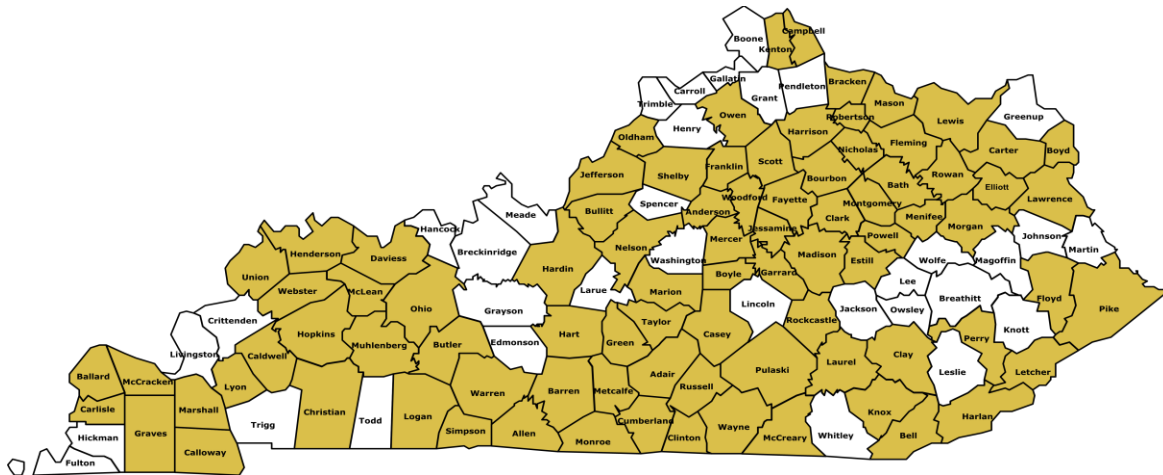


Kentucky TeleHealth Update

The right care – To the right people – At the right time – In the right place

Telehealth is the use of communications technologies to extend healthcare resources by overcoming the barriers of time and distance. Kentucky has one of the most progressive telehealth programs in the country, and was the first state to legislatively mandate Medicaid and commercial insurance coverage for telehealth, and mandate a statewide telehealth initiative.



The Kentucky TeleHealth Network (KTHN) consists of over 200 telehealth facilities across the Commonwealth, including all three medical schools, hospitals, primary care and specialty clinics, public school clinics, public health departments, state and federal correctional facility health clinics, community mental health centers and state psychiatric hospitals. The ten-member board is charged with the development and oversight of the statewide network. There are four Telehealth Training Centers located at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, University of Louisville in Louisville, St. Claire Regional Medical Center in Morehead, and Trover Health System, Inc. in Madisonville.

Examples of Telemedicine Applications

- Traditional telehealth clinics – psychiatry, dermatology, oncology, endocrinology, pre- and post-op services, infectious disease, neurology, pediatric development disorders, memory disorders, cardiology, nephrology, vascular surgery, colorectal surgery
- Emergent Stroke Interventions
- Evaluation of Echocardiograms and ultrasound studies for high-risk pregnancies and newborn infants
- Transmission of x-rays, CT scans, ultrasounds, and MRI images to physician's offices and home

- Educational programs such as: Grand Rounds for Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, OB/GYN, Surgery, Family Practice, Nursing, Psychiatry and Public Health
- Educational programs for healthcare students, residents and other trainees
- Bioterrorism preparedness/response
- Public Health education and administrative programming
- Correctional telemedicine at county, state, and federal prisons
- Mobile telehealth clinic to rural eastern Kentucky
- Primary care and specialty care services to employees and their families at coal mines across the state
- Hospitalized patient videoconference visits to their families at home
- Neonatal ICU consultations