# What you need to know about telepharmacy in Idaho

Telepharmacy can be used wherever a patient can benefit from the expertise of a pharmacist.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

15: the number of years Shoshone, Idaho did not have a pharmacy. In December 2016, an independent opened the state's first retail community telepharmacy in Shoshone to better serve rural patients.

### Legislative overview

- A retail telepharmacy site can provide pharmacy services almost anywhere throughout the state of Idaho. This includes dispensing at the point of care in collaboration with the provider.
- The drug outlet must maintain video surveillance with an adequate number of views for the facility and retain a high quality recording for a minimum of ninety (90) days.
- Audio-video communication system used to counsel and interact with each patient or patient's caregiver must be clear, secure, and HIPAAcompliant.
- A pharmacist or provider must complete and retain a monthly inperson self-inspection of the drug outlet using a form designated by the Board.

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

55 cities in Idaho do not have a retail pharmacy, 24 of those communities are pharmacy deserts (have no access to a pharmacy within 10 miles).

# What is telepharmacy?

Telepharmacy is the delivery of pharmaceutical care via telecommunications to patients at a distance, or in areas where they may not have access to a pharmacist.

## How does telepharmacy work?

Think of a community telepharmacy as an extension of your current pharmacy. A retail telepharmacy is a licensed brick-and-mortar pharmacy staffed by one (or more) certified pharmacy technician(s). A pharmacist supervises the telepharmacy, or remote dispensing site, from a traditional pharmacy.

"There is a real need out here, and although we offered a delivery service, we were not always meeting their needs. We asked ourselves 'What can we do better?' The answer is telepharmacy."

Jason Reading, PharmD, Owner Shoshone Pharmacy

\*According to our independent research

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319.535.0571

