

# TWO ESSENTIAL TACTICS FOR TRIUMPHING OVER COVID-19

Today, COVID-19 continues to ravage communities across the nation. But Congress can provide relief. Protecting recent gains in telehealth ensures continued access the coverage and care people need — helping protect Americans' health while preventing community spread. And establishing a national testing and contact tracing strategy provides communities the tools they need to mitigate the virus.

## BOOSTING TELEHEALTH

Telehealth has expanded access to high-quality care and patients report overwhelming satisfaction. This is not the time to go backward.

ACHP recommends Congress:

- Remove restrictions so that Medicare beneficiaries can access care where it is convenient and private, including in their homes.
- Extend current telehealth flexibilities in Medicare Advantage and Accountable Care Organizations through 2022.
- Allow additional telehealth providers and services, including non-physician practitioners, to improve patient access regardless of location.
- Create a telehealth reimbursement model based on value.



## EXPANDING TESTING

Individuals, health care professionals, communities and public health departments must have access to no-cost COVID-19 tests.

To ensure this, ACHP urges Congress to:

- Develop a national, coordinated plan for testing that shares responsibility between all levels of government, private payers and employers.
- Increase federal funding to provide testing for public health purposes.
- Differentiate public and private responsibility for testing, confirming requirements for private coverage of **medically-necessary** testing.

