



CASE STUDY: HUTCHINSON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Eagle's Tele-ICU and TelePulmonology Programs Ease Staffing Concerns for Kansas Hospital

Hutchinson Regional Medical Center is a not-for-profit, 199-bed medical facility serving the health needs of more than 65,000 residents in Hutchinson and the surrounding area in rural central Kansas.



THE CHALLENGE

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 an 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

After going live in 2018, Eagle's Tele-ICU program provided the ongoing coverage the hospital needed. Because physicians staffing the program are intensivists with a specialty 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 BENEFITS

- **Bridging the Gap:** "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."
- **Supporting Staff:** Even though new pulmonologists are now available locally, Hutchinson Regional is keeping the Eagle Tele-ICU team as part of its healthcare model—supporting clinical staff and easing the demand on onsite physicians.
- **A Perfect Fit:** The hospital's ICU unit was remodeled recently in a state-of-the-art circular design that provides additional visibility for clinical staff and ease of movement from one patient to another. Telemedicine fits with the new design and enables physicians on the videoconferencing monitor to interact easily with team members in various parts of the unit.

KEY BENEFITS & OUTCOMES

- ✓ **Reduced need for patient transfers**
- ✓ **Consistent care despite staffing changes**
- ✓ **Support for onsite clinical team**

"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

Eagle Telemedicine's Tele-ICU program provides hospitals with a sustainable solution for the long term.



Is Your System Short On Specialists?

Contact us for a no-risk, high-value consultation.