645—81.17(152A,272C) Telehealth visits. A licensee may provide dietetic services to an individual or a group utilizing a telehealth visit if the dietetic services are provided in accordance with all the requirements of this chapter.

81.17(1) “Telehealth visit” means the provision of dietetic services by a licensee to an individual or a group using technology where the licensee and the individual or group are not at the same physical location for the therapy session.

81.17(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 individual or group. A licensee may use non-real-time technologies to prepare for a session or to communicate with an individual or a group between sessions.

81.17(3) A licensee engaged in a telehealth visit shall be held to the same standard of care as a licensee who provides in-person dietetic services. A licensee shall not utilize a telehealth visit if the standard of care for the particular services cannot be met by using technology.

81.17(4) Any licensee who provides a telehealth visit to an individual or a group located in Iowa shall be licensed in Iowa.

81.17(5) Prior to the first telehealth visit, a licensee shall obtain informed consent from the individual or group specific to the services that will be provided in a telehealth visit. At a minimum, the informed consent shall specifically inform the individual or group of the following:

a. The risks and limitations of the use of technology to provide dietetics services;
b. The potential for unauthorized access to protected health information; and
c. The potential for disruption of technology during a telehealth visit.

81.17(6) A licensee shall identify in the clinical record when dietetic services are provided utilizing a telehealth visit.

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