

# 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](#)