

Temiskaming Hospital

December 10, 2008

See a Specialist Without Leaving Your Community

Unfortunately, at this time of the year, people often put off important medical appointments that require out of town travel until the spring or summer when the weather is better. Luckily for the residents of our community, this is not necessary.

Temiskaming Hospital is a member of the Ontario Telemedicine Network (OTN). Using live, two-way videoconferencing, OTN clinicians apply the latest tele-diagnostic instruments - including digital stethoscopes, patient examination cameras, endoscopic equipment and digital imaging facilities to examine and prescribe treatment so that a patient can "visit" an out-of-town specialist from Temiskaming Hospital rather than having to travel. Over the past two months alone, 152 patients saw a specialist using Temiskaming Hospital's videoconferencing equipment. That's a lot of expense, risk and inconvenience eliminated with not having to travel.

OTN is always working with its members and stakeholders to identify and develop new telemedicine programs. To date, more than 80 different clinical programs are in place supporting a full range of consultation services. The list below consists of examples of clinical areas where telemedicine services are frequently used:

- Cardiology
- Oncology
- Orthopaedics
- Rehabilitation Medicine
- Teleradiology
- Endoscopy
- Urology
- Neurology
- Speech Pathology
- General Surgery
- Physicians or Nurses
- Mental Health
- Dermatology
- Paediatrics
- Telehomecare
- Ophthalmology
- Tele-Stroke
- Endocrinology
- Nephrology & Dialysis
- Occupational Therapy
- Primary Care
- Physical Therapy

Please feel free to discover the benefits of telemedicine for yourself. If you are a patient and wish to know more, please go to <http://www.otn.ca/en/patients-families> . If you are a healthcare provider or organization, please visit the *Physicians and Healthcare Providers* or *Organizations and Network Partners* website sections at <http://www.otn.ca/en>.



Visiting Hours:

- 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for medical patients, surgical patients and Long-Term Care patients;
- 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for obstetrics patients;
- Visitors to the Special Care Unit (SCU) are restricted to immediate family and/or significant other(s).