



**healthywomen**

CURES 2.0

# Leading Women's Health Forward

Virtual Policy Discussion | May 11, 1-2 p.m. ET



## **Arika L. Pierce, JD**

CEO and Founder, Piercing Strategies



**Fawn Cothran, Ph.D., RN,  
GCNS-BC, FGSA**

The Hunt Research Director, National Alliance for  
Caregiving

# Family Caregivers



- NAC’s work aims to support a society which values, supports, and empowers family caregivers across chronic condition and lifespan to thrive at home, work, and life.
- “...*family\* member or other individual who has a significant relationship with, and who provides a broad range of assistance to, an individual with a chronic or other health condition, disability or functional limitation.*” (RAISE Family Caregiver Act Initial Report to Congress, 2021, p. 15)

\*NOTE: “family” is broadly defined representing biological, legal, and families of choice

ECONOMY

# Caring for aging parents, sick spouses is keeping millions out of work

Four times as many Americans are out of work taking care of adult family members than those who stopped working to care for children during the pandemic



By [Abha Bhattarai](#)

April 4, 2022 at 2:02 p.m. EDT

Politics

## Youth Caregivers: Black and Brown Young People Have Cared for Relatives During COVID

This op-ed argues why we must #buildbackbetter for Black and Latinx youth who have caregiving responsibilities.

BY FEYLYN LEWIS, PHD

FEBRUARY 10, 2022

# Caregiving Reports

RESEARCH REPORT

MAY 2020

2020 Report

## Caregiving in the U.S.



Conducted by

**AARP**  
Family Caregiving™

**nac**  
National Alliance for Caregiving



NOVEMBER 2021 NATIONAL REPORT  
CAREGIVING IN A DIVERSE AMERICA:

BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND  
THE SYSTEMIC CHALLENGES  
FACING FAMILY CAREGIVERS



**nac**  
National Alliance for Caregiving

NATIONAL  
Minority Quality Forum

DIVERSE  
ELDERS  
COALITION

## Home Alone Revisited: FAMILY CAREGIVERS PROVIDING COMPLEX CARE



FUNDED BY:  
**AARP** Foundation™

The John A. Hartford  
Foundation

Susan C. Reinhard, Heather M. Young, Carol Levine,  
Kathleen Kelly, Rita B. Choula, Jean Acclius

Special Report by the Founders of the Home Alone Alliance™

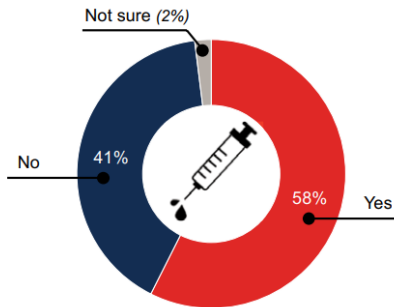
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# Caregiver Challenges Across the Lifespan

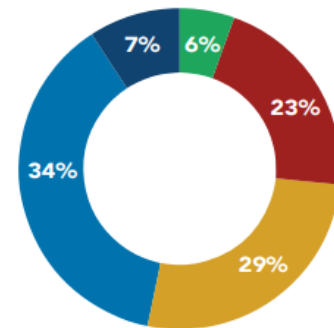


23 hours per week of care

## Assistance with Medical/Nursing Tasks



40% live with care partner or care recipient



● Boomers    ● Gen-X    ● Gen-Z  
● Millennials    ● Silent

## CAREGIVING in the U.S. 2020

The number of Americans providing unpaid care has increased over the last five years.\*



NEARLY ONE IN FIVE (19%) ARE PROVIDING UNPAID CARE TO AN ADULT WITH HEALTH OR FUNCTIONAL NEEDS.\*\*

More Americans are caring for more than one person.



More family caregivers have difficulty coordinating care.



More Americans caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease or dementia.



More family caregivers report their own health is fair to poor.

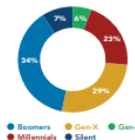


23% OF AMERICANS SAY CAREGIVING HAS MADE THEIR HEALTH WORSE.

Who are today's family caregivers?

**39%**  
MEN

**61%**  
WOMEN



**45%**  
HAVE HAD AT LEAST ONE FINANCIAL IMPACT

**61%**  
WORK

**AARP**  
Family Caregiving™

\*Provided care to an adult or child with special needs.  
\*\*The remainder of this data is based on the 19% or 48 million caregivers caring for an adult.  
URL: [www.aarp.org/ucaregiving](http://www.aarp.org/ucaregiving) DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26419/ppi.00103.002>

**naac**  
Head. Move. Inspire.

Caregiving in the U.S. 2020.  
National Alliance for Caregiving and AARP.  
For media inquiries, contact [Media@naac.org](mailto:Media@naac.org)

# Caregiver Challenges Across the Lifespan



STRESS



INVISIBILITY



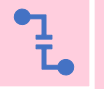
REDUCED  
WORK



PHYSICAL &  
MENTAL  
HEALTH



NUTRITION &  
IMMUNE  
FUNCTION



ISOLATION



# Caregiver Benefits Across the Lifespan



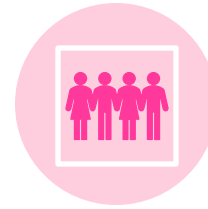
SENSE OF  
PURPOSE



SATISFACTION



OPPORTUNITY TO  
RESOLVE  
CONFLICT



STRENGTHEN  
RELATIONSHIPS



GIVING BACK

# Unique Challenges for Women

RECOVERY LAB

## The pandemic drove women out of the workforce. Will they come back?

Their absence could hurt the broader U.S. economy, so policymakers are weighing ways to help them return to work.

REPORT OCT 30, 2020

### How COVID-19 Sent Women's Workforce Progress Backward

**Congress' \$64.5 Billion Mistake**

The collapse of the child care sector and drastic reductions in school supervision hours as a result of COVID-19 could drive millions of mothers out of the paid workforce. Inaction could cost billions, undermine family economic security, and set gender equity back a generation.



Women's Health Policy

Home // Women's Health Policy // Women, Work, and Family During COVID-19: Findings from the KFF Women's Health Survey

### Women, Work, and Family During COVID-19: Findings from the KFF Women's Health Survey

Usha Ranji, Brittni Frederiksen, Alina Salganicoff , and Michelle Long

Published: Mar 22, 2021

AP

U.S. News World News Politics Sports Entertainment Business Technology Health Science Oddities Lifestyle

### Many women have left the workforce. When will they return?

By BOBBY CAINA CALVAN and CHRISTOPHER RUGABER November 4, 2021

# Unique Challenges for Women

60% of caregivers

More likely to care for  
more than one  
generation

More likely to be  
informal AND formal  
caregivers

Likely to repeat role

Gendered role  
expectations

# Unique Challenges for Women

Feminization of poverty

Early workforce separation

Role potentially worsens health  
outcomes

# Provisions from Cures 2.0

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- Establish initiatives that enhance the federal support infrastructure for family caregivers
- Training and information on how to perform specialized skills
- Contributing to a better field of data collection

There are only four kinds of people in the world.

Those who have been caregivers.

Those who are currently caregivers.

Those who will be caregivers.

And those who will need caregivers.

~Rosalyn Carter

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<https://www.caregiving.org>

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# World Carers Conversation 2022



## World Carers Conversation returns May 19, 2022 as a global, virtual event.

World Carers Conversation returns May 19, 2022 as a global, virtual event with the support of EMD Serono and Embracing Carers. Join innovators, researchers, policymakers and carer advocates from around the globe to learn about advancements in the field, be inspired, and make connections that matter for the future of carers everywhere. This virtual summit will highlight innovations in caregiving research, practice and policy from around the world.

This free event will be made available to the public via Zoom and Facebook Live. The 2020 World Carers Conversation enjoyed participation of caregiving experts and stakeholders from six continents (Africa, Asia, Europe, Oceania, North America, South America) and fifteen countries (Australia, Canada, China, France, Ghana, India, Ireland, Israel, Mexico, New Zealand, South Korea, Taiwan, United Kingdom, United States) with more than 4,000 attendees. Revisit highlights from the 2020 World Carers Conversation by viewing the 2020 highlight reel. [Watch highlights.](#)

Two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, care advocates around the world have experienced pressures on the health and social care systems in

Visit NAC's event webpage for the latest information including the event agenda. [Visit webpage.](#)

[Register](#) for the event to receive Zoom Webinar join information then join and step away throughout the day May 19 to catch the sessions and stories most important to you.

**Share! This event is free and open to the public. Please share with your networks.**



# **2 Minute Question & Answer with Fawn Cothran**





**Jeannine M. Brant, Ph.D,  
APRN-CNS, AOCN, FAAN**  
President, Oncology Nursing Society

# Listen to Patient Voices

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- Capturing the patient's voice provides understanding of patient symptoms and experiences.
  - Patient-reported outcomes (PROs).
  - Need platforms and workflows that support PROs'.
  - Foundational to all Titles within *Cures 2.0*.
  - Expands electronic database to expand research potential.

# Patient & Caregiver Implications

- Clinical Trials
  - Title II – *Improve clinical trial diversity and increase access.*
  - Diversity
  - Increase Access
- Cancer Genetics & Genomics
  - Title IV – *Expand access to genetic testing and precision medicine.*
  - Risk Reduction, Screening, Diagnosis
  - Lack of infrastructure, cost, fear of life insurance scrutiny are limitations
- Telehealth
  - Title IV – *Increase access to telehealth and extend telehealth capabilities.*
  - Increase Access – Flexibility, Nurse Practitioner Inclusion

# Nurses

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- Cancer Care Navigators/Nurses provide care throughout the cancer journey
  - Often lead/collaborate in interdisciplinary teams
  - Enroll patients into clinical trials
- Providers of holistic care
  - Oncology Nurse Practitioners provide in person and telehealth oncology
  - Relationship-based care
  - Drivers of patient-reported outcomes - Instrumental in symptom assessment and management
- Nurse Scientists and Research
  - Discover new knowledge



# **2 Minute Question & Answer with Jeannine M. Brant**



Nisha Quasba

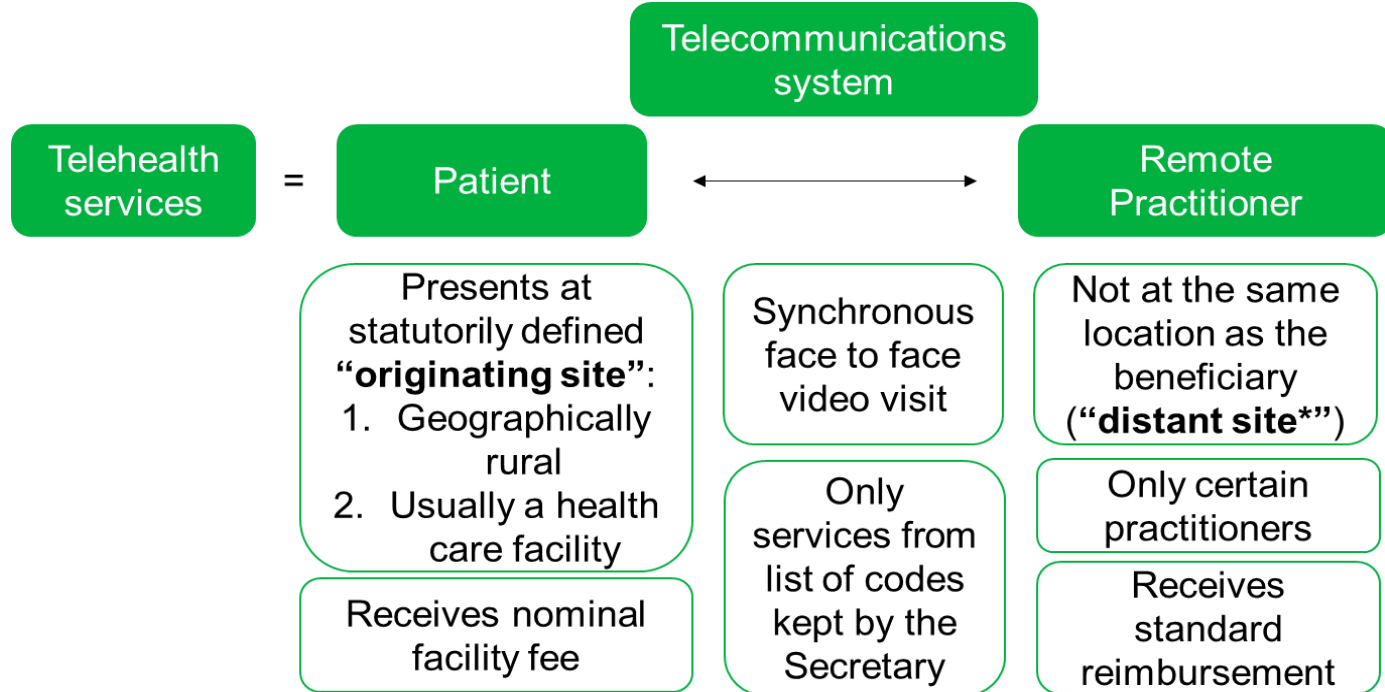
Advisor, Faegre Drinker

# Telehealth Policy in Cures 2.0

- Section 402: TIKES Act (Medicaid)
- Section 403: Telehealth Modernization Act (Medicare)

# Telehealth in Medicare

- Section 1834(m) of the Social Security Act





# Telehealth in Medicare during the PHE

- Congress gave HHS broad authority to waive telehealth restriction.
  - Originating and geographic site.
  - CMS added 200+ codes for temporary coverage through CY2023.
  - Audio-only virtual check-ins have been allowed.
  - RPM can be used for acute and /or chronic conditions for established and new patients.
  - Federally qualified health centers (FQHCs) and rural health clinics (RHCs) can serve as "distant sites."

# **FY 22 Omnibus Policy**

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- **Extended Medicare flexibilities for 151 days post pandemic.**
  - Originating site, PT/OT/ST, FQHC/RHC, audio only
- **Delayed the telemental health in person requirement accordingly.**
- **Extended the HDHP safe harbor for plan year 2022.**
- **Required MedPac, CMS, and OIG reports.**
- **Did not address remote prescribing of controlled substances or licensing/practice across state lines.**

# Telehealth in Medicaid



## State Medicaid & CHIP Telehealth Toolkit

*Policy Considerations for States Expanding Use of Telehealth*

COVID-19 Version



# Section 403 of Cures 2.0 (Medicare)

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- **Telehealth Modernization Act:** Extending Medicare telehealth flexibilities following the public health emergency.
  - Originating site can be wherever the patient is, including the home.
  - The Secretary may expand the list of practitioners eligible to provide telehealth services (ex: PT/OT/ST).
  - The Secretary may retain services on the telehealth services list during the PHE via the same subregulatory process.
  - FQHCs and RHCs may act as distant sites.
  - Telehealth may be used for the hospice and home dialysis face-to-face encounters.

# Section 402 of Cures 2.0 (Medicaid)

- TIKES Act (Medicaid): Within a year of enactment, HHS shall issue guidance to states to overcome barriers to access to telehealth in Medicaid and CHIP.
- *Technical assistance and best practices related to:*
  - Existing strategies to integrate virtual services into value-based care models.
  - Examples of states that have used Medicare waivers to test expanded access to telehealth.
- *Studies:*
  - MACPAC on telehealth impact on health care access, including cost and utilization, barriers and solutions.
  - GAO on opportunities for federal agencies to collaborate.

# Some Policies that are Not Addressed

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- **In person requirement prior to prescribing controlled substances.**
- **Safe harbor for High Deductible Health Plans to cover telehealth pre-deductible.**
- **Licensing**
- **Remote patient monitoring**

# Will Federal Policy Keep Up with the "New Normal"?

- Providers and patients have learned to use telehealth.
- Many prefer telehealth for convenience and access.
- There will be ongoing concern about infectious disease spread.
- Technology can more frequently/effectively monitor conditions.

Most federal policy flexibilities were granted temporarily during the pandemic



Will federal policy (Congress and agencies) make policies permanent to keep up with the new normal?



# **2 Minute Question & Answer with**

## Nisha Quasba





## **Ashira Vantrees, JD**

Staff Attorney, Aimed Alliance

# Aimed Alliance

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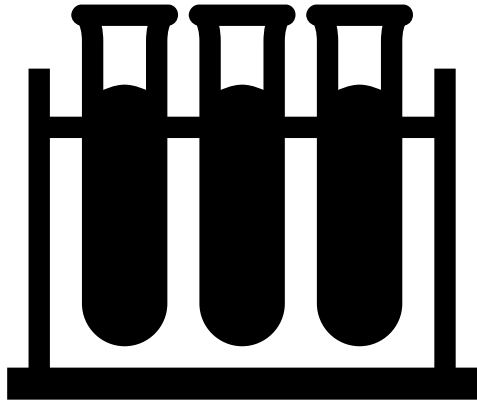
501 (c)(3) not-for-profit health policy organization that seeks to protect and enhance the rights of health care consumers and providers.

# The Importance of Cures 2.0

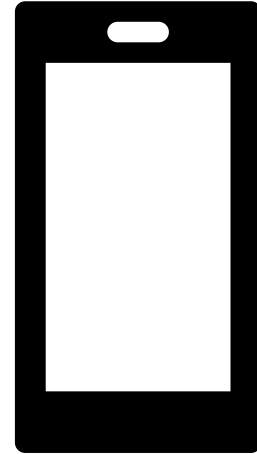
- Diversity in clinical trials.
- Caregiver education.
- Increasing access to telehealth services.

# Where Congress Can Take Action Next

Biomarker Testing



Prescription Digital  
Therapies



# Biomarker Testing

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- Biomarkers are characteristics of the body that can be objectively measured.
- Biomarker testing is used to identify genes, protein, or other substances that provide information about the type of cancer an individual uses.
- The results of biomarker testing can help healthcare professionals identify the treatments that are most effective for a particular patient.
- Biomarker testing in breast and ovarian cancers.

# What Can Congress Do?

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- Congress should introduce legislation that would require health plans to cover the cost of biomarker testing.
- Include guardrails for prior authorization policies on biomarker testing.

# Prescription Digital Therapies

- Prescription digital therapeutics also called prescription digital therapies or PDTs.
- PDTs are evidence-based medical interventions using software that can be accessed on a tablet, smartphone, or VR headset to prevent, manage, or treat a range of diseases and disorders.
- Wide variety of conditions currently can be treated using PDTs such as ADHD, chronic low back pain, chronic insomnia, OUD, and SUD.

# What Can Congress Do?

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- Pass the “Access to Prescription Digital Therapeutics Act of 2022” (S. 3791 /H.R. 7051).
- Introduced by Senators Shaheen (D-NH) and Capito (R-WV) and Representatives Thompson (D-CA) and McKinley (R-WV).
- Would require the Secretary of HHS to create temporary HCPCS codes for PDTs and permanent codes for PDTs within 2 years of bill enactment.
- Would create a new Medicaid payment category for PDTs.





# **2 Minute Question & Answer with Ashira Vantrees**



# **10 Minute Question & Answer with All Panelists**

# Thank You to Our Corporate Advisory Council!

Alora Pharmaceuticals

Myovant Sciences

Astellas

Novo Nordisk

Covis Pharma

Pfizer

Eli Lilly

Viatrix

Hologic

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