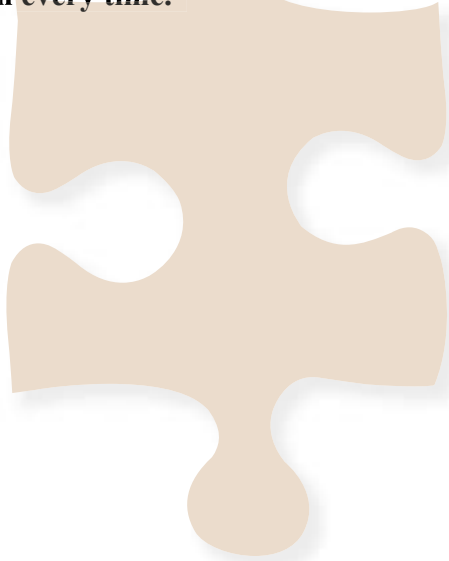


# Telehealth and ACH

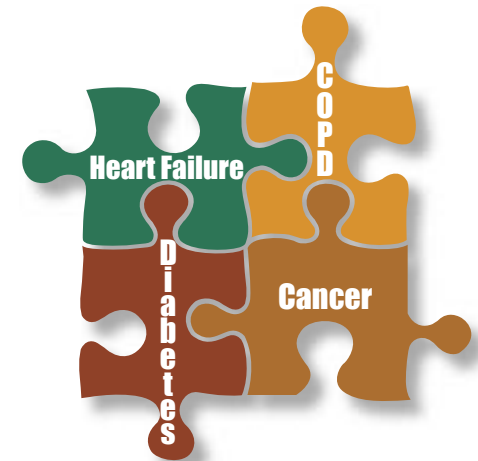
Across the nation, home health agencies and QIOs are working on reducing acute care hospitalizations. Both home telehealth and disease management are proven interventions to help reduce avoidable acute care hospitalizations. By using the tools provided in the Telehealth Disease Management Series, you can help improve best practices in disease management, lower the percentage of acute care hospitalizations and work toward CMS' goal of providing **"The right care for every person every time."**



The Home Telehealth Disease Management Series is part of the national ACH initiative. Look for this logo on other ACH tools.

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# Home Telehealth Disease Management Series



Created by OASIS Answers, Inc. ([www.oasisanswers.com](http://www.oasisanswers.com)) and provided by Quality Insights of Pennsylvania ([www.qipa.org](http://www.qipa.org))

## Introduction

The Home Telehealth Disease Management Series provides clinicians with a comprehensive package of print tools to improve the management of four commonly encountered diseases in the home health care population through the incorporation of telehealth technology. The diseases include heart failure, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cancer and diabetes, and are color coded for easy reference. Heart failure tools are green, COPD tools are orange, cancer tools are tan and diabetes tools are rust.

OASIS Answers, Inc., in conjunction with Quality Insights of Pennsylvania, developed the series, which can be found on MedQIC by clicking on “Home Health” then “Telehealth” under “Agency-Wide Improvement” at [www.medqic.org](http://www.medqic.org).



## Resources

Within each disease featured, there are five sections of tools, each focused on helping agencies achieve a different goal. The five sections include:

- **Patient Selection Criteria** – A checklist home care clinicians can utilize to identify patients who meet the criteria for disease specific telehealth options.
- **Decision Support Tool** – A flowchart that guides the clinician through the critical decision-making process related to each of the four selected diseases.
- **Patient Encounter Documentation Tool** – A disease-specific tool formatted to facilitate the documentation of the decisions made during the related patient encounter.
- **Patient Self-Care Workbook** – A patient-centered workbook used to educate the patient regarding disease process and risk factors, as well as associated medication, dietary, and treatment considerations. It offers patients an opportunity to become involved in their disease management by setting goals and documenting progress.
- **Staff Education Guide** – Includes tools that can be utilized to help make the patient assessment and care planning processes more comprehensive and standardized.



## More On the Web



In addition to the disease-specific print tools, a five part WebEx series discussing the utilization and application of the Home Telehealth Disease Management Series will be available March & April 2006 on the MedQIC Web site. It will also be available as a downloadable audio recording with handouts.

- The WebEx series will feature sessions on:
1. An Introduction to the Home Telehealth Disease Management Series
  2. Heart Failure
  3. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
  4. Cancer
  5. Diabetes

