

Breakfast with the Telehealth Resource Centers Helping You Get Where You Want to Go

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Breakfast with the Telehealth Resource Centers

Helping you get to where you want to go!

...Technical Assistance...Training...Online resources...Getting started...Tools & Templates...Business Development...Equipment Recommendations...Reimbursement...Best Practices...Collaboration...

Telehealth Resource Centers assist start-up telehealth programs and serve as a resource for existing programs. Learn about services and provide input on interests, needs, and future training topics.

Southwest Telehealth Resource Center



*Serving **Utah**, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and Nevada*

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www.southwesttrc.org

Northwest Regional Telehealth Resource Center



*Serving **Utah**, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Alaska*

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Utah Telehealth Network



Partnering with the TRCs to advance telehealth in Utah

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Improving Patient Care through Telehealth



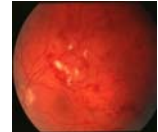
Telehealth **Improves Access**

- **Bridges the gaps** in healthcare access through the innovative use of technology
- **Rural access** – expands coverage to geographically remote areas
- **Expert access** – extends specialist coverage in the face of shortages
- **Timely coverage** –24/7 coverage for time-sensitive specialty care



Telehealth **Improves Quality**

- **Delivers the right care** at the **right place** at the **right time**
- **Supports** appropriate triage of patients in emergency situations
- **Improves** chronic care management, **reducing** ER visits & readmissions



Telehealth **Improves Cost**

- **Reduces unnecessary** ambulance and air transports
- **Reduces duplication** of diagnostic tests
- **Saves** travel and time away from work for patients and families
- **Saves** provider travel time to serve remote areas



A few examples...

Telestroke “Time is brain!”

A stroke requires immediate medical attention. Through interactive videoconferencing and teleradiology, no matter where they are, patients can be remotely diagnosed by a stroke specialist and treated in coordination with the ER doctor, all within the narrow time window required to save brain.

- ✓ **Saves lives.** Improves quality of life for patients and their families. Reduces long term rehab and care.
- ✓ **Saves \$\$\$** One emergency telestroke consultation (Medicare: \$75-\$140) can reduce, often replace, the need for ambulance service (Medicare urban rate: >\$330) or air transport (Medicare urban rate: >\$3,150), and may reduce or prevent the cost of long term disability and rehabilitation.

Tele-ophthalmology Preventing blindness

Diabetes is the leading cause of new cases of blindness in adults. Early detection of diabetic eye disease and timely intervention with laser treatments can reduce blindness by 50-90%. Images from retinal screening conducted at local clinics are sent electronically to a remote ophthalmologist for evaluation. Patients diagnosed with moderate-to-severe disease can be targeted for follow-up and treatment.

- ✓ **Saves eyesight.** Improves quality of life for patients and their families
- ✓ **Saves \$\$\$** Timely detection and treatment of diabetic eye disease saves an estimated \$152,000 of lifetime costs per patient avoiding blindness

Remote Monitoring Managing chronic disease

Patients with diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and other chronic diseases can have their conditions monitored from home. Daily testing of blood sugars, blood pressure, pulse, and weight empower patients to improve their own care. These results, with special alerts for immediate attention, are transmitted to doctors and nurses, providing a stream of up-to-date information to better care for patients.

- ✓ **Keeps patients in their homes.** Improves the quality of life for patients and their families.
- ✓ **Saves \$\$\$.** Reduces emergency room visits as well as hospital readmissions for chronic disease.