

Headquarters

4501 College Blvd. #225
Leawood, KS 66211
816-756-3140
Fax: 816-756-3144

**Government Affairs Office**

1025 Vermont Ave NW
Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-639-0550
Fax: 202-639-0559

June 8, 2020

Contact: Donna Douglas
816-756-3140
ddouglas@NRHArural.org

Journal of Rural Health Recognizes 2020 Article of Year

The *Journal of Rural Health* (JRH), NRHA's quarterly, scholarly publication, recognizes its 2020 Article of the Year, selected by the JRH Editorial Board from all articles published online last year.

The 2020 Article of the Year is "[Utilization of Interactive Clinical Video Telemedicine by Rural and Urban Veterans in the Veterans Health Administration Health Care System](#)" by Scott V. Adams, PhD; Michael J. Mader, MS; Mary J. Bollinger, PhD; Edwin S. Wong, PhD; Teresa J. Hudson, PhD; and Alyson J. Littman, PhD.

The study's authors explore the gap in current knowledge around the demand for and potential uses of clinical video telemedicine (CVT) in large integrated health care systems. According to the authors, interactive CVT has the potential to benefit health care systems and patients by improving access, lowering costs, and more efficiently distributing providers. The study concludes that CVT utilization in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) has increased quickly and exceeds published rates in the private health care market. The availability of CVT has likely increased access to VHA care for rural veterans, especially for mental health care.

Selection criteria for the Article of the Year include average downloads per month and evaluation by the JRH Editorial Board regarding methodology and importance.

"Our rural research community serves a key role in the development of good public policy," says NRHA CEO Alan Morgan. "NRHA is proud to select this vital and timely research as our Article of the Year."

JRH is a quarterly peer-reviewed journal published by NRHA. It is devoted to advancing professional practice, research, theory development, and public policy related to rural health. Ty Borders, PhD, is editor, Julia Cecil, MA, is managing editor, and Carrie Henning-Smith, PhD, is chair of the 12-member Editorial Board.

"Both the editor and editorial board of the *Journal of Rural Health* see this article as addressing an important issue and offering practical and actionable recommendations for improving access to telemental health services," says Carrie Henning-Smith, Editorial Board chair. "This article can make a positive difference in the effort to address widespread barriers to mental health care

in rural areas. We applaud the authors for their work and are pleased to disseminate this work through the JRH.”

About NRHA

NRHA is a national nonprofit membership organization that provides leadership on rural health issues. The association’s mission is to improve the health of rural Americans and provide leadership on rural health issues through advocacy, communications, education, and research. NRHA membership is made up of a diverse collection of individuals and organizations, all of whom share the common bond of an interest in rural health.