

Bringing the Specialist to You

It's a simple way to connect with specialists – without even leaving town. Telemedicine links patients and health care providers using two-way, secure video-conferencing. It can help improve access to care and reduce wait times.

A Telemedicine appointment is just like a regular appointment, only the health care provider is on a monitor and uses tele-diagnostic equipment to hear heart and breath sounds and a special camera to provide close-up images – all as if you are sitting in the same room. At each appointment, patients are able to see, hear and talk to a doctor or other health professional.

Registered Nurse Denise Davies has been CPDMH's Telemedicine Coordinator since the program began. "Patients tell me they can really see the benefits. And they love coming to their familiar local hospital instead of travelling to see a specialist."



*I had a very positive experience.
Telemedicine eliminated the time and
costs associated with travelling and it
made it easier for my family to be
involved in my care.*

— Telemedicine patient

CPDMH's established Telemedicine programs include specialties such as Hematology, Respiriology, Dermatology, Nephrology, Oncology, Infectious Diseases and Endocrinology. The system also supports weekly rounds, linking health care providers with colleagues at other facilities. Finally, the technology is used for meetings and education sessions.

CPDMH has been providing health care via Telemedicine since 2001 via the Ontario Telemedicine Network (OTN). In 2010, 335 patients were cared for via Telemedicine at CPDMH. Last year, more than 2,500 patients were served.

Patients require referrals from their family doctor. For more information on the program or services offered at CPDMH, please contact Denise Davies, Telemedicine Coordinator at 613-253-3821 or visit www.cpdmh.ca/telemedicine.