

# NCI Research Initiatives to Advance Telehealth for Cancer Care

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# Telehealth and Cancer Care: What Happens Next?

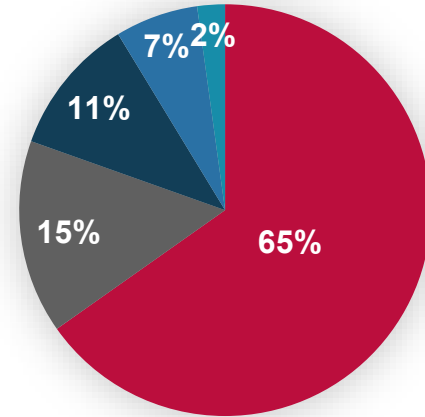
## Existing situation provides excellent opportunity to:

- Accelerate and expand innovative telehealth research across the cancer control continuum and the translational research continuum
- Evaluate how telehealth care can be used to address long-standing issues in cancer care delivery, especially for underserved populations

# Request for Information (RFI) July 2020

## NOT-CA-20-080: Seeking Stakeholder Input on Scientific Gaps and Research Needs Related to Delivery of Cancer-related Care via Telehealth

- 46 responses, major themes emphasizing:
  - New approaches to integrating telehealth
  - Developing and disseminating best practices
  - Need to focus on health equity and access
- Volume of responses suggests strong interest in conducting telehealth research

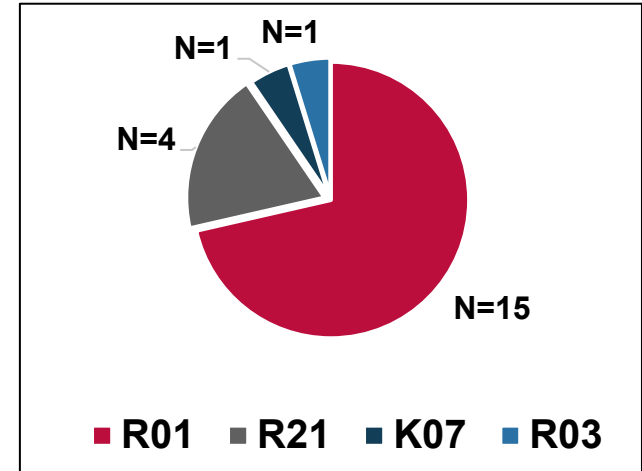


- Academic institution, healthcare system, or research network (n=30)
- Patient or patient advocacy group (n=7)
- Professional association (n=5)
- Private company (n=3)
- Government agency (n=1)

# NCI Portfolio Analysis June 2020

## 21 grants with synchronous patient-clinician communication component

- Topics: supportive care (40%), psychosocial care (30%), prevention (30%)
- Focus on specialty services:
  - Smoking cessation
  - Genetic counseling
  - Group-based stress management
  - Education on post-operative nutrition
  - Ostomy self-management



**Limited focus on use of telehealth by primary oncology team to deliver routine cancer care**

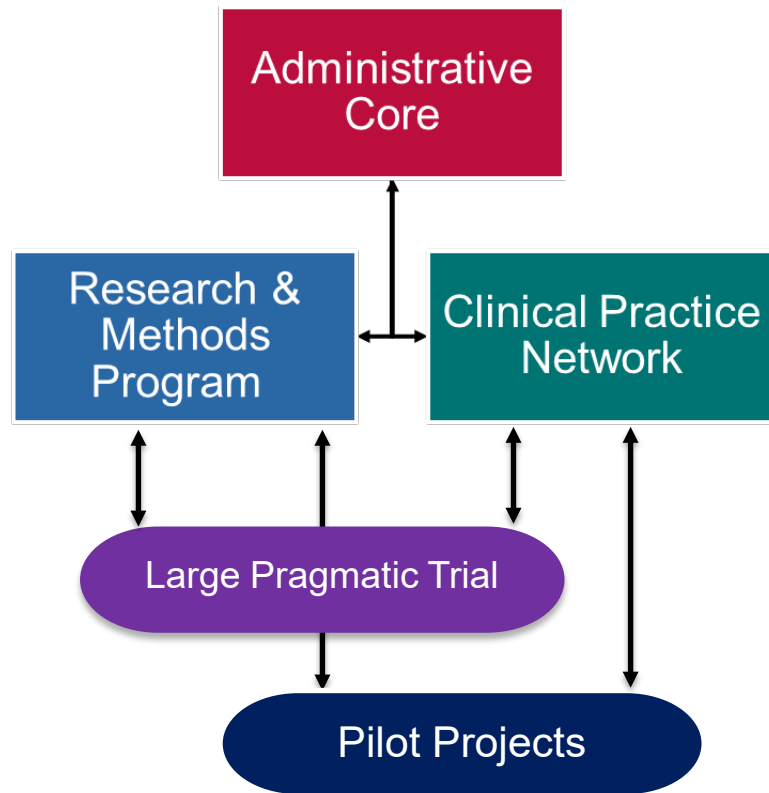
# What is Needed

## Support for telehealth research that:

- Identifies care contexts optimally suited to use of telehealth
- Tests innovative approaches to combining synchronous and asynchronous communication
- Demonstrates how telehealth can reduce disparities and improve care access
- Yields scalable, transferable, and sustainable models of telehealth that improve quality of care, healthcare utilization and health outcomes

# Centers on Telehealth Research and Cancer-Related Care (RFA CA-21-029; Receipt date: 7/20/21)

- Create centers to advance a national cancer-focused telehealth research agenda in a changing healthcare environment
- Establish research infrastructures to facilitate testing of telehealth models of care in “real world” settings
- Promote development, evaluation, and dissemination of evidence-based models of telehealth



# Notice of Special Interest: Telehealth in Cancer Care (NOT-CA-21-043; R01s & R21s; Exp. 3/8/24)

**Purpose:** To generate actionable knowledge on optimal use of telehealth during the course of cancer care delivery

**Scope:** Communications between patients and clinicians or among clinicians  
Use of synchronous or asynchronous forms communication  
Any part of the cancer control continuum  
Patients of all age groups in all types of care settings  
Studies focused on populations experiencing inequities in care access or having poorer cancer outcomes are strongly encouraged

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-CA-21-043.html>

<https://cancercontrol.cancer.gov/brp/events/telehealth-in-cancer-care>



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**<https://healthcaredelivery.cancer.gov/>**

**[www.cancer.gov](http://www.cancer.gov)**

**[www.cancer.gov/espanol](http://www.cancer.gov/espanol)**