



SCC Weekly Digest

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# Healthcare Meets Living Room

Telehealth visits allow patients to see physicians from the comfort of their homes.



by [Alydia Stark](#) on July 08, 2021

The internet continues to advance with the introduction of Telemedicine visits.

With the entirety of the world still reaping the effects of COVID-19, many patients are still unable to visit their physicians in person. This is where the importance of telehealth comes into play.

So, what exactly is telemedicine? The terms telehealth and telemedicine are used interchangeably. Either way, it's the use of electronic information and telecommunication to provide care when you're unable to make it into the office. It's the equivalent of going to the doctor's office, but from the comfort of your own home. It's a great way to get the care you need while still following COVID-19 guidelines.

There's a wide variety of care you can expect during a telehealth visit. Some of the main services that see success through an online visit include counseling and medication management. Some other forms of care include lab test or x-ray results, recurring conditions like migraines, skin conditions, common cold issues like coughing, fevers and stomach aches, and post-surgical follow-ups. Our providers will help our patients decide if their needs can be met through a telemedicine visit or if they'll need to come in person.

It's not a perfect fit for every patient, but this form of doctor visit has many benefits. Having an appointment from your home limits physical contact, promotes social distancing and reduces all parties' exposure to COVID-19. Also, it allows patients to address their medical issues in a more comfortable setting. Staying at home lessens the struggle for patients who have trouble with their mobility. Using virtual health care can shorten the wait time to see a provider and cuts down commuting time as well as the need for childcare and time off from work.

This advancement in healthcare technology has the potential to improve the overall quality of care our patients receive and allows our providers to help more

people. Booking a telehealth appointment with us is easy. All you have to do is head to our website and click “Book an Appointment” in the top right corner and fill out the blank fields then our team will take care of the rest. Below is a story about a real patient (not SCC) and her experience with telemedicine.

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## Spotlight Story

In late April of 2019, Amber experienced a sharp pain in her lower abdomen. At first, she thought her appendix might've burst, but a late night trip to the ER would inform her otherwise.

Once the pain became unbearable, her parents rushed her to the ER. It turns out, a cyst the size of a grapefruit found on her ovary had ruptured. This new information prompted an emergency surgery that would ultimately take her ovary.

“It was devastating,” Amber said. “I would’ve rather it had been my appendix.”

Unfortunately, her ovary had to be removed, but the procedure went well and her healing process began. Amber had many follow-up appointments after the procedure, but once COVID-19 made its way to the U.S. she was no longer able to visit her doctor in person.

Although her in-person appointments were put on hold, her doctor suggested a new appointment style the office was trying out: telemedicine appointments. At first, Amber was confused as to how this would work out, but she had faith in her provider.

“I was actually the first patient for them who completed a telehealth appointment,” she said. “It was just a check up and I felt as though it was a good way of visiting a doctor during these times.”

She was able to successfully stay up-to-date with her physician and maintained her prescriptions. Amber believes telehealth visits should stick around long after COVID-19 makes its exit.



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