

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you so much for taking up the issue of audio only telehealth coverage. Its such an important issue, and as you've heard already from a number of witnesses, is critical to provide to ensure access and health equity during the pandemic.

Since Vermont already has coverage/equal reimbursement rates for video visits and phone visits during the pandemic our organization would answer the current question before the committee of whether Vermont should continue phone only coverage after the pandemic with a strong "yes."

We are particularly concerned with cardiac rehab and would request that you include the following in any measure you might pass to extend audio only coverage. See below.

Ensure that Medicaid recipients have access to clinically appropriate telehealth services, by including patient homes as an originating site, expanding allowable telehealth services to include cardiac rehabilitation, and removing video requirement for Medicaid reimbursement of telehealth.

I have also included some background info includes studies that support our position. Thank you so much for your time and consideration.



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