

## Vidyo vs. Skype

In 2013, WVUHSC purchased Vidyo as our software based Telehealth Solution because it was HIPAA Compliant, offered mobility for our providers as well as connectivity to legacy hardware devices. Vidyo offers both a local hardware solution as well as cloud based solution. See table below outlining the differences between Vidyo's cloud based service and Skype.

Vidyo Cloud Service	Skype
<b>HIPAA Compliant</b>	<b>Not HIPAA Compliant</b>
Approved Telehealth System	Not an Approved Telehealth System
Offers A Business Associates Agreement For Hosted Services	As of 3/13, Skype has yet to sign a single B.A.A for their hosted services
Allows PHI (Patient Health Information) Audits if Security Breach Occurs for hosted services	Does not allow PHI audits if security breach occurs
Does not share personal and traffic data, like PHI with companies, carriers, partner service provides or agents for hosted services	May sometimes, share personal and traffic data, like PHI with companies, carriers, partner service provides or agents
Offers a Local Network Hardware Solution	Doesn't offer Local Hardware Solution
Connects to Legacy Devices (Tandberg, Polycom)	Doesn't connect to Legacy Devices (Tandberg, Polycom)

In order to comply with WVUHSC and WVU Hospital regulations, we purchased the local hardware solution so it could be managed locally within our secured network environment by our own IT Professionals.

### Conclusion:

The Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center, Department of Information Technology Services does not authorize Skype use for any Telehealth related activity.

For additional information related to the use of Vidyo or Skype for Telehealth, please see links below.

### References:

<http://www.xtelesis.com/why-not-use-skype/>

<http://blog.wecounsel.com/2013/12/skype-and-hipaa-compliance/>

[http://fr.vidyo.com/documents/resources/TechNote\\_VidyoConf\\_Security\\_110510.pdf](http://fr.vidyo.com/documents/resources/TechNote_VidyoConf_Security_110510.pdf)