

Hutchinson Regional Medical Center: Tele-ICU and TelePulmonology Programs Ease Staffing Concerns

The Need: Specialty Support After Provider Retirement

When physicians in rural hospitals retire or move, replacing them can be a big challenge. That was the case with Hutchinson Regional. The facility is unique in that it has an 18-bed ICU as well as a dedicated, 23-bed pulmonary care unit.

Because the pulmonologists staffing the unit would often manage ICU care, their departure had a major impact. There was a risk the hospital would need to need to transfer patients to hospitals in Wichita and other distant referral centers.

The Solution: Eagle Tele-Intensivists

After going live in 2018, Eagle's Tele-ICU program provided the ongoing coverage the hospital needed.

Because physicians staffing the program are intensivists specialized in pulmonology, they helped Hutchinson Regional continue consistent inpatient treatment for patients in the pulmonology unit.

They also share responsibilities in the ICU with other providers skilled in management of patients with intensive care needs.

The goal was to keep patients from our community in our community," said Amanda Hullet, Chief Nursing Officer at the facility. **"We had a limited number of pulmonologists in the community and Eagle helped bridge the gap."**



Sustainable
Staffing Solution



Managed Multi-
Specialty Care



Prevent Patient
Transfers

"Eagle has been easy to work with, open to ideas, and the providers have been wonderful. The right providers are really key to making the program successful."

- Amanda Hullet, Chief Nursing Officer