

News Release

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Texas Tech Physicians Expands Telemedicine Options for Texas Panhandle Patients

As the number of COVID-19 cases continues to rise in the Panhandle, Texas Tech Physicians (TTP) has expanded its telemedicine options for patients.

“We need to be staying home and socially distancing to the greatest extent possible, but other medical problems and concerns don’t cease to exist just because there’s a virus impacting the world.” Chair of Family Medicine Dr. Rodney Young said. “So, we are taking advantage of changes in regulations that have come along with the public health emergency to make video visits with our providers an easy option for patients to take advantage of while still following the stay at home guidelines.”

In addition to treating acute illness like COVID-19, Texas Tech Physicians doctors are treating patients for chronic diseases like diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma and COPD, headaches and other conditions.

“Most of the conditions people normally seek care for can be evaluated and treated very reasonably through a virtual visit with audio and video components,” Young said. “It’s very much like sitting in the same room and talking as we normally would. The main difference, of course, is not being able to do a normal physical exam, which isn’t always necessary to manage ongoing concerns. If we discover, during the course of a virtual visit, that we really do need to examine you to determine the best course of action, we can always make arrangements to see you in person at the right time.”

While there are multiple telehealth options available in the Amarillo area, TTP uses [FollowMyHealth](#)—a portal that allows current patients to see a Texas Tech Physicians doctor using video visits and not risk unnecessary exposure to others.

“We can use Zoom for video visits as well. Patients download the Zoom cloud meeting app on their smartphone or tablet and enable the app to access both their microphone and their camera when we send them the meeting ID,” Young said. “It’s just a few steps and easy to setup. You just need a connected device with a camera and a microphone.”

Stay up to date on the latest COVID-19 information from TTUHSC, [here](#).