

Why Use Telemedicine for Infectious Disease?

The Challenge

The COVID pandemic highlighted many challenges for rural hospitals, one of which is the lack of access to Infectious Disease (ID) specialists. Like so many other medical specialties, recruiting and retaining ID physicians is difficult for hospitals in small cities and rural communities due to fluctuating demand for care, and limited resources to support full-time professionals.

The average salary in this field is over \$250,000. Suburban and rural hospitals often pay a premium to attract these valuable specialists. A shortage of specialists means there is a shortage of backup for the specialists that *are* available. Long hours and on-call work increase the risk of turnover for ID physicians that accept roles outside of major metropolitan areas.

The Solution

Tele-ID improves specificity of diagnosis, which leads to faster therapeutic and antibiotic interventions, shorter length of stay and lower patient transfers and readmissions.

Access to a Tele-ID specialist assists in medication management protocols and treatment plans that improve patient care and hospital metrics.

Providing care close to home increases patient satisfaction by allowing the patient to receive support from family and follow-up from local physicians.

Whether your facility decides to use telemedicine exclusively or a combination of on-site and remote care, access to a Tele-ID specialist allows your hospital to adapt to demand, manage shift coverage, and improve ROI.

Tele-ID Benefits

- ✓ Avoid transfers
- ✓ Treat patients sooner
- ✓ Keep care close to home
- ✓ Increase patient access
- ✓ Improve medication management
- ✓ Minimize readmissions
- ✓ Improve ROI

“One of our partner hospitals had been transferring 50% of its patients needing ID consultations to distant hospitals out of network. With the Tele-ID program, it has reduced that number to virtually zero.”

- Dr. Talbot “Mac” McCormick, Eagle CEO



To Learn More About Implementing Tele-ID at Your Hospital, Contact Eagle Today

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