

The Doctor Will (Electronically) See You Now

Telehealth is another way GHS is transforming health care for the benefit of the people and communities we serve.

Through telehealth programs, GHS specialists digitally connect with patients and physicians for convenient consultations, saving time, money and—sometimes—lives:

SmartExam can make traveling to a doctor's office for minor illnesses a thing of the past. The program uses a secure portal through which GHS providers can deliver diagnoses, treatment information and prescriptions (if needed) for simple conditions such as coughs, colds and allergies.

Delivery Buddy provides immediate electronic access to a neonatal nurse practitioner (NNP) for babies who need resuscitation and other critical care. An NNP at GHS Children's Hospital directs care until the on-call pediatrician arrives. The program also can reduce transport time.

NeuroDirect links GHS neurologists with emergency departments to provide acute stroke consultations. The program allows rapid assessment and treatment of patients and can speed administration of tPA, a clot-dissolving medication that may minimize the effects of a stroke.

Tele-Infectious Disease provides GHS specialist consults to physicians at other hospitals. A robot gives access to clinical data and medical images and facilitates direct patient/physician interaction.

Tele-Maternal-Fetal Medicine makes frequent ultrasound and sonogram consults available for women in rural areas with high-risk pregnancies. Complex medical problems that once meant transferring care hours away now can be managed closer to home.

Tele-School helps students in underserved communities stay in school. Digital connections allow school nurses to consult with off-site nurse practitioners and on-call pediatricians.

Tele-Sitter allows one sitter to simultaneously watch many hospital patients who need a sitter, eliminating the need for individual sitters.

An Advanced Pediatric GI Telehealth Pilot Study helps young patients with gastrointestinal conditions use and rate telemedicine. Patients log into a secure video app after filling out a disease activity scale and then speak directly with the physician. The program is proving to be a good fit for patients whose primary disease management involves symptom checks and counseling—and a big savings for those who live throughout the Southeast.

While this advanced technology makes healthcare delivery more efficient, the expertise and compassion of GHS healthcare providers make it effective.



"Our telehealth programs allow GHS specialists to be two places at once—providing vital care for patients at remote locations."

*– Spence Taylor, MD,
GHS President*