



Scientific/Educational Workshop

Workshop title

On the Path to Excellence in Telehealth

Workshop organizer

Ellen R. Cohn (University of Pittsburgh)

Speakers

Ellen R. Cohn, PhD, CCC-SLP, ASHA Fellow;

Dilhari R. DeAlmeida, Ph.D., RHIA;

Michelle Gutmann, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Workshop goals

Attendees will acquire a clear pathway to developing, enhancing and evaluating single discipline and multi-disciplinary telehealth enterprises.

The workshop will do a deep dive into the four major building blocks of successful telehealth programs:

1. Needs Assessment: Why telehealth?;
2. Privacy, Security and Technology;
3. Lawful and Ethical Practice: US state licensure, international practice, and accountability;
4. Telehealth Team Building. Panelists will present technology rich exemplars (AAC).

Abstract

Telehealth is experiencing exponential growth. Fueled in 2017 by over \$1 billion in investments, telehealth is proving to be transformative and disruptive in both positive and negative ways to professions and the consumers they serve. Telehealth technologies continue to gallop ahead of policy developments, state and national regulations, and training requirements. Telehealth provides expertise to far-flung locations: across state and national boundaries, in helicopters and planes, in outer space, and beneath the oceans. Moreover, telehealth is available anytime. How telehealth will affect work-life balance and the employment and salaries of future generations of health care providers, engineers, and rehabilitation specialists, is yet unclear. On a macro scale, telehealth is becoming integral to major healthcare systems, school districts, and insurance providers. Concurrently, an at-home, part-time workforce is growing. There exists a wide chasm between the resources available to solo practitioners of sub-contractors, independent institutions, and corporate providers. Yet, each of these entities must uphold a common set of standards to ensure private, safe, lawful, and efficacious telehealth services. Workshop attendees will be shown a pathway to developing, enhancing and/or evaluating single discipline or multi-disciplinary telehealth enterprises. The workshop will do a deep dive into the four major building blocks of successful telehealth programs: 1. Needs Assessment: Why telehealth?; 2. Privacy, Security and Technology; 3. Lawful and Ethical Practice: US state licensure, international practice, and accountability; 4. Telehealth Team Building and Training. Workshop attendees from many professions (and some inter-professional teams) working in a variety of settings will “see themselves” as they relate to telehealth currently and in the future.