



Exciting Opportunities in Telemedicine

BY LISA FINKELSTEIN, DO




My new mantra is, "Tell me what I don't know." And there is a lot that I don't know. This year has been INVIGORATING. Wyoming is overflowing with inspiring people in healthcare. Innovations and ideas are flowing throughout our rural state and people are looking to Wyoming to test some of their projects. WMS has offered up many opportunities to explore and expand new possibilities.

My initiative this year is improving telehealth in Wyoming. There are so many opportunities in this exciting field of medicine. For the past 10 years or more there have been tireless people opening the doors and paving the way for patients and providers to jump on board. Now, the last mile is to get the word out to our communities so that we can provide solid medical care using telecommunication. The insurers are paying, the broadband and wireless is working, the legislators are listening, and the federal government is supportive. Do you know about the Interstate Medical Licensing Compact? It's an expedited pathway for qualified physicians to practice in multiple states. The mission is to increase access to healthcare in underserved and rural areas, allowing them to connect with medical experts using telecommunication technologies. There are 24 states that are using this compact. Wyoming is ready to make access better, lower healthcare costs, and give patients more opportunities to keep themselves healthy. We can do this!

As the WMS President, I am learning how to be supportive of our members. I am listening to your voices and concerns, knowing that we face difficult challenges every day. All of us have strengths and vulnerabilities that we bring to the table. We want to be authentic in our approach and collaborate

with our peers. We are always advocating for our members in medicine. It seems that on a daily basis our profession is being whittled away piece by piece. It's so important that we lead by example and with intent. What is important to us? Each one of us are leaders in our fields. People lean on us for guidance. We want to be involved and respected for what we are trained to do. We measure our success by the way we touch the lives of our patients and that is often in opposition with the business of medicine. It's a conflicting role, but we will continue to take the higher ground.

Of note, please mark your calendars for the WMS Annual Meeting to be held May 31st-June 2nd at the Jackson Lake Lodge. We will be highlighting telehealth and Innovations in medicine. It will be exciting to have new and bright ideas available at your fingertips!

I hope that WMS can be a source of support and information to help you practice medicine. We will continue to be your voice at the state level and higher. Please don't hesitate to call us. 

For the past 10 years or more, there have been tireless people opening the doors and paving the way for patients and providers to jump on board.

WE'VE GOT MORE THAN JUST YOUR BACK.

As a nationally recognized leader in patient safety and risk management, COPIC offers a better option for medical professional liability insurance. We keep you covered from front to back.

 **COPIC**[®]
Better Medicine • Better Lives

callcopic.com
800.421.1834