

## LOUISIANA STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

630 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130 Phone: (504) 568-6820 Website: <u>www.lsbme.la.gov</u>

To all licensed Occupational Therapists (OT) and Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTA) in the State of Louisiana:

Today at the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners' (the Board) Emergency Board meeting, in response to the Public Health Emergency COVID-19, the Board approved a recommendation to allow OTAs to utilize telehealth in the providing of services to the patients managed by OT and OTAs pursuant to their Practice Act and Rules, respectively, La. R.S. 37:3001 *et seq.* and 46 XLV.171-177; 1901-1979; and 4901-4931.

In other words, OTAs may utilize telehealth to the same extent as OTs under the telehealth law, which may be found at La. R.S. 40:1223.1 *et seq*. All of these statutes can be found on the Board's website.

The Board will be addressing telehealth emergency rules in the near future, and asks in the meantime for all allied practitioners to comply with the current statutory law.

Stay safe and thanks for your service and patience in these trying times,

Vincent A Culotta, Jr., M.D.