Promising Practice: Implementation of Telehealth & Virtual Health in Cardiovascular Care

Telehealth is the exchange of medical information from one site to another through electronic communication to improve a patient's health.

Potential benefits of telehealth can include:
- Improved care for patients with cardiovascular disease (CVD)\(^1\,^2\)
- Reduction in health access disparities among vulnerable populations
- Increased quality, patient-centeredness, and satisfaction\(^2\).

Million Hearts® Model Sustainable Tactics to Improve Addressing Barriers to Telehealth

Work across your organization to design a vision for how technology can improve communication in your patient population and access to specialized and team-based care.

- **Identify the tools** that will complement your organization’s knowledge of the patient and their community\(^1\)
- **Identify ways to integrate new data and technologies**, such as communication devices or IT systems - including analytic tools and EHRs, so systems can work together to support care delivery
- **Use change theory to support the adoption of new practices and remain adaptive** as challenges occur

Take Action: Million Hearts Practical Tools

The below resources were made available to intervention group participants in the Million Hearts Connect Library during the active phase of the model. The resource to include peer reviewed scientific research and tools can be found using the links below.

- **General Provider Telehealth and Telemedicine Toolkit**: This toolkit from CMS.gov includes information and resources for providers on telehealth, as well as guidance to care for patients virtually during the Public Health Emergency
- **Medicare Telemedicine Health Care Provider Fact Sheet**: An outline of telehealth services to implement in various practice environments:
  - Virtual Check-ins
  - Medicare Telehealth Visits
  - E-Visits

Reference Links:
1. Telemedicine Health Care Provider Fact Sheet
2. A Policy Statement from the American Heart Association