means of telecommunications technology.

Researchers at California-based Kaiser Permanente analyzed 201,383 scheduled video visits between 2015 and 2017, involving 152,809 patients, and found that 93 percent of patients who responded to the survey said the connected care encounter met their needs.

<https://mhealthintelligence.com/news/kaiser-permanente-sees-good-results-with-video-based-telehealth>



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Telepractice

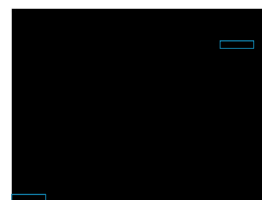
ASHA's definition of telepractice:

- The application of telecommunications technology to delivery of speech language pathology and audiology professional services at a distance by linking clinician to client or clinician to clinician for assessment, intervention and/or consultation.


In 2005, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association released a statement stating that telepractice is recognized as an appropriate type of service delivery model. Here are resources to support the position taken by ASHA, American Telemedicine Association, etc.

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A Glimpse into Teletherapy



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Waldo County General Hospital
 MaineHealth


By Mike Towey and Colleagues

National Center for Speech Telepractice Training

Accredited by American Telemedicine Association (ATA)

2 day training in Maine

Lecture and Interactive Labs



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Additional Virtual Trainings

- **Bill Connors, MA CCC-SLP**
Aphasiatoolbox.com
- **Tracy Sippl, MS CCC-SLP**
S&L Teletherapy
- Podcasts
- FaceBook Groups
- YouTube Videos




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**Licensure Board
Telepractice Requirements
Audiology & Speech-Language Pathology**



<https://www.asha.org/advocacy/state/info/SL/>

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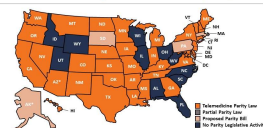
What is a Parity Law?

A telemedicine parity law requires private payers to reimburse telemedicine services in the same way as in-person services. There is not yet a telemedicine parity law in South Carolina despite a multi-year effort to introduce legislation regarding coverage under private insurance. However, some private insurance companies will still reimburse telehealth. Check with your payers.

<http://thesource.americantelemed.org/home>

<http://www.americantelemed.org/policy-page/state-policy-resource-center>

States with Parity Laws for Private Insurance Coverage of Telemedicine (2018)



AMERICAN TELEMEDICINE

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Speech-Language-Hearing Interstate Compact (SLHIC)

An **interstate compact** is an agreement between states that would offer a pathway for licensure to qualified audiologists and speech-language pathologists who wish to practice in multiple states. An interstate compact would increase access to services for clients in underserved or rural areas and would allow practitioners to more easily connect with experts and clients through the use of technology in other states.

An interstate compact would ease the burden for

- members with multiple state licenses;
- members who move from state to state;
- military members/spouses;
- traveling therapists; and
- telepractitioners.



**AMERICAN
SPEECH-LANGUAGE-
HEARING
ASSOCIATION**

An interstate compact would reduce

- practitioner shortages;
- costs of licensure in multiple states; and
- administrative burdens on practitioners.

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Equipment Setup

Computer

Monitors


Camera (external-optional)

Microphone headset/speakers

Internet/High Speed Broadband

Videoconferencing platform

Digital therapy materials



- Scanner/printer/document camera

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4iaCV9bdfU&feature=youtu.be>

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Computer

- 4 USB ports (at least 2 USB-Cs)
- Processor speed: 2.4 GHz (dual core or q
- 6 GB RAM (8 GB is ideal)
- 256 GB storage (1 TB is ideal)
- Wireless keyboard & mouse (lets you sit



*Hall, 2018

<http://smallbusiness.chron.com/importance-processing-speed-pc-71283.html>

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**Those who dare to
fail miserably can
achieve greatly**

By John · F · Kennedy

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Broadband Speeds

- Network connection speed impacts overall quality of the video/audio • Research suggests: * 384 Kbps (.384 Mbps) BOTH upload/download speeds (10 Mbps is considered "fast")
- Many rural areas don't have broadband
http://www.broadband.gov/rural_a
- Platform companies (Zoom, WebEx, etc) know this and minimize effects
<http://speed.conferenceroomsystems.com>

*Jarvis-Selinger et al., 2008

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Face-to-Face, Virtual Therapy Room



Bill Connors from Telepractice Certification Community
<https://youtu.be/heAvpY93Rzc>

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Professionalism in Telepractice

HIPAA Compliance

- Not FaceTime or Skype
- Attention to no PHI in email
- Not the Platform's but

YOU

Office Space

- Minimal distractions
 - No people coming in the room
 - No dogs barking

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Is it Effective?

YES

Telepractice in Speech Language Pathology by K. Todd Houston



ASHA

State Organizations (ex: SHAV, etc.)

Outside the Field

Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare

Telemedicine and e-Health

International Journal of Telerehabilitation

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Why Teletherapy

Jackson's video



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- Work from home
- Flexible Hours
- Same Rapport
- If parent is eHelper then they have a vested interest in the session
- School based calendar only if working with kids in school system
- Think outside the box
- No drive time
- Increase frequency of care
- Flexibility in location of service (natural environment)
- Less missed work due to illness caused by germs

Pros

Cons

- Not all families want to participate
- Not all clients are good candidates for teletherapy
- Technology issues/problems
- Needing multiple state licenses and keeping up with all the CEU's
- Teletherapy companies are underpaying and are hiring therapists as contractors not employees
- Not being in a "hands-on" environment
- New skill set

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What does Telepractice look like?

Video



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What does Telepractice look like?



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