

For 10 years, the Alliance for Connected Care has improved access to care through the reduction of policy, legal, and regulatory barriers to the adoption of telehealth and remote patient monitoring. Here are a few of our top accomplishments:

- Catalyzed Massive Expansion of Telehealth in Medicare The Alliance was the first organization to <u>call on Congress</u> to expand access to telehealth in response to COVID-19. The Alliance has led the effort to maintain this access, successfully achieving a <u>temporary telehealth</u> extension and then a more useful <u>two-year extension</u> of all telehealth flexibilities. These wins built on important stepping stones around specific services.
- Created New Opportunities for Low-cost Patient Access to Telehealth in the Commercial Market Longstanding Alliance
 advocacy for pre-deductible telehealth flexibility for individuals with a high deductible health plan coupled with a health
 savings account (HDHP-HSA) paved the way for rapid Congressional action and has supported continual Congressional
 leadership to ensure permanency.
- Created New Access to Needed Medications through Telehealth The Alliance has been a leading voice in efforts to ensure the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to creates a permanent mechanism supporting comprehensive care, including the prescribing of appropriate controlled substances through telemedicine, as directed by Congress. Longstanding efforts accelerated in 2023, with a flawed proposed rule, Alliance leadership in a public input session with the DEA Administrator, and a subsequent extension of access.
- Unleashed Telehealth Access in Medicare Advantage The Alliance was a leading voice in efforts to modernize the
 Medicare Advantage and Part D programs, supporting the <u>CHRONIC Care Act of 2018</u>, allowing MA plans to include
 telehealth services in their bid. The Alliance has continued to be a leading voice calling for additional use of telehealth to
 strengthen networks.
- Successfully Expanded and Protected Remote Patient Monitoring The Alliance has made great strides in coverage of remote patient monitoring in Medicare, including unbundling of remote monitoring code 99091 from care management and advocacy with CMS to recognize the importance of RPM and the inclusion of three new RPM codes in Medicare for 2019. In 2023, the Alliance convened stakeholders and drove engagement averting a Medicare process that could have led to dramatic cuts to these services without real public input.
- Led at Pivotal Moments In 2020, the Alliance catalyzed the <u>Taskforce on Telehealth Policy</u>, working alongside NCQA, ATA, and a wide range of health visionaries to develop the first major, multi-sector recommendations to Congress on permanent telehealth policy after the pandemic. In 2022, The Alliance released a <u>major survey</u>, conducted by Morning Consult, driving a national discussion about the close link between ongoing workforce challenges and increased flexibility for providers to use telehealth to meet patient needs.
- Supported A Stronger Case for Telehealth Through Evidence Recognizing the policy barriers limiting telehealth, in 2019 the Alliance commissioned a "score" of telemental health expansion in Medicare that showed lower costs that previously reported. In 2022, the Alliance commissioned an <u>analysis on Medicare telehealth</u>, which found no evidence that telehealth added to the total volume of Medicare services. Both research projects were presented to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), which we believe led to subsequent decrease in the cost scoring of Medicare telehealth bills.
- Expanded Access to Care Across State Lines The Alliance has long been a champion for telehealth access across state lines helping to catalyze the creation of the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and then moving on to support more effective alternatives. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Alliance advocacy helped support actions by all 50 states to waive licensure requirements and allow greater access to practitioners nationwide. The Alliance has led efforts to maintain portions of this access, catalyzing priorities mentioned in the State of the Union, lobbying states, supporting the Uniform Law Commission model legislation, and supporting federal legislation.
- **Drove the Dialogue on Connected Care** The Alliance continues to be a trusted thought leader in the national and beltway press with regular commentary both on the record and on background in Politico, The Washington Post, Inside Health Policy, Modern Healthcare, Axios, the Hill, mHealth Intelligence, Stat News, Beckers, Healthcare Dive, and other publications. Additionally, the Alliance serves as a significant educational resource with over 4,000 readers subscribed to our advocacy alerts and newsletters.