Expanding Tele-Audiology to Address the Post-COVID-19 Surge

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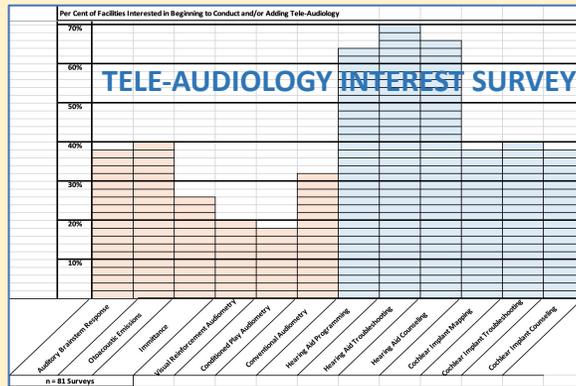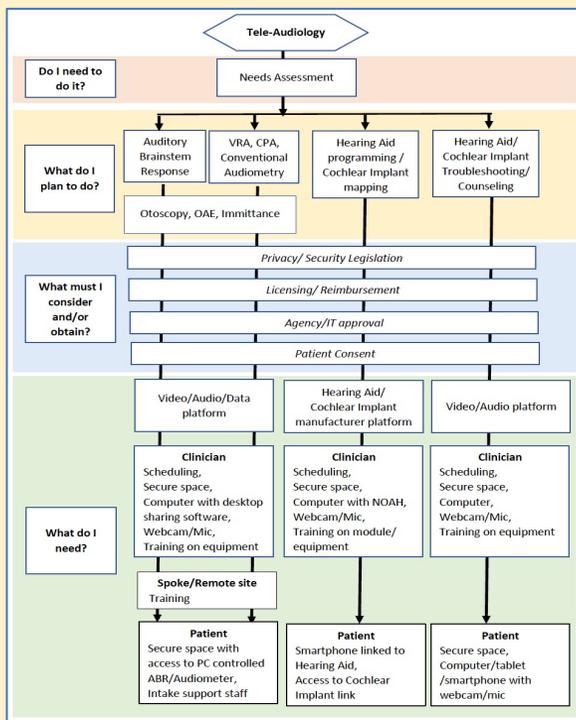Marcia Fort, AuD

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ANTICIPATED OUTCOME

Assist seventy-five (75) sites to begin using pediatric tele-audiology services.

STRATEGIES

Survey pediatric audiologists

Identify current literature

Develop resource materials

Provide technical support

Offer remote simulation

Develop learning community

Tele-Audiology flowchart: Do I need to do it? → Needs Assessment. What do I plan to do? → Auditory Brainstem Response / VRA, CPA, Conventional Audiometry / Hearing Aid programming / Cochlear Implant mapping / Hearing Aid/ Cochlear Implant Troubleshooting/ Counseling → Otoscopy, OAE, Immittance. What must I consider and/or obtain? → Privacy/ Security Legislation → Licensing/ Reimbursement → Agency/IT approval → Patient Consent. What do I need? → Video/Audio/Data platform; Hearing Aid/Cochlear Implant manufacturer platform; Video/Audio platform → Clinician (Scheduling, Secure space, Computer with desktop sharing software, Webcam/Mic, Training on equipment; Computer with NOAH; Training on module/equipment) → Spoke/Remote site Training → Patient.

TELE-AUDIOLOGY INTEREST SURVEY

Per Cent of Facilities Interested in Beginning to Conduct and/or Adding Tele-Audiology

n = 81 Surveys

RESOURCES DEVELOPED

1 - Tele-Audiology Planning Tool

2 - Tele-Audiology Guide

3 - Introduction to Learning Community

4 - Facebook private group

5 - Practicum experience

6 - Technical Support Zoom sessions

Individual and group discussions

1 NCHAM Tele-Audiology Learning Community Planning Tool

2 CHAM - Timely Diagnosis and Follow-up: A Resource Guide Supporting Tele-Audiology

3 NCHAM Tele-Audiology Learning Community Introductory Guide

4 NCHAM: Tele-Audiology Facebook group

5 REMOTE HEARING AID PROGRAMMING

Schmieding Foundation Academy for Hearing Healthcare at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln

Two 1 hour simulations for up to five audiologists simultaneously

26 audiologists registered*
Scheduled for April 22-30

6 TECHNICAL SUPPORT SESSIONS

TOPIC	DATE	ATTENDED	TOTAL ATTEND	AVERAGE ATTEND
Remote Infant ABR	Fri, Feb 5	24		
Remote Infant ABR	Mon, Feb 15	9		
Remote Infant ABR	Tues, Feb 23	22	55	18
Remote Cochlear Implant Mapping	Fri, Feb 12	13		
Remote Cochlear Implant Mapping	Wed, Feb 17	9		
Remote Cochlear Implant Mapping	Wed, Feb 24	16	38	13
Remote Hearing Aid Programming	Mon, Feb 1	9		
Remote Hearing Aid Programming	Fri, Feb 5	14		
Remote Hearing Aid Programming	Mon, Feb 22	12	35	12
Remote Site Location and Training	Tues, Feb 2	15		
Remote Site Location and Training	Wed, Feb 17	12		
Remote Site Location and Training	Wed, Feb 24	7	34	11
Privacy and Security	Tues, Feb 9	17		
Privacy and Security	Thurs, Feb 18	10		
Privacy and Security	Thurs, Feb 25	8	35	12
		197	197	13.1

SUSTAINABILITY

Resources that will remain viable after May 2021

Tele-Audiology Guide - infanthearing.org [1,2]

Tele-Audiology Learning Community - infanthearing.org [3]

Facebook group [4]

Simulation Experiences at Schmieding Foundation Academy for Hearing Healthcare, University of Nebraska – Lincoln [5]

Recordings of Technical Assistance sessions [6]

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