3:30-3:45  Transition Break
3:45-4:30  Breakout Sessions
Clark Room  
School Telehealth
Anney Sutton, Hardin County Schools & Megan McMillin, Cumberland Family Medical Center
Telehealth technology can supplement school health services by connecting Nurse Practitioners, Physicians, and other healthcare providers who normally would not be able to travel to a school clinic. Public schools are mandated to address increasingly complex student health needs, including mental and behavioral health, chronic illness, and acute primary care. Partnering with community healthcare providers that leverage telehealth to bring care into the school nurse's office can improve a child's health, enhance their learning ability, and yield financial benefit for the school system. This session will include input from community healthcare providers as well as school administrative staff. Kentucky has several community hospitals and clinics that are leading the way in this healthcare delivery model.

Coldstream Ballroom 2
Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM)
Rodney Plunkett & Nicole Man, Commonwealth Health at Home
Offering RPM services to home health patients in 12 states across 40 locations, Commonwealth Health at Home has engaged the highest-risk patients with multiple comorbidities, a history of medication and symptom mismanagement, and an elevated risk for health failure at home. The programs' goals were to reduce hospital readmissions, increase capacity and clinical touchpoints through the use of virtual visits, and increase patient satisfaction. The use of RPM has also been an invaluable tool for COVID, chronic disease management, and Home health innovation projects such as SNP at Home and early dismissal so we can focus on the future of health care and move care to the home setting. Utilizing grants to expand and enhance the RPM program in Kentucky, Saint Joseph Home Health has been able to uncover gaps and meet needs previously unmet in the rural population. The learner can expect to take away the following from this presentation:
• How Home Health RPM can enhance collaboration with providers to improve outcomes for patients
• The benefits and barriers to starting a home health RPM program
• Special RPM consideration for the rural population
• Specific Home Health RPM data overall and compared to our rural population

Coldstream Ballroom 3
Facility-to-Facility Telehealth Services: The Importance of a Network of Affiliated Partners
Kathy Wibberly, Mid Atlantic Telehealth Resource Center
Prior to the COVID crisis, traditional facility-to-facility telehealth services were the foundation of most of Kentucky's telehealth activity because the CMS rules that mandated patients must be in a "healthcare facility" in order for the provider to be eligible for reimbursement for a telehealth visit. Fortunately, Kentucky's Medicaid and Commercial Health Plans have more flexible guidelines that permit visits from patients' homes or other locations. But, some patients do not have the appropriate technology, bandwidth, or technical skills to do home-based telehealth. Also, some complex cases require a "presenter" and more diagnostic capabilities, which can only be provided in a healthcare facility. As Kentucky continues to refine our integration of telehealth into the healthcare delivery system, we should not forget the value of facility-based telehealth services originating from anywhere that can host a patient. This session will expand our view on how telehealth can reach all Kentuckians.

4:30  Evaluation/Adjourn

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Telehealth allows providers to connect to patients from anywhere in the world. This expanded access to healthcare resources can conflict with the clinical relationships developed between patients and community healthcare professionals.

Value-based care can place a high burden on community providers to manage the cost and quality of care for patients within their clinical panel. It is critical to provide better access to care, employers, patients, insurance companies, and others can undermine the efforts of local providers who seek to deliver coordinated care to improve outcomes and reduce costs.

Kentucky providers must understand the competitive forces that are at play as they strengthen their practices to compete in a new environment that includes telehealth.

Healthcare providers and healthcare systems should utilize all resources at their disposal, such as internal legal and compliance teams, health system and provider associations, state telehealth state office, and other trusted sources in Kentucky that are familiar with telehealth rules and regulations. This environment is dynamic and continuous surveillance of the rules and regs at the state and national level is vital.

Most Kentucky healthcare providers have been doing telehealth during COVID, but the relaxation of rules during the Public Health Emergency permitted many things that traditionally were not allowed. This session will highlight the important legal and regulatory considerations but will not detail the specifics of reimbursement, licensure, privileging/credentialing. The summit will provide resources, including weblinks to rules and regulations that you will find helpful as you develop, operate, and optimize your telehealth services.

This session will also consider how Kentucky’s telehealth programs may be impacted by the expiration of the National COVID Public Health Emergency. The PHE may still be in effect, so this presentation will help you understand the potential negative consequences of the PHE’s expiration, what rules and regulations could revert to pre-COVID status, and how those changes could impact telehealth in Kentucky.

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First, the state of Kentucky has invested heavily in broadband expansion through the Kentucky Wired program, which focused on “middle mile” connectivity with over 3,000 miles of high-speed, high-capacity fiber optic cable to every county in the Commonwealth. This infrastructure will help provide the foundation for telehealth services across the Commonwealth.

The panel discussion will show how a state Medicaid Managed Care Organization partnered with a western Kentucky County Judge Executive, broadband network providers, and regional healthcare professionals to extend network connectivity and provide publicly accessible internet services and a public telehealth kiosk to support the local community.

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