

Why Telemedicine for Texas?

TEXAS IS LOSING RURAL HOSPITALS AND DOCTORS. TELEMEDICINE CAN FILL THOSE GAPS IN COVERAGE.



THE HARD FACTS



THE SOLUTION

Texas' Rural Health Problem

Of the 254 counties in Texas, **177 are deemed rural** by the Texas Department of Agriculture. **One fifth** of Texans live in rural communities! And rural communities struggle with finding doctors.



WANTED

Lack of Doctors

75% of Texas' counties are federally designated **Health Professional Shortage Areas** (HPSA) and or **Medically Underserved Areas** (MUA).¹ In addition, the proliferation of freestanding emergency rooms is creating a shortage of emergency room physicians for rural and urban hospitals.²

Lack of Access

Since 2010, **26 hospitals in rural Texas have closed.** Some Texans must travel more than 100 miles to reach the nearest hospital!



Lack of Funding

Texas rural hospitals are collectively **losing as much as \$55 to \$60 million** a year treating Medicaid patients because of state underpayments and other factors? Some rural counties have **uninsured rates near or above 30%**, and hospitals bear the cost of treatment?

Little Hope of Change

50% of future doctors who leave Texas to receive medical residency training **never return** to the Lone Star state!

Resources Limited Everywhere

Nationwide, the patient-to-primary care physician ratio in rural areas is **only 39.8 physicians per 100,000 people,** compared to 53.3 physicians per 100,000 in urban areas?



Telemedicine

- Healthcare is rising in popularity. 84% of healthcare executives think telemedicine is important to their organization.⁴
- Texas passed a law in 2017 that puts **telemedicine on par with an in-person physician visit.**
- A 10-year industry veteran, Eagle Telemedicine provides access to offsite physicians who provide expert care via cutting edge technology.
- Eagle offers a range of **standard and specialty telemedicine services**, from telenocturnist care to Tele- ICU, Tele-ID, TeleStroke, TeleCardiology, TelePsychiatry and more.



THE BENEFITS

Fill Staffing Gaps

- Reduce unnecessary transfer of patients
- Increase patient volume
- Relieve the stress of hiring enough full-time physicians
- Avoid the cost of locum tenens physicians

For More Information Call 404.670.9133 or Visit www.EagleTelemedicine.com

Stay Viable

- Continue to serve your community
- Provide new specialties your community needs
- Avoid transfers
- Support your current staff, prevent burnout



^{1.} Texas Department of Agriculture. Retrieved 3.23.18 from http://www.texasagriculture.gov/Portals/0/forms/ER/RuralHealth/SORH%20Infographic.pdf.

^{2.} Texas Organization of Rural and Community Hospitals. 2017 Major State Issues for Texas Rural Hospitals. Retrieved 3.20.18 from https://capitol.texas.gov/tlodocs/85R/handouts/C2102017030910301/5d549d87-f838-4875-abdf-02349369ef9c.PDF.

^{3.} National Rural Health Association. Retrieved 3.23.18 from https://www.ruralhealthweb.org/about-nrha/about-rural-health-care.

^{4.} Foley & Lardner. 2014 Telemedicine Survey. Nov. 11, 2014. Retrieved 3.23.2018 from https://www.foley.com/2014-telemedicine-survey-executive-summary/.