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ATA ANNOUNCES 2020 AWARDS AND NEW CLASS OF FELLOWS INDUCTEES Awards to be presented during ATA2020 Virtual Conference

WASHINGTON, DC, JUNE 11, 2020 -- [ATA](#), the premier organization working to accelerate the adoption of telehealth, today announced its annual award recipients and newest class of Fellows inductees. Presentations will be made during the [ATA2020 virtual conference](#) on June 25, 11:20-11:35am ET. This year's awards program is sponsored by Cisco.

"We are deeply honored to recognize such extraordinary leaders and innovators in telehealth and virtual care, especially during this time when our industry has shown such leadership in response to the pandemic," said Ann Mond Johnson, CEO, the ATA. "We continue to be inspired by our members and committed to creating the policies and regulatory guidance, market conditions and education needed to further advance the adoption of telehealth for all."

ATA2020 Awards & Fellows Inductees

ATA Champion Award – The Veterans Health Administration, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, has been a pioneer in telehealth implementation, leading the way in telehealth innovation to ensure that Veterans can access care when and where they need it. [Connected Care programs](#) including [My HealthVet](#), [VA Mobile](#), and [VA Telehealth Services](#) are transforming how Veterans access high-quality care. In FY19 more than 1.3 million video telehealth appointments were held using VA Video Connect, a 246% increase from FY18. VA Video Connect usage continues to increase as more Veterans seek convenient access to care.

"VA is honored to accept this award on behalf of the thousands of Veterans who depend on telehealth services to receive their health care," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "VA's embrace and early leadership in the implementation of telehealth put us in a position to continue serving Veterans during the coronavirus pandemic. In fact, we saw an increase of more than 1,000 percent in telehealth video appointments to Veterans' homes since March 1, not to mention hundreds of thousands of additional prescription refills and secure e-mail exchanges accomplished remotely. We know telehealth is an advancement that's here to stay at VA."

President's Award for the Transformation of Healthcare Delivery – [The Children's Health Virtual Care Program](#) at Children's Health in Dallas pioneered telemedicine programs that have significantly expanded access to quality health care for children, from illnesses to injuries to mental healthcare regardless of their zip code.

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"We would like to thank the ATA for recognizing our efforts to implement technology solutions that further our mission to make life better for children," said Julie Hall-Barrow, Senior Vice President of Network Development and Innovation at Children's Health. "We are incredibly honored to accept this award on behalf of our Virtual Care and Innovation team. Through our virtual health and telemedicine programs, we have been able to help more than 70,000 North Texas children and families by providing access to the quality care they need, wherever they may need it. The development of these robust programs also gave us the ability to respond quickly in the midst of COVID-19, converting 53 clinics to virtual appointments and scheduling more than 16,000 virtual visits for our patients during this unprecedented time."

Woman of the Year – [Tania S. Malik, J.D.](#), is an entrepreneur and a lawyer focused on healthcare, and specifically, telehealth solutions that facilitate online patient-provider interactions for primary care, mental health treatment, and naturopathic and integrated medicine. She has been a champion for the ATA, improving the understanding and use of telehealth in the delivery of mental health services.

"I am humbled to accept this award, especially in a year where telemedicine has been so prominent and important. We are at the intersection of a high need for mental health services and the adoption of telemedicine by both patients and providers. It is rewarding that my efforts and those of others over the last 20 years have helped in this crisis," added Malik. "This award recognizes the female entrepreneurial spirit and, as telemedicine adoption is accelerating, I look forward to being in the mix to address healthcare's pressing problems with technology and empathy."

ATA College of Fellows

Election to the ATA College of Fellows recognizes individuals and organizations for their significant achievements in telehealth, service to the general telehealth community, and service to the ATA. Class of 2020 Fellows will also be recognized during the ATA virtual conference on June 25:

Julie Hall Barrow, Senior VP, Network Development & Innovation, Children's Health in Dallas

Robert L. Caudill, MD, Professor, University of Louisville School of Medicine

Alexis S. Gilroy, JD, Partner, Jones Day

André Petitet, MD

Giselle Ricur, MD, MBA, MSc, Chief Medical Officer, IconVista; Director, Telemedicine, Instituto Zaldivar

Andrew R. Watson, MD, Surgeon, UPMC; Immediate Past President, the ATA

ATA2020 Virtual Conference

The [ATA annual conference](#) has been transformed to a virtual platform, taking place online June 22-26. The program features a dozen keynote speakers and five main stage panel sessions, actionable content from 200+ experts and more than 100 exhibitors showcasing the latest products, applications and solutions to your telehealth challenges. The new research track includes 75 oral and poster presentations, and up to 8 CME credits. This year's theme, **Moving at the Speed of Innovation.... Accelerating Telehealth Adoption**, focuses on the practical knowledge, strategic insights and partnerships needed to inspire and inform change and bring telehealth into practice today.

GENERAL REGISTRATION: Please visit the ATA2020 website for details and easy [online registration](#).

MEDIA REGISTRATION: Please contact Gina Cella at gcella@cellapr.com.

About the ATA

As the only organization completely focused on advancing telehealth, the [ATA](#) is committed to ensuring that everyone has access to safe, affordable, and appropriate care when and where they need it, enabling the system to do more good for more people. ATA represents a broad and inclusive member network of health care delivery systems, technology solution providers and payers, as well as partner organizations and alliances, working to advance industry adoption of telehealth, promote responsible policy, advocate for government and market normalization, and provide education and resources to help integrate virtual care into emerging value-based delivery models. **Visit the [ATA COVID-19 Resource Center](#)**. [@americantelemed](#) [#gotelehealth](#)

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