



January 13, 2025

Leonie Heyworth, MD, MPH  
Director for Clinical Services, Telehealth Services  
Office of Connected Care  
810 Vermont Ave. NW,  
Washington, DC 20420

**RE: ATA ACTION SUPPORT FOR RIN 2900-AS20**

Dear Director Heyworth,

On behalf of ATA Action, I am writing to you to comment in support of proposed rule RIN 2900-AS20 which will amend the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) regulation to implement a new authority to establish a telehealth grant program.

ATA Action, the American Telemedicine Association's affiliated trade association focused on advocacy, advances policy to ensure all individuals have permanent access to telehealth services across the care continuum. ATA Action supports the enactment of state and federal telehealth coverage policies to secure telehealth access for all Americans, including those in rural and underserved communities. ATA Action recognizes that telehealth and virtual care have the potential to truly transform the health care delivery system – by improving patient outcomes, enhancing safety and effectiveness of care, addressing health disparities, and reducing costs – if only allowed to flourish.

This rule is the latest example of the VA leading the way in virtual care and innovation and ATA Action is grateful to the VA for continuing to pursue initiatives that will expand access to telehealth care. If adopted, this rule and subsequent program will build on the VA's history of success by providing grant funding to establish telehealth access stations in rural and medically underserved areas, increasing access to care for Veterans who may not have the ability to access telehealth care at home. Without these centers Veterans in need of care could face potentially lengthy, expensive and inconvenient trips to VA health centers to receive in-person care that they could have accessed through telehealth much closer to home.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please do not hesitate to let us know how we can be helpful to your efforts to advance telehealth access for Veterans through the VA. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the telehealth industry's perspective further, please contact me at [kzebley@ataaction.org](mailto:kzebley@ataaction.org).

Kind regards,

Kyle Zebley  
Executive Director  
ATA Action

**ATA ACTION**

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