

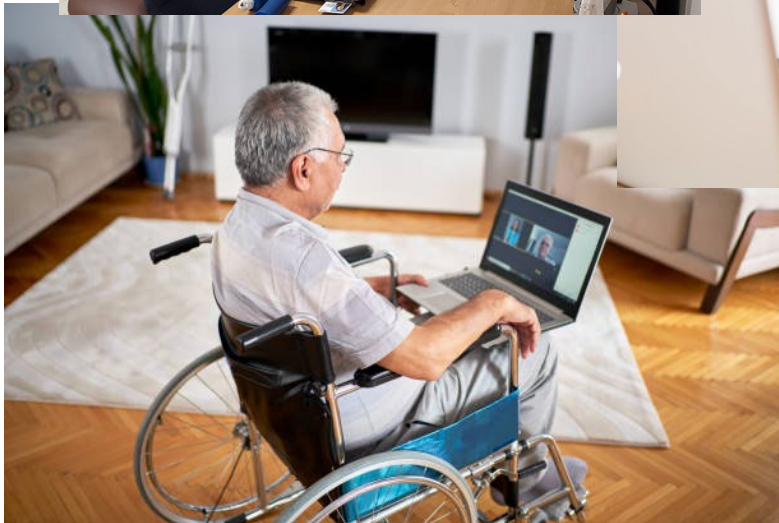
Disability Evaluations in Medicine & Allied Health: Challenges & Solutions for Providers

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What Works?





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Finding the Right Telehealth Assessment

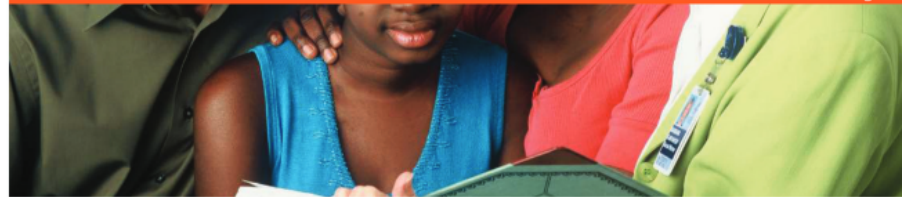
Think: What CAN and CANNOT be done remotely?



(T'áá Náhwíiz'áá nit'ée' Béesh Nitsikeesi Binikáá' Góne' Ak'i Adéest'í'í Yil Deilnishií Bii Nahaz'á.)

Wóózhch'í'í 2020

www.TelehealthResourceCenter.org



AD

Acc
Peo
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inclu



Vision

Patient education or tele should be given in docu read with assistive techn simplified and enlarged patient instructions as im

Hearing

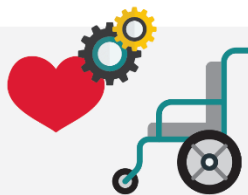
Speak slowly and clearly make sure face is visible Coordinate interpreters

Memory/Attention

Audio or visual cues can engaged. Use direct lan modify visit length when

Mobility

Be considerate of patier whether activities can be un-aided or even limitat fine-motor skills used fo documents.



SAFETY

- Is the patient aware of their own safety?
- What type of supervision is required?
- Is the home set-up safe?

Clinician Competenc

- Have I practiced the assessment using telehealth?
- Do I have a plan to solve technical issu
- Have I sought out resources from the publisher on remote administration?

Environment

- Are the devices and internet sufficient
- Does the patient have all the required materials?
- How is the camera set-up?
- Is an e-helper required?



Béesh Nitsikeesi Binikáá' Góne' Ak'i Adéest'í'í Hait'áo Bil Nidanilnishdo

Béesh Nitsikeesi Binikáá' Góne' Ak'i Adéest'í'í dügi át'éego oonish dooleel. T'áadoo nighandóo dah dináhi éi Béesh Nitsikeesi Binikáá' Góne' Ak'i Adéest'í'í, béesh nitsikeesi, nidaajaa hii, éi doodago béesh bee hane' é biyi'ji' naalkidgo ne'azee' iil'ini bil alhil náhónih dooleel.

Dii t'áá bitséedi kwe'é éi bina'idilkid dooleel t'ahdo Béesh Nitsikeesi Binikáá' Góne' Ak'i Adéest'í'í chiniil'ijhgo:

Haalá yit'éego dii Béesh Nitsikeesi Binikáá' Góne' Ak'i Adéest'í'í bee hahodoolzhizh lá?

T'áá iidáá' t'óo ahayóigó azee' ádaal'í dii Béesh Nitsikeesi Binikáá' Góne' Ak'i Adéest'í'í bee da'iniish. Haashij yit'éego azee' ál'ijigóo amáánidáhí binahji' éi dii béesh nitsikeesi binikáá' bóne' ak'i adéest'í'í choonil'ij dooleel. Binahji' hane' éi dikwiigoshij yini nitsikeesi binahji' ájoot'eehí dahóló, ach'í' yádaati' éi doodago azee' bich'í' naa'níl.

Ha'át'íishá' shee hólóqogo t'éiyá?

Béesh nitsikeesi bá nil yah iit'igo dóo béesh nitsikeesi, nidaajaa hii, éi doodago béesh bee hane' éi dii béesh nitsikeesi binikáá' góne' ak'i adéest'í'í dooleel. Níléi azee' ál'í ádahoots'isí, azee' iil'ini bil haz'áadi, azee' ál'í hotsaa, éi doodago ats'isí bik'i da'déest'í'í gó dii béesh nitsikeesi binikáá' góne' ak'i adéest'í'í biniyé díníyáago éi doo díilélida.

Da' Shits'is Nánél'ijigo Naazniliish T'áá Baa Ádahayá?

T'áá iidáá' t'áá át'é asts'is baa ádahayáago éi dii nits'is ánit'éhí ninaaltsoos éi baa ádahayá dóo hashte' naaznil. Dii béesh nitsikeesi binikáá' góne' ak'i adéest'í'í – éidó' t'áá ákwát'é. Ninaaltsoos nanideehigí baah nínego ne'azee' iil'ini nabidííilkiil hait'áo ninaaltsoos baa áháyání.

“Human” Factors

- **Senses**
 - Touch – healing/therapeutic, handshake, pat on back, hug
 - Visual – impairment, scope/FOV, subtle movements
 - Smell – alcohol, drugs, hygiene
 - Hearing – impairment, changes tone, volume, tremor
 - Taste - ?
 - 6th sense – presence, gut reactions
- **Comfort, ease, rapport, satisfaction**
- **Outcomes**



Historic Distrust

Establishing trust with members of an AI/AN community may be difficult. Many Tribal communities were destroyed due to the introduction of European infectious illnesses. Similarly, many treaties made by the U.S. government with Tribal nations were broken.

From the 1800s through the 1960s, government military-style boarding schools and church-run boarding schools were used to assimilate AI/AN people. Children were forcibly removed from their families to attend schools far from home where they were punished for speaking their language and practicing spiritual ways in a stated effort to "kill the Indian, save the child." Many children died from infectious diseases, and in many schools physical and sexual abuse by the staff was rampant. Boarding school survivors were taught that their traditional cultures were inferior or shameful, which still affects many AI/AN communities today.

The Federal "Termination Policy" in the 1950s and 1960s ended the government-to-government relationship with more than 100 Federally recognized tribes. The result was disastrous for those tribes due to discontinued Federal support, loss of land held in trust, and loss of Tribal identity. Most of the tribes terminated during this time were able to re-establish Federal recognition through the Congressional process in the 1980s and 1990s.

The Federal "Relocation Policy" in the 1950s and 1960s sought to move AI/AN families to urban areas, promising jobs, housing, and a "new life." Those that struggled and stayed formed the core of the growing urban Indian populations. Ultimately, many families returned home to their reservation or home community. Today, many families and individuals travel between their home community and urban communities for periods of time to pursue education and job opportunities.

Churches and missionaries have a long history of converting AI/AN people to their religions, and in the process often labeled traditional cultural practices such as songs, dances, dress, and artwork as "evil." Today there is a diverse mix of Christian beliefs and traditional spirituality within each AI/AN community.

Cultural Identity

When interacting with individuals who identify themselves as AI/AN, it is important to understand that each person has experienced their cultural connection in a unique way.

An individual's own personal and family history will determine their cultural identity and practices, which may change throughout their lifespan as they are exposed to different experiences.

The variation of cultural identity among AI/AN people can be viewed as a continuum that ranges between one who views himself or herself as "traditional" and lives their traditional culture daily, to one who views himself or herself as "Indian" or "Native," but has little knowledge or interest in their traditional cultural practices.

Many AI/AN families are multicultural and adapt to their surrounding culture.

From the 1950s to the 1970s, the Federal government, adoption agencies, state child welfare programs, and churches adopted out thousands of AI/AN children to non-AI/AN families. The Indian Child Welfare Act was passed in 1978 to end this practice. There are many AI/AN children, as well as adults, who were raised with little awareness or knowledge of their traditional culture; they may now be seeking a connection with their homelands, traditional culture, and unknown relatives.

When asked "Where are you from?" most AI/AN people will identify the name of their tribe/village and/or the location of their traditional or family homeland. This is often a key to self-identity.

It is important to remember that most Alaska Natives do not refer to themselves as "Indians."

Age is another cultural identity consideration. Elders can be very traditional while younger people can either be bicultural or non-traditional. In many communities, leaders and elders are worried about the loss of the use of the traditional language among children and young adults. Still, in other communities, young people are eagerly practicing the language and other cultural traditions and inspiring older generations who may have felt shame in their identity growing up as AI/AN.

Historical trauma and grief events, such as boarding schools or adoption outside of the tribe, may play a dramatic role in shaping attitudes, sense of identity, and levels of trust.

Role of Veterans and Elders

Elders play a significant role in Tribal communities. The experience and wisdom they have gained through their lifetime, along with their historical knowledge of the community, are considered valuable in decision-making processes.

It is customary in many Tribal communities to show respect by allowing elders to speak first, not interrupting, and allowing time for opinions and thoughts to be expressed.

In group settings, people will often ask the elder's permission to speak publicly, or will first defer to an elder to offer an answer.

Elders often offer their teaching or advice in ways that are indirect, such as through storytelling.

When in a social setting where food is served, elders are generally served first, and in some traditional Alaska Native villages, it is the men who are served first by the women. It is customary to openly argue or disagree with an elder.

AI/AN communities historically have high rates of enlistment in the military service. Often, both the community and the veteran display pride for military service.

Veterans are also given special respect similar to that of elders for having accepted the role of protector and experienced personal sacrifice. AI/AN community members recognize publicly the service of the veteran in formal and informal settings.

AI/AN community members who are veterans are honored at ceremonies and pow wows, and by special songs and dances. They have a special role in the community, so veterans and their families are shown respect by public acknowledgment and inclusion in public events.

The AI/AN community's view of Uniformed Service members being deployed to an AI/AN community in times of crisis or disaster (such as the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps or National Guard) vary greatly. There may be respect for the uniform similar to that shown to a veteran, but there may also be feelings of distrust related to the U.S. government's and the military's historical role and presence in AI/AN communities.

Strengths in AI/AN Communities

It is easy to be challenged by the conditions in AI/AN communities and to not see beyond the impact of the problems or crisis.

Recognizing and identifying strengths in the community can provide insight for possible interventions. Since each community is unique, look to the community itself for its own identified strengths, such as:

- extended family and kinship ties;
- long-term natural support systems;
- shared sense of collective community responsibility;
- physical resources (e.g., food, plants, animals, water, land);
- indigenous generational knowledge/wisdom;
- historical perspective and strong connection to the past;
- survival skills and resiliency in the face of multiple challenges;
- retention and reclamation of traditional language and cultural practices;
- ability to "walk in two worlds" (mainstream culture and the AI/AN cultures); and
- community pride.

Health and Wellness Challenges

Concepts of health and wellness are broad. The foundations of these concepts are living in a harmonious balance with all elements, as well as balance and harmony of spirit, mind, body, and the environment. Health and wellness may be all encompassing, not just one's own physical body; it is holistic in nature. AI/ANs define what health and wellness is to them, which may be very different from how Western medicine defines health and wellness.

Many health and wellness issues are not unique to AI/AN communities, but are statistically higher than in the general population. It is important to learn about the key health issues in a particular community.

Among most AI/AN communities, 50 percent or more of the population is under 21 years of age.

Health disparities exist with limited access to culturally appropriate health care in most AI/AN communities.

Only 55 percent of AI/AN people rely on the Federally funded HE or Tribally operated clinics/hospitals for care.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death among AI/AN people age 10-34. The highest rates are among males between the ages of 24 and 34 and 15 and 24, respectively.

Following a death by suicide in the community, concern about suicide clusters, suicide contagion, and the possibility of suicide pacts may be heightened. A response to a suicide or other traumatic occurrence requires a community-based and culturally competent strategy.

Prevention and intervention efforts must include supporting/enhancing strengths of the community resources as well as individual and family clinical interventions.

Service providers must take great care in the assessment process to consider cultural differences in symptoms and health concepts when making a specific diagnosis or drawing conclusions about the presenting problem or bio-psychological history.

Every effort should be made to consult with local cultural advisors for questions about symptomatology and treatment options.

Self-Awareness and Etiquette

Prior to making contact with a community, examine your own belief system about AI/AN people related to social issues, such as mental health stigma, poverty, teen suicide, and drug or alcohol use.

You are being observed at all times, so avoid making assumptions and be conscious that you are laying the groundwork for others to follow.

Adapt your tone of voice, volume, and speed of speech patterns to that of local community members to fit their manner of communication style.

Preferred body language, posture, and concept of personal space depend on community norms and the nature of the personal relationship. Observe others and allow them to create the space and initiate or ask for any physical contact.

You may experience people expressing their mistrust, frustration, or disappointment from other situations that are outside of your control. Learn not to take it personally.

If community members tease you, understand that this can indicate rapport-building and may be a form of guidance or an indirect way of correcting inappropriate behavior. You will be more easily accepted and forgiven for mistakes if you can learn to laugh at yourself and listen to lessons being brought to you through humor.

Living accommodations and local resources will vary in each community. Remember that you are a guest. Observe and ask questions humbly when necessary.

Report and trust do not come easily in a limited amount of time; however, don't be surprised if community members speak to you about highly charged issues (e.g., sexual abuse, suicide) as you may be perceived as an objective expert.

Issues around gender roles can vary significantly in various AI/AN communities. Males and females typically have very distinct social roles for behavior in every day interactions and in ceremonies. Common behaviors for service providers to be aware of as they relate to gender issues are eye contact, style of dress, physical touch, personal space, decision making, and the influence of male and/or female elders.

Careful observation and seeking guidance from a community member or appropriate gender-specific behavior can help service providers to follow local customs and demonstrate cultural respect.

Etiquette – Do's

Learn how the community refers to itself as a group of people (e.g., Tribal name).

Be honest and clear about your role and expectations and be willing to adapt to meet the needs of the community. Show respect by being open to other ways of thinking and behaving.

Listen and observe more than you speak. Learn to be comfortable with silence or long pauses in conversation by observing community members' typical length of time between turns at talking.

Casual conversation is important to establish rapport, so be genuine and use self-disclosure (e.g., where you are from, general information about children or spouse, personal interests).

Avoid jargon. An AI/AN community member may nod their head politely, but not understand what you are saying.

It is acceptable to admit limited knowledge of AI/AN cultures, and invite people to educate you about specific cultural protocols in their community.

Etiquette – Don'ts

Avoid stereotyping based on looks, language, dress, and other outward appearances.

Avoid intrusive questions early in conversation.

Do not interrupt others during conversation or interject during pauses or long silences.

Do not stand too close to others and/or talk too loud or fast.

Be careful not to impose your personal values, morals, or beliefs.

Be careful about telling stories of distant AI/AN relatives in your genealogy as an attempt to establish rapport unless you have maintained a connection with that AI/AN community.

Be careful about pointing with your finger, which may be interpreted as rude behavior in many tribes.

If you are visiting the home of an AI/AN family, you may be offered a beverage and/or food, and it is important to accept it as a sign of respect.

Explain what you are writing when making clinical documentation or charting in the presence of the individual and family.

During formal interviews, it may be best to offer general invitations to speak, then remain quiet, sit back, and listen. Allow the person to tell their story before engaging in a specific line of questioning.

Be open to allow things to proceed according to the idea that "things happen when they are supposed to happen."

Respect confidentiality and the right of the tribe to control information, data, and public information about services provided to the tribe.

Never use any information gained by working in the community for personal presentations, case studies, research, and so on, without the expressed written consent of the Tribal government or Alaska Native Corporation.



Patient guide: **zoom** video visits

I. **PREPARE** at least 1 day before visit

A. Equipment

- **Smartphone/tablet**
- **Or Computer:** with web camera, speakers, microphone
- **Internet connection:** **WiFi** or **Ethernet** connection

B. Download Zoom app

- **Smartphone/tablet:** find in Apple App Store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android)
- **Computer:** go to <http://zoom.us>

C. Test Zoom: see yourself on screen

- **Smartphone/tablet:** press orange "New Meeting" button. "Start a Meeting". Select "Video On" then "Call using Internet Audio"
- **b) Computer:** visit <http://zoom.us/test>. Select "Join meeting." Open Zoom meetings. Test sound and microphone. Select "Join with Video" then "Call using internet audio"

II. **GET 10-digit Meeting ID (xxx-xxx-xxxx) and APPOINTMENT time/date**

A. You should receive your meeting ID by phone

III. **DAY OF VISIT (get ready early!)**

A. Private, quiet, well-lit space, good internet connection (Wifi or Ethernet connection)

B. Join video visit

- Open **Zoom app** and **Join meeting**
- Enter **Meeting ID** and **your first and last name**
- **Join:** make sure you connect **WITH audio and video**
- **"Please wait, the meeting host will let you in soon"**
- Your provider will **admit** you when ready
- Be prepared to show ID card and answer a few questions to confirm your identity
- Select **"Leave"** (upper right corner) when visit is over

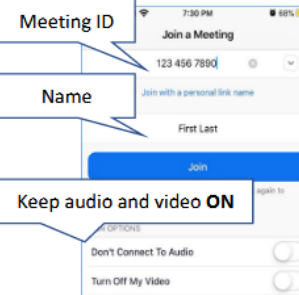
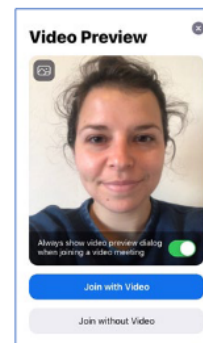
Please contact your clinic by phone prior to your visit if you are having trouble With Zoom, or have not received an appointment or meeting ID. Please visit <http://support.zoom.us> for troubleshooting resources to help with Zoom. Images and guide preparation courtesy of Blythe Butler.



Join Meeting Test

Test your internet connection by joining a test meeting.

Join



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