



April 8, 2025

The Honorable Robert F. Kennedy Jr.
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Kennedy,

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. Recognizing that integrating nutrition services into virtual care models can have transformative impacts on health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs, ATA Action launched the Virtual Foodcare Coalition to support the enactment of state and federal telehealth policies that expand access to foodcare.

The **Virtual Foodcare Coalition** brings together healthcare providers, digital health companies, insurers, and policy experts to advocate for innovative policies that integrate nutrition and telehealth. Our work aligns well with your leadership alongside President Trump in the *Make America Healthy Again* initiative by promoting policies that enhance access to care, reduce chronic disease burdens, and advance innovative digital health solutions.

Federal Priorities of the Virtual Foodcare Coalition

We are committed to advancing federal policies that support the integration of nutrition-based interventions and telehealth solutions as essential tools to improve health outcomes, reduce healthcare costs, and expand access to care nationwide.

- **Support the Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) Act:** Advocate for expanding Medicare coverage of nutrition therapy delivered via telehealth for all conditions where foodcare demonstrates measurable improvements in health outcomes and cost-effectiveness. This includes diabetes, obesity, GLP-1 step therapy, chronic kidney disease, cancer care, autoimmune conditions, and other chronic conditions. Building on lessons from other care models, we also support efforts to reduce referral burdens that can impede access and to accelerate adoption through targeted demonstration projects at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI).
- **Advance Telehealth-Enabled Demonstration Projects:** Support inclusion of virtual nutrition care models within Medicare and CMMI demonstration projects to evaluate long-term outcomes, improve chronic disease management, and demonstrate scalable cost savings from digital-first care delivery.
- **Rationalize and Expand Access to Federal Nutrition Programs and School Meals:** Champion the permanent authorization of the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) online purchasing pilot and support the modernization of the Special

Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), including elimination of the in-person certification requirement and full enablement of digital enrollment and remote redemption. Furthermore, integrating virtual access to medical nutrition therapy into these programs has the potential to benefit enrollees beyond the provision of food, especially for those with obesity or other nutrition-related chronic conditions. Expanding virtual access to these programs is essential to increasing reach and integrating nutrition support into the broader virtual care ecosystem. Aligning these benefits with clean food initiatives where appropriate will help drive better outcomes and improve the overall effectiveness of nutrition support programs across schools, families, and communities.

- **Designate Medical Nutrition Therapy as a Preventive Service:** Encourage the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force to formally designate Medical Nutrition Therapy as a preventive service. This designation would support expanded coverage across a wide range of public and private health plans, help align nutrition care with other evidence-based preventive services, such as virtual education for family meal planning, and increase access to critical dietary support for patients managing chronic and high-risk conditions.
- **Expand Reimbursement and Incentive Models for Telenutrition, Remote Monitoring Devices, Remote Therapeutic Monitoring and Foodscripts:** Leverage the growing body of evidence showing data-driven value to patients, providers and payers from virtual foodcare to secure true coverage parity between in-person and telehealth delivery of nutrition care. This includes expanding remote therapeutic monitoring to encompass comprehensive nutrition monitoring, creating appropriate reimbursement pathways for nutrition-focused digital health services, support for remote diagnostics, such as continuous glucose monitoring (CGM) and other personalized tools, and affordable options to fulfill virtually prescribed nutrition scripts. **Prioritizing preventive care through these models will support outcome improvements aligned with long-term cost sustainability for our nation's healthcare system.** Policymakers should create provider incentives and safe harbors for foodscripts and encourage EHR vendors to integrate foodcare tools and outreach into clinical workflows.
- **Ensure Broadband and Device Access for Virtual Care Delivery:** Continue supporting federal investments in broadband and connected devices to ensure access to virtual care and foodcare, especially in rural, underserved, and disconnected communities. These infrastructure investments are foundational to enabling effective care delivery at scale.

Additionally, we are actively engaged in advancing **state-level policies** that improve access to virtual nutrition services and expand licensure compacts to facilitate cross-state nutritional care.

Partnership with HHS

We welcome the opportunity to collaborate with your office and serve as a resource to HHS on digital health and nutrition-related priorities. Our coalition is eager to support the Trump administration in developing policies that strengthen America's healthcare system through



telehealth and foodcare integration. We look forward to continuing our engagement with HHS leadership to discuss our shared priorities.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to improving healthcare access through innovative policies. We would be happy to serve as a resource for you and your team on how the Virtual Foodcare Coalition can contribute to the *Make America Healthy Again* agenda.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kyle Zebley".

Kyle Zebley
Executive Director
ATA Action