

## What is Telemedicine?

Telemedicine is an interactive two way televideo conferencing system which provides you with an alternative option to attending an appointment with a physician or other health care professional. Using a monitor and high definition camera, you will be able to see, hear and speak with your health care specialist and discuss your plan of care. This means that you will be able to “visit” your healthcare provider without having to leave your community.

Here at OSMH, the Telemedicine studio is located in the Outpatient Clinic Area.



## Where is Telemedicine available?

Telemedicine is available throughout the province of Ontario. OSMH works with the Ontario Telemedicine Network (OTN) to offer Telemedicine service to our community.

### Is Telemedicine right for me?

Telemedicine is useful for many appointments, but we may not be able to use it for all your visits. Talk to your health care provider to find out which appointments can be provided through Telemedicine.

### How is Telemedicine booked?

When you and your physician agree to use Telemedicine for your next visit, your health care provider will submit a referral to OTN. The Scheduling department at OTN will arrange an appointment for you with the desired specialist and book the studio at OSMH. The OTN Scheduler will then contact you directly with the date and time of your appointment.

### What should I expect during a Telemedicine visit?

A Telemedicine appointment is similar to a regular check-up with the only difference being that your doctor sees

and speaks to you through a television monitor.

When you arrive for your appointment, your Telemedicine Coordinator will explain what will happen during the visit. You will be asked to give verbal consent to participate in a televideo conference which gives us permission to proceed with your Telemedicine visit.

Your appointment takes place in a private room and the Telemedicine Coordinator usually stays with you, but this is your choice. You may also have a friend or family member accompany you if you wish.

Your visit will be like any face-to-face appointment except that you will see and talk to your healthcare provider live on the television monitor.

Occasionally we use a hand-held zoom camera to get up close views of any problem areas. Your Telemedicine Coordinator may also use an electronic stethoscope to examine you. These are similar to the ones used if you were visiting in person.



AMD Hand held  
Zoom Camera



Littman 3200 Electronic  
Stethoscope with  
Bluetooth technology

## What about my privacy?

Your Telemedicine appointment is always private and confidential. Telemedicine uses a secure, encrypted network to transmit your visit. This ensures the protection of your privacy. At OSMH your appointment will take place in a private room which assists us in keeping your conversation and information private and confidential. Other than the people present in your studio and the consultant's studio, no one else can watch your appointment. Your visit will not be videotaped.

For more information on privacy, you may contact the Ontario Telemedicine Network Toll free at 1-800-346-6784 or go to [www.otn.ca](http://www.otn.ca)

For additional information, you may contact the:

OSMH TELEMEDICINE Program at  
705-325-2201 ext 3059  
or [telemedicine@osmh.on.ca](mailto:telemedicine@osmh.on.ca)

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OSMH Telemedicine Coordinators:  
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*The Ontario Telemedicine Network  
&  
Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital*



## TELEMEDICINE PROGRAM



**Health Care Visits and Follow-Up  
Appointments Using  
Videoconferencing Technology**