

## **Support** **HB 448 – Health Care Practitioners – Telehealth**

February 2020

The Maryland Academy of Advanced Practice Clinicians (MAAPC) supports Delegate Rosenberg's HB 448 – Health Care Practitioners – Telehealth

With information technology evolving at a record pace, the healthcare arena is struggling to keep up. As access to care is a major issue in the U.S., the adaptation of Telehealth could be used to reach even the most remote rural areas and busy inner-city neighborhoods where healthcare providers are historically underrepresented.

HB 448 allows providers to use existing, and evolving, technology to increase access to care and has the possibility to increase compliance in those patients who work during regular office hours or live long distances from their providers' offices.

Examples:

- In my practice:
  - Remote monitoring of heart rhythm through Kardia (<https://www.alivecor.com/kardiamobile>) and smartphone technology
  - Influenza: a phone call (also discuss reasons to go to ER) and then e-Prescribe for Tamiflu and Zofran, so patient stays home, decreases transmission of infection.
  - Medicare wellness visits: patients complete online or paper forms before in-person visit
- RN and NP diabetic follow up after hospital discharge in California
- All patient portals/MYCHART, now ubiquitous in Maryland, are a form of Telehealth

Please contact Dr. Elaine Crain (410-703-0556, [TheMAAPC@gmail.com](mailto:TheMAAPC@gmail.com)), or Lorraine Diana, our Legislative Chair (301-980-8004), for any information you may need about current Telehealth use in practice or HB 448. MAAPC is represented in Annapolis by John Favazza ([jfavazza@maniscanning.com](mailto:jfavazza@maniscanning.com), 410 263-7882).

We ask the Committee for a favorable vote on HB 448,

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