

OREGON BOARD OF NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY ON TELEMEDICINE

Licensed Oregon naturopathic physicians may engage in telemedicine or telehealth within Oregon; however, such physicians must still comply with all applicable state and federal laws (example: HIPAA). Physicians utilizing telemedicine in practice are expected to establish and maintain a physician-patient relationship in line with definitions of OAR 850-010-005. Telemedicine is considered a tool to deliver healthcare; it is not a modality. The outcome of patient health due to physician diagnosis and care performed through telemedicine will be held to the same expectations as healthcare conducted in a face-to-face clinical setting. (For further guidance see Oregon Naturopathic Guidelines Regarding Use of Telemedicine)

Oregon Naturopathic Guidelines Regarding Use of Telemedicine

- In order to treat a patient in Oregon using telemedicine, a naturopathic doctor must be licensed in Oregon.
- If an Oregon naturopathic doctor would like to practice telemedicine in another state, that doctor needs to first determine whether telemedicine communication is allowed in that state, and then proceed to become licensed in said state.
- If an Oregon naturopathic doctor would like to practice telemedicine in an unlicensed state, that doctor should proceed with caution. Be advised that some unlicensed states may still have laws that prohibit or override that status. Doctors are responsible for verifying a state's permissions before beginning to practice.
- Before practicing telemedicine, Oregon naturopathic doctors are encouraged to determine whether there may be changes to their medical malpractice insurance.
- Definition of telemedicine from the American Telemedicine association *“In brief, telemedicine is the remote delivery of health care services and clinical information using telecommunications technology. This includes a wide array of clinical services using internet, wireless, satellite and telephone media.”*

Suggested telemedicine/telehealth informational resources:

1. AANP Telemedicine Webinar
2. Federation of State Medical Boards Telemedicine Guidelines
3. ORS 677.135 to 677.141; OAR 410-130-0610; OAR 847-025-0000 to 847-025-0060 and ORS 743A.058
4. Telehealth Alliance of Oregon
5. Oregon Health Network
6. American Telemedicine Association
7. Arizona Telemedicine Program (telemedicine.arizona.edu)