

NCI Research Initiatives to Advance Telehealth for Cancer Care

Paul Jacobsen PhD

*Healthcare Delivery Research Program
Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences*



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Telehealth and Cancer Care: What Happens Next?

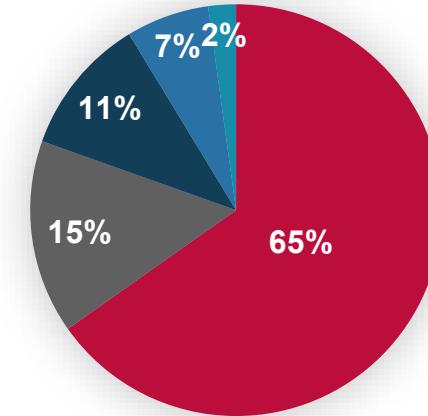
Existing situation provides excellent opportunity to:

- 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

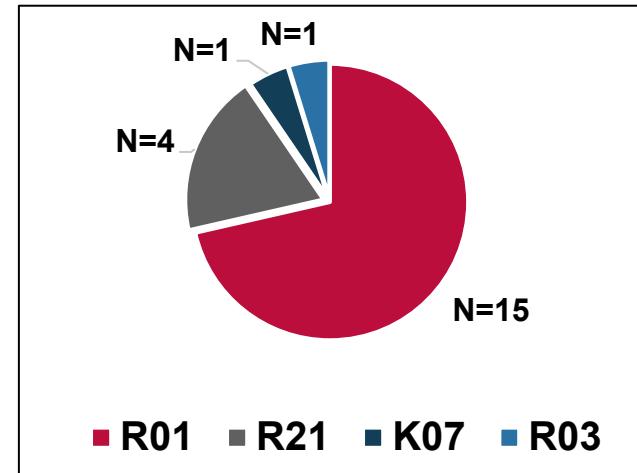


- Academic institution, healthcare system, or research network (n=30)
- Patient or patient advocacy group (n=7)
- Professional association (n=5)
- Private company (n=3)
- Government agency (n=1)

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

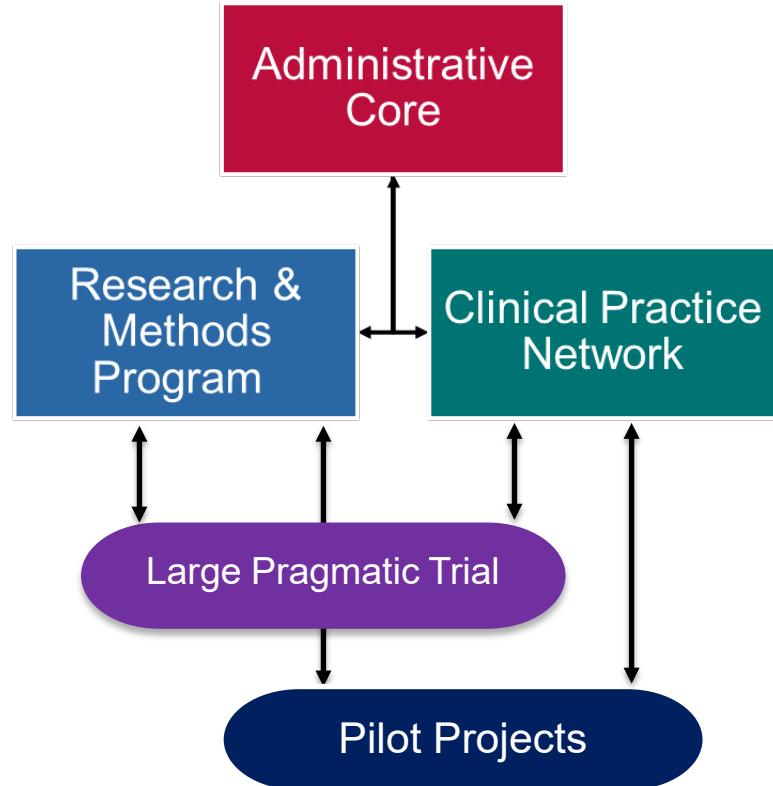
What is Needed

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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paul.Jacobsen@nih.gov

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

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