

Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING Board of Dental Examiners

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Teledentistry

The Alaska Board of Dental Examiners encourages the reimbursement for teledentistry services that meet the standard of care for the practice of dentistry in Alaska. This will improve access to care, conserve PPE, help with social distancing guidelines, and prevent unnecessary visits to our urgent care facilities and hospitals.

Teledentistry refers to the use of telehealth systems and methodologies in dentistry. Teledentistry utilizes a variety of technologies to deliver dental care virtually. Teledentistry is not a specific service itself, but a means to enhance education, screening and delivery of dentistry.

The Alaska Board of Dental Examiners endorses the utilization of teledentistry as a viable treatment modality for improving access to care to all Alaskans. This endorsement is in line with recommendations from the CDC, ADA and ADS. Teledentistry is not currently under separate regulation in the State of Alaska, and the Board is willing to create regulations for teledentistry should it be deemed necessary. The policy statement by the American Dental Association on teledentistry provides a solid framework for license holders, patients and third-party payers. To better understand the scope of teledentistry, its usefulness, and limitations, and coding guidance more information can be found in the following links:

ADA Policy on Teledentistry:

https://www.ada.org/en/about-the-ada/ada-positions-policies-and-statements/statement-on-teledentistry

ADA Teledentistry Guidance:

https://www.ada.org/~/media/ADA/Publications/Files/CDT D9995D9996-GuideTo v1 2017Jul17.pdf?la=en