

Innovative Health Care in Colorado's School-Based Health Centers

Four Live Vignettes on Improving Access to Care



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Bridging the Divide: Coming Together for Kids

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How Does the Safety Net Respond?

Colorado's school-based health centers (SBHCs) offer medical, dental, and mental health care services to children and youth who are uninsured and/or underinsured as well as those enrolled in publicly funded health insurance programs.



Living in the Age of the Jetsons

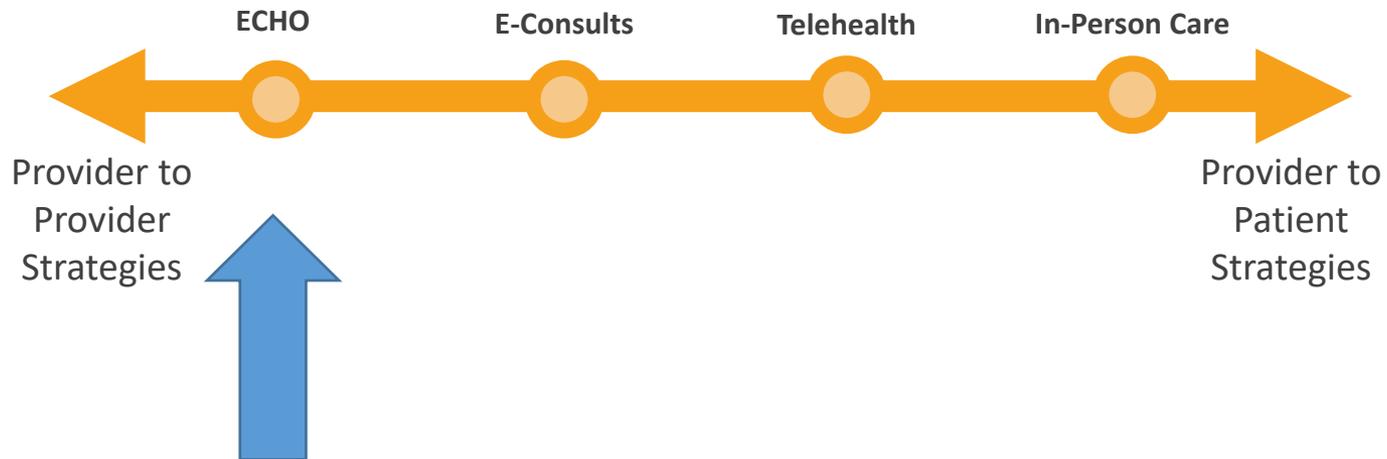


Three Takeaways

- **Coloradans' unmet need is substantial.**
- **Colorado's SBHCs often innovate to address the need.**
- **Pressing policy questions pertain to roles, reimbursement, Regional Accountable Entities (RAEs), and rural Colorado.**

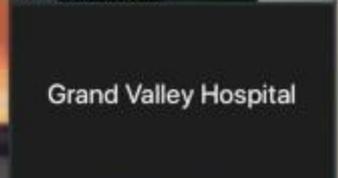
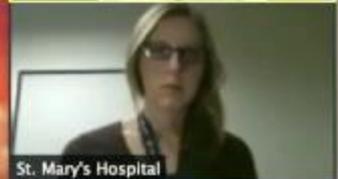


The Innovation Imperative: Strategies to Increasing Access



Scene One:
Extension for
Community
Health
Outcomes
(ECHO)





What is ECHO Colorado?

Provider-to-Provider Learning

Extension for Community Health Outcomes (ECHO) Colorado facilitates interactive learning sessions between a topic expert and 15 to 20 participants from across the state or region. The sessions are conducted remotely using video software.



Trade-offs of ECHO

Pros:

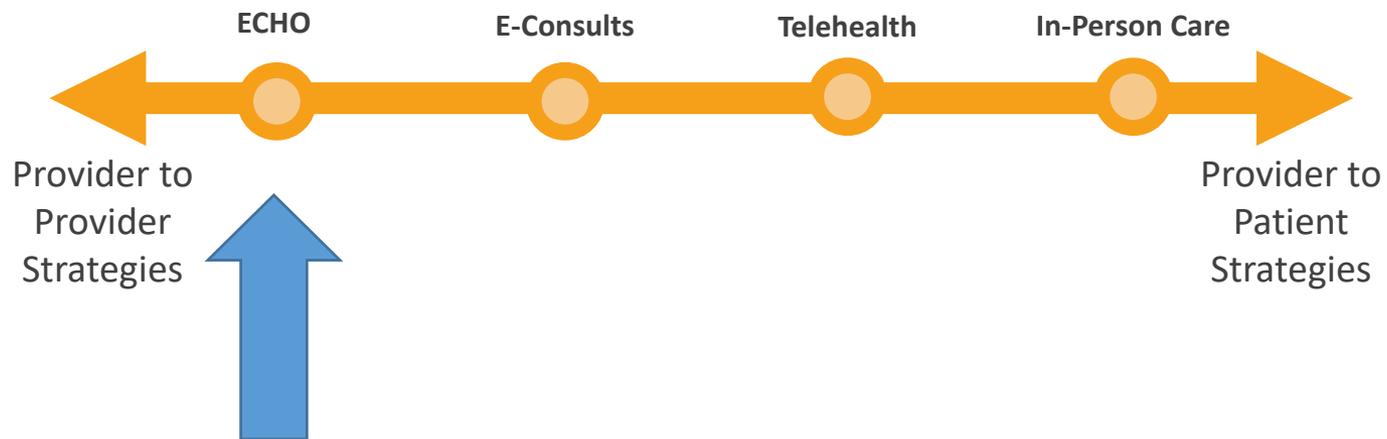
- Empowers PCPs to practice at the top of their scope.
- Reaches many clinicians at once.

Cons:

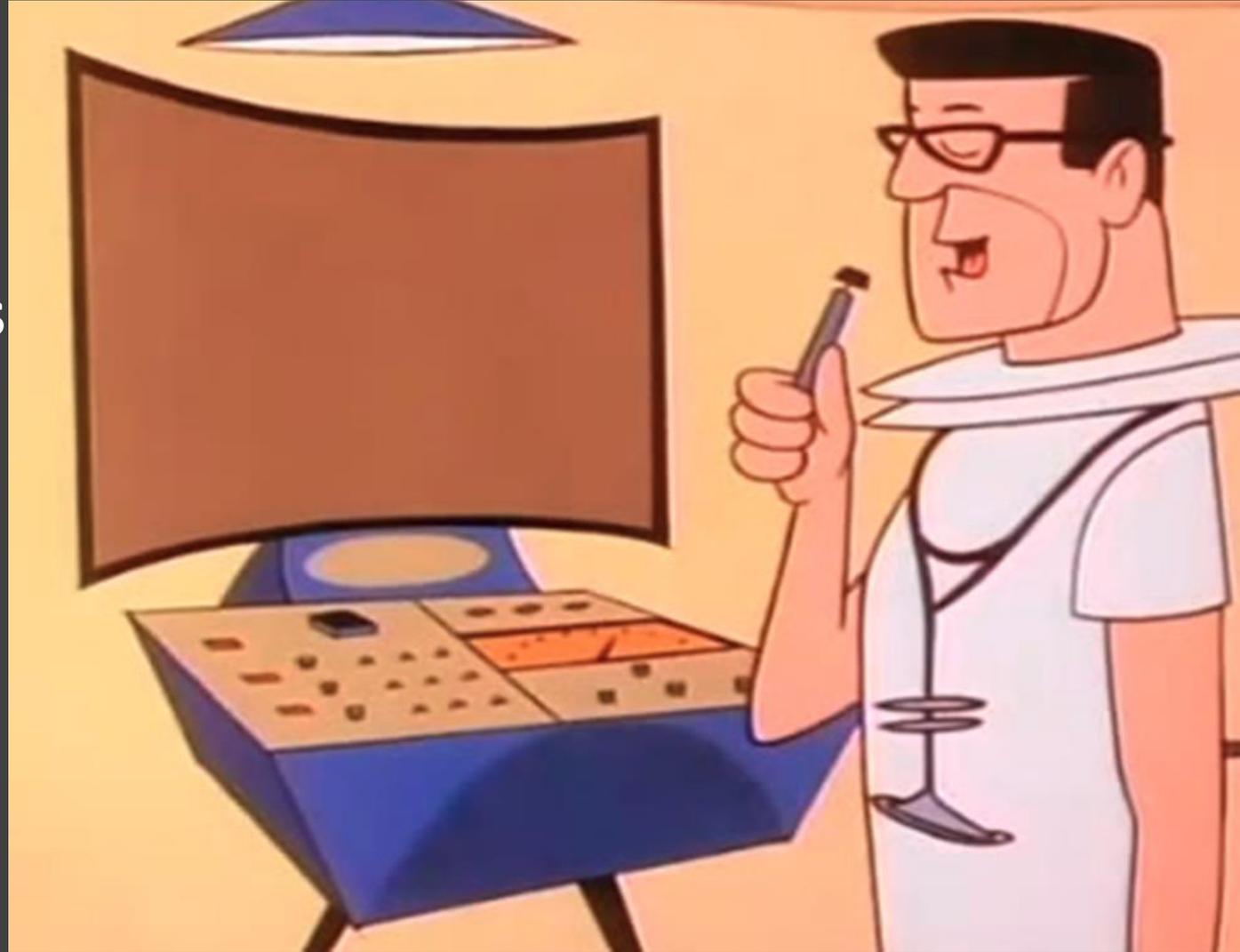
- Not patient-specific.
- Limited clinician time and capacity to attend.



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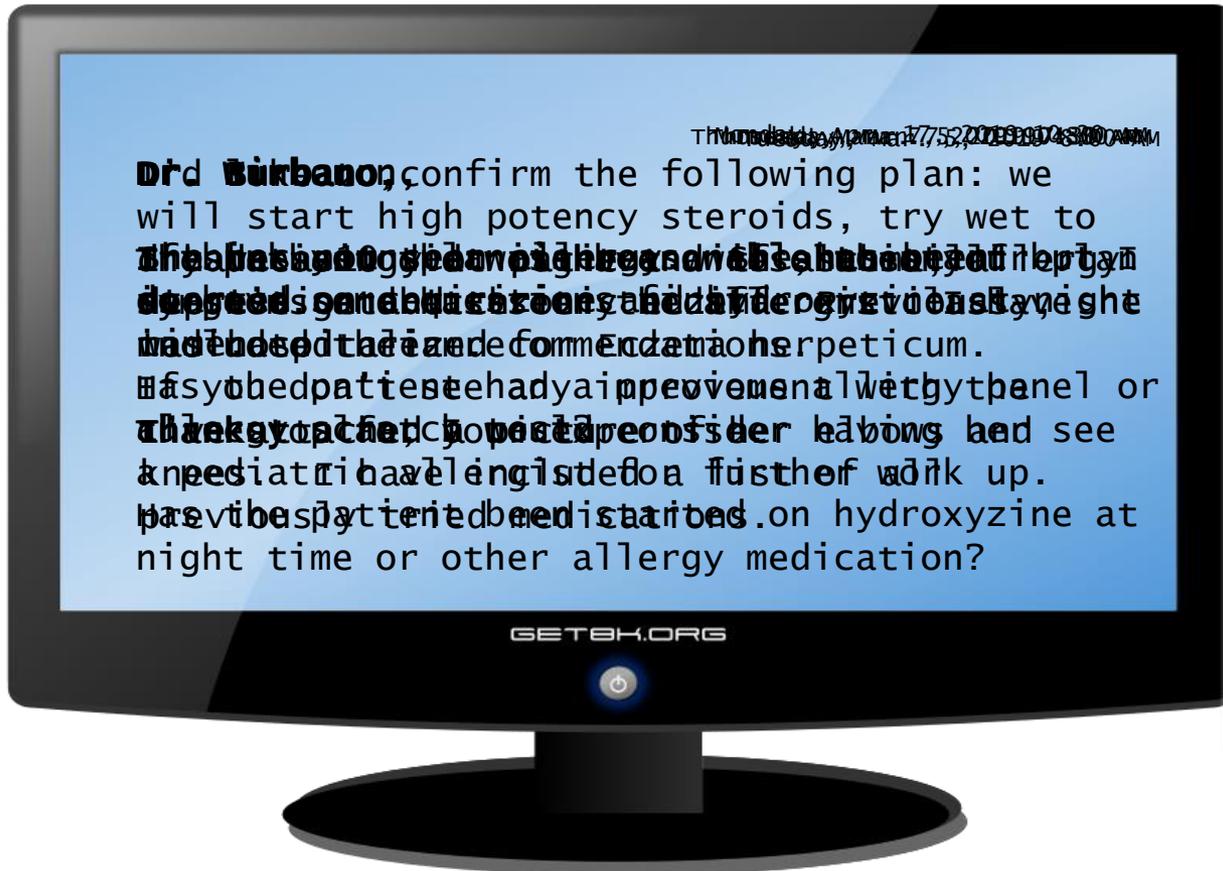
Scene Two:
Electronic
Consultations
(E-Consults)



An Electronic Consultation



Dr. Winbourn
(PCP)



Dr. Burbano
(Dermatologist)

What are E-Consults?

- Remote provider-to-provider consultation.
- Platform allowing PCPs to obtain a specialty care provider's expertise without requiring the patient to go to a face-to-face visit.
- Secure means of sharing patient information.



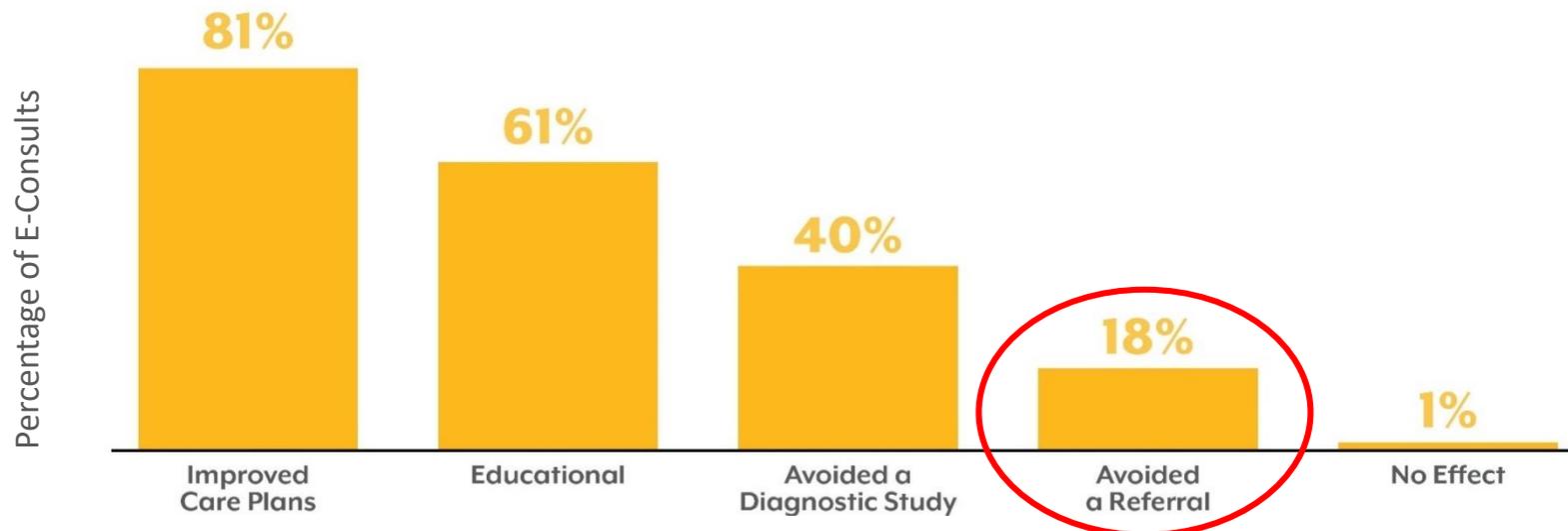
Spotlight on Innovation:



&



PCP-Reported E-Consult Impact, Denver Metro Demonstration Project, 2017



Source: Olayiwola, J.N., et al. (2018). "Access to Specialty Care in Aurora, CO: eConsults as an Important Piece of the Puzzle." *Colorado Family Physician* 55:26-28.



Tradeoffs of E-Consults

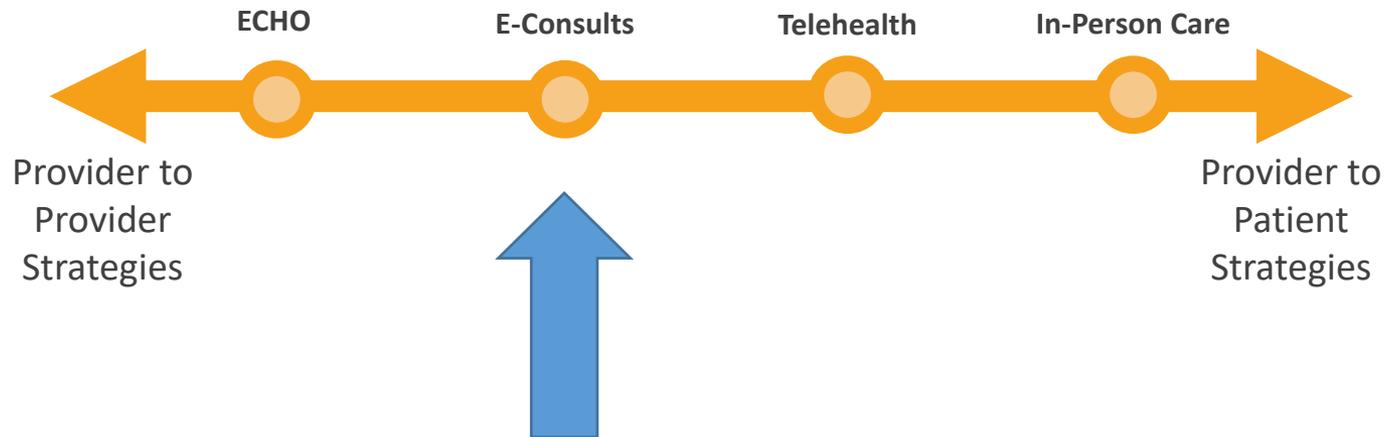
Pros:

- Empowers PCPs to practice at the top of their scope.
- Avoids unnecessary referrals.

Cons:

- Payers generally do not reimburse for e-consults.
- Cost may be prohibitive for safety net clinics.

The Innovation Imperative: Strategies to Increasing Access



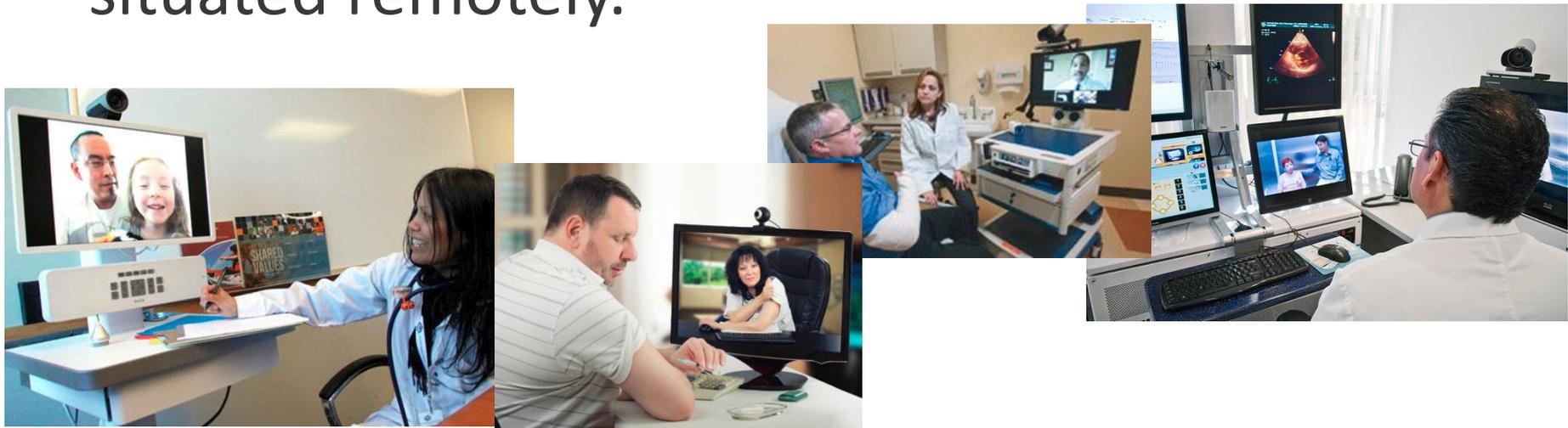
Scene Three:
Telehealth





What is Telehealth? Remote Clinician-to-Patient Services

Telehealth is interactive, electronic exchange of information for the purpose of diagnosis, intervention, or ongoing care management between a patient and health care provider situated remotely.



Tradeoffs of Telehealth

Pros:

- Reimbursed at comparable rates as in-person services.
- Patients are generally satisfied with telehealth.

Cons:

- May encourage overuse of health care.
- Limited internet bandwidth in rural areas.



Spotlight on Innovation:

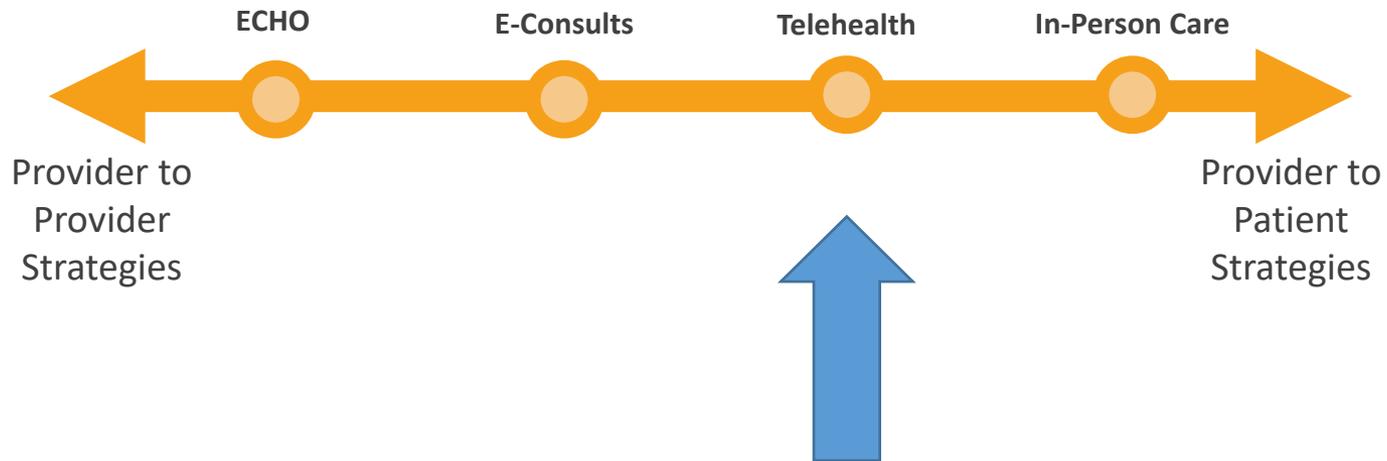


- 50 percent Medicaid patients
- Telehealth arrangements with Children’s Hospital Colorado and Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children
- Services include diabetes management, behavioral health, pulmonary
- Research Results:
 - Families’ drive reduced from 348 miles to 31 miles average
 - Average time lost from work reduced from 40 hours to 2 hours

Source: Analysis provided by Dr. Fred Thomas, Telehealth Director at Children’s Hospital Colorado



The Innovation Imperative: Strategies to Increasing Access



Scene Four:
In-Person
Care:
Six Behavioral
Health Visits





Health First Colorado's "Six Visits"

Primary care practices may be reimbursed for up to six behavioral health sessions per patient per 12-month period.



Trade-offs of Offering Behavioral Health in Primary Care

Pros:

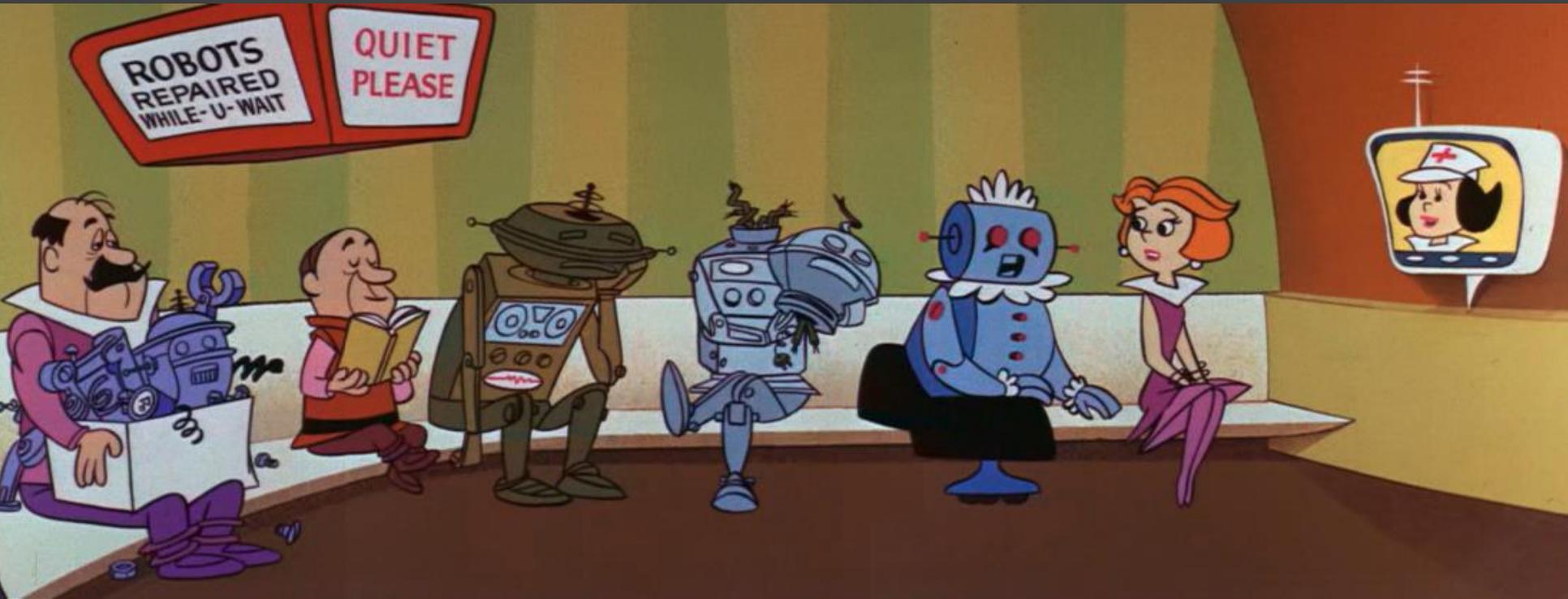
- Collaboration can lead to improved patient outcomes.
- Provides for people with low acuity behavioral health needs.

Cons:

- System changes can be hard to accommodate and confusing.
- Sustainability issues can further stress a practice.

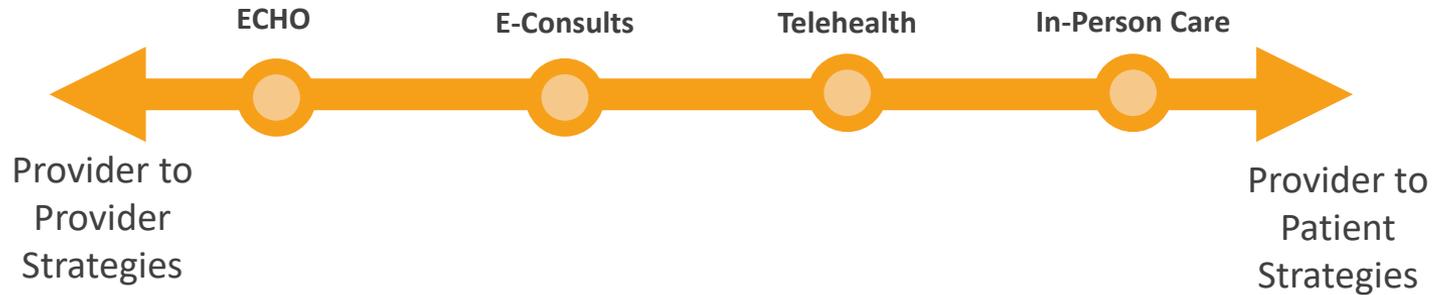


Hearing from You



Questions Across the Continuum

The Innovation Imperative: Strategies to Increasing Access



Four Big Policy Areas

1. Roles

- Will PCPs be able to take all this on?
- How will patients' care be coordinated and non-medical needs be addressed?
- What's in it for the specialists?

2. Reimbursement

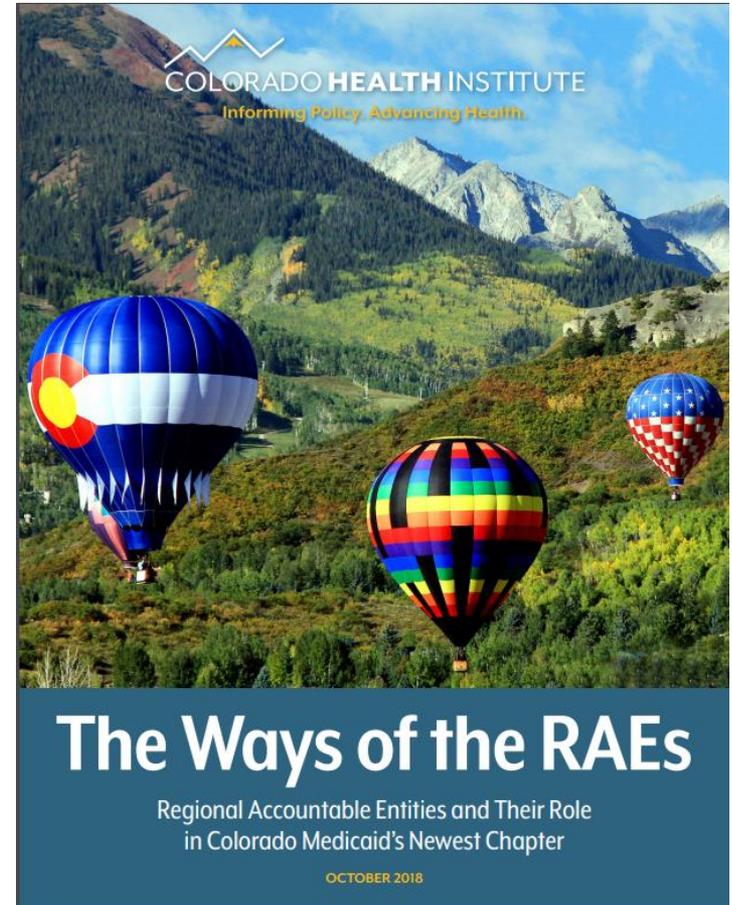
- To what extent does current reimbursement structure support these innovations?
- Who pays for upfront and ongoing costs?



Four Big Policy Areas

3. Regional Accountable Entities (RAEs)

- How will RAEs support these efforts in primary care practices?
- Will they embrace innovation and creative payment arrangements?



Four Big Policy Areas

4. Rural and Underserved Areas

- What is the right combination of approaches to increase access to needed services?

	ECHO	E-Consult	Telehealth	Six Behavioral Health Visits
Empowers PCPs to practice at top of their scope	X	X		
Clinician to clinician interaction	X	X		
Direct patient care			X	X
Addresses individual patient needs		X	X	X
Avoids unnecessary referrals	X	X	X	X
Reimbursable			X	X
Interdisciplinary collaboration	X	X	X	X

Three Takeaways

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