



The Alphabet of CRT Advocacy:

CRT: Complex Rehab Technology

DME: Durable Medical Equipment

ADA: Americans with Disabilities Act

NCART: The National Coalition for Assistive and Rehab Technology (www.ncart.us)

RESNA: The Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (www.resna.org)

NRRTS: The National Registry of Rehabilitation Technology Suppliers (www.nrrts.org)

CTF: The Clinician Task Force (www.cliniciantaskforce.us)

PT: Physical Therapist

OT: Occupational Therapist

ATP: Assistive Technology Professional; “the ATP certification recognizes demonstrated competence in analyzing the needs of consumers with disabilities, assisting in the selection of appropriate assistive technology for the consumers' needs, and providing training in the use of the selected devices.” (From RESNA website)

SMS: Seating and Mobility Specialist; The SMS is a specialty certification for professionals working in seating and wheeled mobility that demonstrates competence in seating and mobility assessment, implementation, funding, and more.

CRTS: Certified Rehabilitation Technology Supplier; CRTS has successfully completed the ATS examination and has been a member of NRRTS for two years.

ADL: Activities of Daily Living

IADL: Instrumental Activities of Daily Living

MRADL: Mobility-Related Activities of Daily Living

LMN: Letter of Medical Necessity

SPA: State Plan Amendment

CMS: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services



HCPCS: Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System; a standardized coding system used to process claims for insurance payments by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

MCO: Managed Care Organization

MMCO: Medicaid Managed Care Organization

Other Terms to Know:

What is Complex Rehab Technology? Complex Rehab Technology (CRT) is unique equipment used by individuals with complex disabilities and medical needs. CRT includes medically necessary and individually configured manual and power wheelchairs, seating and positioning systems, and other adaptive equipment such as standing devices and gait trainers. It is most often used by individuals with diagnoses such as (but not limited to) spinal cord injury, cerebral palsy, paralysis, muscular dystrophy, traumatic brain injury, ALS, arthrogryposis, and spina bifida.

What is an Advocate? A person who supports either a cause, an individual or a group of people. An advocate may also fight for something or someone, including but not limited to, people's rights.

What is Telehealth? Telehealth is using technology to deliver health-related services when the provider and patient are not able to meet in person. Medicare defines telehealth as the exchange of medical information from one site to another through electronic communication to improve a patient's health. Telehealth can be used between a clinician and patient for evaluation, monitoring, therapies, consultations, and more.

What are CRT Remote Services? The delivery of appropriate CRT services through a "virtual" visit, such as ATP involvement in a CRT evaluation, service or repair initial consult, and more.

What is the CRT Remote Services Consortium? Formed in 2020 in response to increased calls for telehealth and remote services during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, the CRT Remote Services Consortium was formed to steer advocacy, legislation, recommended policy, and practice standards relating to CRT. The group includes a cross section of CRT stakeholders including clinicians, advocacy organizations such as the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA), CRT manufacturers, and CRT suppliers.



What is a Webinar? It is an online event hosted by a company/organization and broadcast to a select group through their computer via the internet. It is also or may be referred as a “webcast”, “online event” or “web seminar”.

What is a Steering Committee? A committee that guides the priorities or order of business relating to specific initiatives of an organization and assists in managing the general course of its operations.

What is a Committee of Jurisdiction? The congressional committees are subdivisions of the U.S. Congress that concentrate on specific areas of U.S. domestic and foreign policy and general government oversight. Often called the “little legislatures,” congressional committees review pending legislation and recommend action on that legislation by the whole House or Senate. For CRT advocacy, we work with the House Ways and Means Committee and the House Energy and Commerce Committee. In the Senate, our committees of jurisdiction are the Senate Finance Committee and the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee.