



CALL YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS



Take a few minutes during our Virtual Lobby Campaign April 11 through May 2 to call your Congressional leaders to let them know how important it is to you for them to support pilot telehealth legislation that would permit respiratory therapists as telehealth practitioners to provide disease management services to Medicare beneficiaries with COPD.

Visit <http://c.aarc.org/go/lobby18> for more information on how to reach your members of Congress.



Here are some talking points you can use when you make your call:

I am a respiratory therapist (or student, or pulmonary patient, etc.) and I'm from (your town and state). I'd like to ask Representative / Senator _____ to support pilot telehealth legislation that includes respiratory therapists (RTs) as telehealth practitioners to furnish disease management services, such as self-management education and training, proper use of inhalers, smoking cessation counseling and remote patient monitoring to Medicare beneficiaries with Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

Respiratory therapists are not currently included among those who are eligible to provide telehealth services under Medicare. If successful, the pilot will gather information on both the health impact and costs associated with respiratory therapists' services in order to demonstrate the expertise RTs bring to the health care system and their patients. Your support of the pilot will ultimately help Medicare beneficiaries who suffer from chronic respiratory disease to have greater access to RTs who are educated and trained in all aspects of pulmonary care.

I appreciate your consideration of this request to support pilot telehealth legislation that includes RTs as telehealth practitioners and thank you for your time.