

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF AUDIOLOGY

Resolution: \_\_\_\_2008-06\_\_\_\_

**Subject: The Use of Telehealth/Telemedicine to Provide Audiology Services**

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1 Whereas, the Academy is vigilant in its efforts to advocate audiologic practices which are  
2 safe, effective and thoroughly validated, and  
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4 Whereas, audiology services may not be available in underserved locations, and  
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6 Whereas, audiologists may use telehealth/telemedicine technology to serve consumers in  
7 underserved locations, and  
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9 Whereas, audiology telehealth/telemedicine services are emerging but not widely  
10 validated, and  
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12 Whereas, audiology telehealth/telemedicine services must be the same quality as those  
13 dispensed by clinicians providing hearing health care services face-to-face (on-site) with  
14 patients, and  
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16 Whereas, professionals and other hospital support personnel must be systematically trained  
17 to provide high quality audiologic and hearing health care via telehealth/telemedicine  
18 technology, and  
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20 Whereas, complex technology solutions are frequently necessary to achieve adequate and  
21 secure telehealth/telemedicine services for network connectivity from rural point of service  
22 to regional health care centers, remote computing applications, and store and forward  
23 services, and  
24

25 Whereas, the success of audiology telehealth/telemedicine services is ultimately dependent  
26 on the expertise of the practitioner,  
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28 RESOLVED, that diagnostic and rehabilitative audiology telehealth/telemedicine services  
29 should always be provided by, or supervised by, a qualified audiologist<sup>1</sup>, and  
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31 RESOLVED, that telehealth/telemedicine services should be primarily provided to  
32 individuals who have limited access to audiologists in their communities (e.g. homebound,  
33 etc.), and  
34

35 RESOLVED, that audiology telehealth/telemedicine services should be validated before  
36 implementation to assure confidentiality and accuracy as well as to evaluate feasibility,  
37 particularly with difficult to test populations (newborns, infants, individuals with  
38 developmental disabilities, etc.) for which little or no validation of telehealth/telemedicine  
39 services currently exists.

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*Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations §440.110(c)(3) – Definition of Qualified Audiologist<sup>1</sup>*

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