

Asynchronous - Term describing the store-and-forward transmission of medical images and/or data, because the data transfer takes place over a period of time, and typically in separate time frames. The transmission typically does not take place simultaneously. This is the opposite of synchronous.

Distant site - The location where the distant provider is housed and offers health information or treatment by remote means to the originating site.

Encryption - A system of encoding electronic data where the information can only be retrieved and decoded by the person or computer system authorized to access it.

E-prescribing - E-prescribing, or electronic prescribing, is the method used to send prescriptions to pharmacies online rather than via paper prescription, telephone, or fax.

HIPAA - HIPAA, or the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, is a healthcare compliance law providing data security and privacy for the safeguarding of patient medical information. In telemedicine, provider-patient communication must take place through HIPAA-compliant secure platforms.

Originating site - The location of the patient when telehealth is used, whether at home using a smart device or in an office at a local primary or mental health clinic.

Patient portal - a secure Internet sign-on that allows patients to contact their provider, review medical tests and records, access health education materials, and seek appointments. Most provider networks develop a patient portal before they move to full video appointments.

Ryan Haight Act - The Ryan Haight Online Pharmacy Consumer Protection Act of 2008 is a DEA-enforced law regulating online prescriptions and prescriptions of controlled substances via telemedicine.

Remote monitoring - Type of ambulatory healthcare where patients use mobile medical devices to perform a routine test and send the test data to a healthcare professional in real-time.

Webside manner - Webside manner is the telehealth equivalent of bedside manner or the manner in which a telemedicine provider interacts with a patient via remote communication.

VPN - A VPN, or virtual private network, is a secure and private way to connect to the Internet over public wireless connections. VPNs are particularly important for those living the digital nomad lifestyle and connecting in foreign countries where networks may be more vulnerable to communication transmission interference.

Sources: [American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology](#) and [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services](#)