



# TELEWHAT?

## An introduction to Telegenetics

### WHAT IS IT?

A Telegenetics visit is similar to an in-person genetics clinic visit. The genetics provider will ask you questions about medical history and family history. The specific things that happen during a Telegenetics visit depend on why you or your family member were referred for genetic services, and whether this is your first time seeing a genetics provider or a follow-up appointment. Sometimes a physical exam might be needed, in which case a local healthcare provider may help. Your genetics provider may also suggest some genetic testing.

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Telegenetics **improves access** to genetics services and helps reduce the effects of common barriers to care such as distance, time, childcare, mobility challenges, and transportation.

#### Did you know?

*In many parts of the United States, families have to **drive over 50 miles** to see a genetic specialist for their child.*

### POTENTIAL BENEFITS

- ↓ Less travel time    ↓ Less cost
- ↓ Less wait time    ↓ Less distance
- ↑ Increased # of Available Providers
- ↑ More Access to Early Detection
- ↑ Increased Patient Satisfaction

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

A Telegenetics visit is usually 30 – 60 minutes and involves using videoconferencing with a computer, phone, or tablet, either from a provider's office near you or your own home to connect with a genetics specialist located somewhere else for a clinic visit. The four main types of Telegenetics appointments are:



#### VIDEO CONFERENCING

*Live, two-way interaction between a person and a provider using an electronic platform similar to Skype or Facetime.*



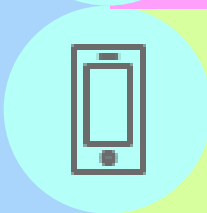
#### STORE AND FORWARD

*Receive an evaluation and treatment recommendations from a genetic specialist based on pre-recorded health history that you've prepared with your child's primary provider.*



#### REMOTE MONITORING

*A local provider monitors your child's health status and behaviors and transfers information to a genetic specialist to assist in providing care to your child.*



#### MOBILE HEALTH

*Exchange text messages or video conferencing with a genetic provider through a secure application on your mobile device.*

For further information please contact the National Genetics Education and Family Support Center at [jlopez@geneticalliance.org](mailto:jlopez@geneticalliance.org) or [anware@familyvoices.org](mailto:anware@familyvoices.org).

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