

# The Center for Telehealth



The Center for Telehealth at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, established in 2013, is committed to developing telemedicine services that improve the health of children around the world. The Center uses a variety of technologies to remove geographic obstacles to expert care, enabling patients, families and providers from across the globe to interact directly with Cincinnati Children's world-renowned physicians.

## CONTACT US

For more information on the Center for Telehealth, contact us at:

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## OUR EXPERIENCE IN TELEHEALTH INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING SPECIALTIES:

- Audiology
- Cancer and Blood Diseases
- Cardiology
- Child Psychiatry
- Gastroenterology
- Human Genetics
- Infectious Disease
- Neurology
- Nutrition Therapy
- Occupational and Physical Therapy
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopaedics
- Pediatric Surgery
- Plastic Surgery
- Pulmonary Medicine
- Radiology and Medical Imaging
- Speech Therapy
- Sports Medicine
- Urology

## BENEFITS OF TELEHEALTH FOR PATIENTS

Telemedicine provides an alternative option to the traditional care delivery models that currently exist within healthcare because of four fundamental benefits:

- Improved Access
- Cost Efficiencies
- High Quality
- Patient Experience

## CINCINNATI CHILDREN'S TELEHEALTH NETWORK

The telehealth network is a group of sites that connects families, patients and providers from institutions locally, and around the world, to Cincinnati Children's providers for access to specialty care, education and consultations using telemedicine technologies. Each telemedicine program is customizable and designed to meet an organization's size and clinical need. Generally telemedicine programs include a combination of the following:

- **On Demand Consultations:** For network members with a clinical need across multiple specialties, we offer inpatient and outpatient telemedicine consultations. These consultations may support an existing inpatient or outpatient pediatric service, NICU or PICU.
- **Specialty Clinics:** Some sites have specific clinical needs, and have regularly scheduled telemedicine clinics with a Cincinnati Children's specialist. These clinics are intended to meet the outpatient needs for the members' organizations by providing access to a specific specialty that is not available locally.
- **Education:** Telemedicine educational events and provider conferencing allow providers from different specialties and geographies to review patient cases and discuss diagnosis and treatment options, while improving patient care and learning from one another.

## BENEFITS TO BEING A PART OF THE CINCINNATI CHILDREN'S TELEHEALTH NETWORK

- Improved access to broad pediatric care
- Care delivered closer to home
- Experienced staff in telemedicine technology and training
- Clinical training and education



## IDEALLY, NETWORK SITES HAVE THE FOLLOWING:

- A clinical need for 25-50 telemedicine consultations annually
- An interest in offering telemedicine consultations, clinics or educational sessions within multiple clinical specialties, specifically where local clinical access to pediatric specialties is limited or inadequate
- Strong, local pediatric provider(s) interested in partnering with Cincinnati Children's to provide patient care
- Access to a local facility that can provide basic diagnostic testing and treatment
- Ability to provide credentialing by proxy
- A technical contact within the organization familiar with video conferencing systems
- Willingness to contract for services (FFS model may be available in some domestic locations)

## RECENT TELEHEALTH SUCCESSES

- Telepsychiatry consultations began several years ago, and continue to serve pediatric patients in rural areas across five states.
- The NICU-Nursery program includes TeleEcho, TeleEEG, ROP screenings and video consultations. It allows mothers and babies to stay together at the delivery hospital, while enabling access to pediatric specialists prior to discharge.
- Outpatient consultations in places like the Dominican Republic and rural Kentucky and West Virginia provide patients timely access to a variety of Cincinnati Children's specialists. Without telemedicine, many of these patients would have limited or no access to specialized pediatric services.
- International transfers of care for complex patients allow providers to use video for newly referred cases, or for patients who are about to travel home. Transitioning care between distant providers focuses on patient experience, safety and quality.
- In-home telehealth programs allow us to serve patients in the Bariatric Surgery, Cystic Fibrosis, and Palliative Care and Comfort programs. With telemedicine, patients are able to avoid costly and difficult trips to Cincinnati Children's and access interim care between in-person visits.
- School-based health programs leverage telehealth to connect providers in Sports Medicine and Pulmonary Medicine with students in the local schools.
- Each month, physicians from around the globe connect using our provider-to-provider telehealth discussions surrounding patient diagnoses and treatment plan options. Recent collaborations have included neuro-oncology, adult congenital heart disease and disorders of sexual differentiation.

## ABOUT CINCINNATI CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER

Cincinnati Children's, a non-profit organization, is one of the top three recipients of pediatric research grants from the National Institutes of Health, and a research and teaching affiliate of the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. The medical center is internationally recognized for improving child health and transforming delivery of care through fully integrated, globally recognized research, education and innovation.

**If you are interested in becoming a site for the Cincinnati Children's Telehealth Network, please contact us via email ([telehealth@cchmc.org](mailto:telehealth@cchmc.org)) or call +1.513.803.8353 to discuss current opportunities for us to work with you to meet the needs of your patient population.**