



The Honorable Donald Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

On behalf of ATA Action, the American Telemedicine Association's affiliated trade organization, we applaud you for swiftly implementing many of the vital Medicare telehealth flexibilities in 2020 at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring care could continue uninterrupted for millions of Americans. Unfortunately, these flexibilities have now lapsed.

We respectfully urge the Administration to work with Congress to promptly reinstate the Medicare telehealth flexibilities and the Acute Hospital Care at Home program and to enact a retroactive telehealth reimbursement provision, ensuring that providers and hospital systems are compensated for telehealth services delivered during the government shutdown period.

In addition to working with Congress, ATA Action respectfully asks you and your team to consider any existing regulatory or executive authorities to maintain care continuity while awaiting formal Congressional action. You have already been the most transformative president in history for the telehealth and virtual care community, having broken down barriers and driven unprecedented adoption. No one is in a better position than you to end this cycle of short-term thinking and make these vital telehealth flexibilities permanent. **Your unmatched influence puts you in the prime position to work with Congress to ensure that Medicare telehealth flexibilities and the Acute Hospital Care at Home program are secured for the long term.** With your leadership, these services can be restored and stabilized quickly. By taking this step, you have the opportunity to make permanence of these programs a cornerstone of your transformative legacy as president.

ATA members are navigating the challenges of the government shutdown in real time, and their experiences underscore the urgency of restoring these flexibilities:

- Some providers and systems are continuing telehealth services in hopes that a retroactive reimbursement provision will be enacted, recognizing that critical care outweighs the risk.
- Others are prioritizing patient care immediately while preparing for additional operational or financial actions if the shutdown continues.
- In inpatient settings, some hospitals are absorbing costs.
- Some providers and hospital systems are already blocking the ability for beneficiaries to schedule virtual visits.
- Small clinics are continuing to see patients while monitoring the evolving situation, but they cannot sustain this model without certainty; prolonged uncertainty may lead to significant financial strain and, in some cases, force closures.
- Providers are communicating to patients that they may be responsible for fronting costs if CMS reimbursement is delayed.
- Compliance teams are actively reviewing claims through the ABN process, ensuring that all regulatory and procedural requirements are met despite the uncertainty.



These examples collectively demonstrate that most providers and hospital systems are taking calculated risks to continue care, but long-term continuity depends on executive action to restore telehealth flexibilities and ensure retroactive reimbursement.

Thank you for your consistent support for telehealth and for ensuring that patients have access to care where and when they need it. We look forward to working with you to achieve immediate and lasting solutions.

Sincerely,

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

Kyle Zebley
Executive Director
ATA Action