Teledentistry
Technology-driven remote care delivery

Teledentistry is the use of various technologies to connect providers with patients and other providers in order to support oral health care and education delivery from a distance.

Types of Teledentistry

**Synchronous, or “live”**
Care delivered in real time. A dentist communicates with patients and other providers for exams and consultations via video or audio technology. Synchronous teledentistry is often provided when a patient is unable to come into the office or when providers consult with one another.

**Asynchronous, or “store-and-forward”**
Care that is not delivered in real time. A provider at a distant site captures diagnostic information, uploads and sends it to another provider, who reviews it at a later date. Asynchronous care is often provided at school-based clinics, long-term care facilities, and other sites outside the traditional dental office.

If Dr. Sarah takes a picture of a patient’s mouth, uploads it, and sends it to Dr. Sue, a specialist, for help with a diagnosis, they are practicing teledentistry!

Tools of Teledentistry

Unlike other areas of telehealth that may require large pieces of equipment, teledentistry is relatively light on required equipment. All you need to practice teledentistry is an electronic health records system, an encrypted teledentistry software platform, and an intraoral camera.

Additional Resources

[Leveraging Teledentistry - DentaQuest](#)
ADA Policy on Teledentistry
[American Teledentistry Association](#)
Teledentistry Demonstration at MUSC