

## What is Telemedicine?

Telemedicine is an interactive videoconferencing system which allows for face to face communication in real time. In **Clinical** patient care this technology has become an invaluable asset to our community, but it is important to realize that Telemedicine is also an excellent tool in **Educational** and **Administrative** applications.

Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital is a member of the **Ontario Telemedicine Network** (OTN) and linked to over 1500 member sites across the province including those in every Ontario hospital, LHIN office, Public Health Unit and CCAC. Many Family Health Teams and health related societies have also join in to take advantage of the benefits of membership. OTN offers a secure network with a wide range of premium services for our educational and administrative needs.

OTN promotes health education by offering interactive lecture series, rounds and other educational seminars. Here at Soldiers', we regularly broadcast a wide variety of interdisciplinary rounds and meetings.

OSMH Telemedicine currently owns four systems and with twenty-six drop sites located throughout the hospital we are well equipped to offer excellent service.

## Where do I find Information on Telemedicine Educational Events?

Telemedicine educational events are posted on the OTN Bulletin Board in the Education hallway on the main level of the hospital past the cafeteria. You can also find events listed in the Telemedicine Calendar on the OSMH Intranet Share Point Site. All educational events are listed with date, time, topic and speaker, if published. Some recurring rounds are promoted by department targeted email lists.

Contact the Telemedicine Coordinator (TMC) if you become aware of an event to see if it is being broadcast on Telemedicine.

## What is Webcasting?

If you are unable to attend your rounds or educational session in

person, OTN has a variety of options from which to choose. Often educational events are broadcast live on the internet allowing you to join in on your personal computer. This is called a **Live Event**. The presenter can further choose to have the event taped for future reference. An **Archived Event** makes the lecture available on the OTN website for a period of up to one year. It is important to note that these options are left to the presenter's discretion, as confidentiality standards must be ensured and written permission obtained from the guest speaker. If you are not sure whether your educational event is being webcasted either live or archived, please contact your Telemedicine Coordinator at ext 3059.

## How do I Access OTN's Webcasting Centre?

For **Live** and **Archived Events** go to the OTN website at [www.otn.ca](http://www.otn.ca). Click on the **Learning Centre** at the bottom of the screen. Then click on **OTN Webcasting Centre** on the far right. You will be offered the option of either **Live** or **Archived Events**. Events are listed by date, but you may

type in a title or the TSM # if you know it. While you are here at the website, you will notice that OTN offers many excellent educational experiences.

### **How do I set up a Meeting using Telemedicine?**

Please contact the TMC with the title, date, time and duration of your meeting and who you wish to attend. The TMC may register the sites you wish to connect with or may email you a link which can be passed on to your attendees. They will be instructed to contact the TMC at their site with the link to self-register for the meeting. In the event that a TMC is not available, they may contact the OSMH TMC for assistance. This system works well as only interested parties register and sites are not unnecessarily tied up with absent participants.

If you require extra services such as the use of a laptop computer for a power point presentation, please let the TMC know ahead of time so this resource will be available for you during your meeting. It is

recommended that your presentation be downloaded onto a memory stick. Please arrive atleast ten minutes before the start of your meeting to check that your content is compatible with the Telemedicine laptop.

An **audio dial in line** can be added to your meeting to accommodate those who are unable to attend in person or by Telemedicine. This option will allow a participant to join your meeting by telephone from anywhere. Please give your Telemedicine Coordinator one day's notice to allow this to be set up.

For additional information please contact:

Janet McMullen RN BA  
Carolyn Couture RN  
Telemedicine Coordinators  
[telemedicine@osmh.on.ca](mailto:telemedicine@osmh.on.ca)  
705-325-2201 ext 3059

Or the  
Ontario Telemedicine Network at  
[www.otn.ca](http://www.otn.ca)



## **The Ontario Telemedicine Network**



### **Educational and Administrative Options**



### **Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital**

*...a member of the Ontario Telemedicine Network*