

CHAPTER 301
PRACTICE OF SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS AND AUDIOLOGISTS

645—301.1(147) Telehealth visits. A licensee may provide speech pathology or audiology services to a patient utilizing a telehealth visit if the services are provided in accordance with the following:

301.1(1) “Telehealth visit” means the provision of speech pathology or audiology services by a licensee to a patient using technology where the licensee and the patient are not at the same physical location during the appointment.

301.1(2) A licensee engaged in a telehealth visit shall utilize technology that is secure and HIPAA-compliant and that includes, at a minimum, audio and video equipment that allows two-way real-time interactive communication between the licensee and the patient. A licensee may use non-real-time technologies to prepare for an appointment or to communicate with a patient between appointments.

301.1(3) A licensee engaged in a telehealth visit shall be held to the same standard of care as a licensee who provides in-person speech pathology or audiology services. A licensee shall not utilize a telehealth visit if the standard of care for the particular speech pathology or audiology service cannot be met using technology.

301.1(4) Prior to the first telehealth visit, a licensee shall obtain informed consent from the patient specific to the services that will be provided in a telehealth visit. At a minimum, the informed consent shall specifically inform the patient of the following:

a. The risks and limitations of the use of technology to provide speech pathology or audiology services;

b. The potential for unauthorized access to protected health information; and

c. The potential for disruption of technology during a telehealth visit.

301.1(5) A licensee shall only provide speech pathology or audiology services using a telehealth visit in the areas of competence wherein proficiency in providing the particular service using technology has been gained through education, training, and experience.

301.1(6) A licensee shall identify in the clinical record when speech pathology or audiology services are provided utilizing a telehealth visit.

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This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 147 and 154F.

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