

Why Use Telemedicine for Nephrology Consults?

Many community and rural hospitals have just one nephrologist on staff. Other hospitals rely on a dialysis nurse or a local physician in private practice. If a patient needs a consult or inpatient dialysis, and if there's no nephrologist available, the patient is transferred to a tertiary center.

The Challenge

When hospitals have difficulty recruiting and retaining nephrologists, it presents a serious challenge to providing consistent kidney care. Instead of receiving treatment locally, patients must be transferred, which decreases hospital revenue and creates unnecessary stress for the patient.

In the community, the hospital's financial viability are at stake as patients may avoid the local Emergency Department, fearing out-of-town transport.

When hospitals cannot provide these necessary services and lose patients, this can lead to ripple effects in the community, including lost hospital jobs, laid-off staff and economic downturn.

The Solution

Eagle offers a sustainable solution for hospitals struggling with staffing — access to a team of board-certified nephrologists, available for consults, inpatient dialysis and follow-up visits. Eagle's TeleNephrologists can manage most chronic dialysis inpatient situations and Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy (CRRT).

Typically, the TeleNephrologist is notified upon the patient's admission, does an initial consultation, then "beams-in" during dialysis and for follow-up care. The TeleNephrologist also provides dialysis orders and management, documents everything within the hospital's own EMR and is available for physicians or nurses if any dialysis-related questions arise.

The hospital patient is virtually face-to-face with the TeleNephrologist on a video screen. Prior to, during and after a dialysis procedure, the patient communicates directly with the TeleNephrologist — getting their questions answered, easing anxieties. An experienced dialysis nurse is on-site, performing the dialysis procedure and directly interacting with both the patient and the TeleNephrologist.

TeleNephrology Benefits

- ✓ Access to Team of Nephrologists
- ✓ Support for hospital dialysis services, whether or not there is existing dialysis capability
- ✓ Reduce Transfers
- ✓ Increase Patient Access and Satisfaction
- ✓ Reduce Average Length of Stay
- ✓ Maximize ROI with incremental DRG reimbursement



To Learn More About Implementing TeleNephrology at Your Hospital, Contact Eagle Today

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