**TeleNICU - Neonatal Specific Telemedicine**

*Program Objectives*

- Reduce unnecessary transfers
- Enhance family centered care
- Standardize neonatal care through shared protocols and best practices
Overview of TeleNICU Service

- First in Texas and one of the most sophisticated neonatal intensive care unit telemedicine programs in the U.S.

- Utilizes specialized equipment and broadband transmission to allow two-way, real-time connection with other hospitals across the state.

- 24/7/365 real-time access to a wide range of consults, including interpreting medical data and images, confirming diagnoses, and conferring on treatment plans.

- Through TeleNICU, the outside hospital can receive consults on their neonates for any pediatric sub specialty that services the Children’s NICU.

- Only one piece of equipment is needed at the home hospital.

Neonatal Telemedicine Across the Country

Competitive Landscape

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<th>Interactive Video Conferencing</th>
<th>Real-time, video-enabled scopes</th>
<th>Real-time, video-enabled binocular indirect ophthalmoscope</th>
<th>Hi-Fidelity digitized stethoscope w/audio equalizer</th>
<th>Digital Stethoscope</th>
<th>Real-time streaming telemetry from exam equipment</th>
<th>&quot;Over the shoulder&quot; review of exam results</th>
<th>Full integration with local and remote EMR</th>
<th>24x7 Available Level 4 NICU Specialists</th>
<th>Dedicated TeleNICU Program Staff</th>
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Children’s has one of the most robust neonatal specific telemedicine programs nationwide.
Why Launch With TeleNICU?

- Cost effective, high quality delivery care model for a very expensive patient population (March of Dimes – Level II/III $5,757 daily bed charge, on average 40% increase in standard bed charge in Level IV NICU)

- Maintains Level IV NICU as the tertiary facility only – encourages better collaboration and back transfers to Level III, Level II, etc.

- Reduction of unnecessary transfers of the fragile neonatal patient - Maintains our mission of right care, right place, right time

- Promotes standardization of care and collaboration between NICUs

- Texas House Bill 15 requires Level III NICU to have direct connection with Level IV NICU

- True family centered care

Affordable Solution for Remote Hospital

- Average NICU charge for 1 neonate in a level II/III $76,000

- 20 neonatal transfers in one year period = $1,520,000 potential revenue loss

- If the home hospital retains just one neonate in their level II/III NICU, they will have covered their total cost for 1 year’s worth of TeleNICU service fees, including their equipment.

- TeleNICU can help with coverage and staffing issues at smaller nurseries and NICU

- TeleNICU can help with recruitment when a single neonatologist is the desired staffing model
TeleNICU - Neonatal Specific Telemedicine

Preliminary Results of Program Objectives

- Reduce unnecessary transfers - TeleNICU has assisted in reducing unnecessary transfers by extending Level IV interventional strategies into the remote hospital - 20 Consults / 6 retained at home hospital over 9 month period

- Enhance family centered care - TeleNICU enhanced the family experience by involving the parent in the consult experience - 100% verbalized appreciation for this service

- Standardize neonatal care through shared protocols and best practices - In addition to the TeleNICU service, 4 neonatal education sessions were delivered to the remote hospital
  - Remote hospital expanded NICU services to include new therapies – Total body cooling, Nitric Oxide and High Frequency Oscillatory Ventilation

Awards and Testimonials

Brenda Morris, MD
Chief of Neonatology
Trinity Mother Frances Hospitals & Clinics

“TeleNICU has been a great addition to our tools that we use in caring for our patients 100 miles away in Tyler. One of the best parts of the process is when the family is present and can observe both neonatologists discussing their infant's problems and arriving at the best recommendation for further care. This is true family-centered care.”

Children’s TeleNICU service was named 2013 semifinalist for the Innovator Award presented by Healthcare Informatics
“When life hangs in the balance, your connections matter”

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