

# Transforming Telehealth Policy to Transform Healthcare

## Partnership to Advance Virtual Care

The COVID-19 public health emergency is having a significant impact on the nation's healthcare system. This disruption has also created opportunities for rapid progress. For example, to slow the spread of the disease, the Administration and Congress have expanded Medicare coverage and payment for virtual care and telehealth services. Consumers have welcomed the expanded access.

Congress and the Administration should work together to extend this expanded access permanently. New laws and regulations are required to ensure these investments and future novel technologies can continue to be used, leveraged, and incorporated into the care delivery continuum. As leaders in the telehealth policy landscape discussion, the Partnership to Advance Virtual Care ("The Partnership") has developed guiding principles to inform the telehealth policy discussion.

### Guiding Principles

The Partnership believes virtual care is a critical component of expanding and supporting the continuum of care for patients. Virtual care has the ability to put the patient at the center by increasing access to an integrated, total care approach.

The Partnership believes:

- In **empowering patient choice** to determine the preferred clinically appropriate modality of care.
- Policy must **ensure broad access** to care and actively combat inequities in our healthcare system. Beneficiaries must have access to care regardless of geographical location or socio-economic status.
- Leveraging data as a mechanism of **measuring impact** is a critical component in providing Congress with robust recommendations based on expert analysis.
- It is critical for the federal government to **encourage innovation and smart investment**. Patients, providers, and technology companies require stable policy to invest in current and novel technologies to continue to transform virtual care and telehealth policy.



### Our Commitment

As leaders in providing and facilitating access to innovative, patient-centered care across the country, the Partnership is committed to advancing telehealth policy to achieve our aligned goals.

### Current Partners

98point6 • AdvancedMD • Adventist Health Policy Association • Amita Health • Ascension •  
Better Medicare Alliance • Doctor on Demand • Fresenius Medical Care NA •  
LifePoint Health • The Mayo Clinic • Sentara Health • Teladoc Health • University Hospitals