Utilization Efficacy Perceptions of Telepractice for Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) and University Faculty and Administrators: A Qualified Delphi Study
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Purpose: To understand how barriers such as regulatory, lack of telepractice education, and technology are hindering the adoption of SLP telepractice with adult and geriatric patients

Theoretical Framework: Unified Theory of Acceptance and use of Technology (UTAUT)
• Developed by Venkatesh, Morris, Davis, and Davis (2003)
• Incorporated constructs from 8 different models
• Explains the use and acceptance of technology

Problem: Despite the demand for telepractice for adult and geriatric patients with communication disorders using face-to-face SLP online sessions, barriers are hindering the adoption of telepractice in both private practice and other clinical settings
• Medicare does not reimburse for telepractice sessions
  o SLPs are not approved telehealth practitioners
• Licensing is required for each state.
• HIPAA has increased costs of doing business

Methodology: Qualitative Delphi
• 3 groups: SLPs, regulatory experts, and university SLP program administrators
• Multi-round
  o Round 1: semistructured individual interviews
  o Round 2: commenting on statements from Round 1
  o Round 3: commenting and voting from Rounds 1-2
  o Round 4: presentation

Analysis: Thematic Analysis
• CASDAQ: Atlas.Ti
• Currently analyzing Round 1

Results: Not finalized
• Reimbursement is biggest issue due to SLPs not being recognized as telehealth practitioners, as well as not allowing for private pay
• Interstate compact may be the solution to the licensing issues
• Better understanding and education is needed on HIPAA regulations
• Allowing for reimbursement may open the doors for technology to be used in telepractice such as LSVT Loud and Speak Out