

Highlights from 2016

Welcome to the inaugural Metro South Telehealth Newsletter. We will endeavour to send out this update on Telehealth at the end of each quarter.

2016 was a very busy year for Telehealth in Metro South.

New services included:

- PAH Nutrition/Dietetics
- PAH Rheumatology
- PAH Immunology
- QEII Physiotherapy
- PAH Liver Transplant

2015-2016 – activity growth 90%

Funding was received through the Specialist Outpatient Services initiative to develop new Telehealth services in Orthopaedics and Ophthalmology at PAH. These services are in their final development stages ready for go live by mid-2017

CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE INVOLVED.....

Highlights from 2017 so far.....

Outpatient telehealth activity growth to date 30% (HHS KPI is 20%)

New services commencing telehealth:

- Logan Multidisciplinary Renal Service (Medical, Pharmacy, Dietetics, Social Work and Psychology) to Beaudesert Hospital
- Ground C OPD Telehealth Trial including 10 consult rooms fitted out to be telehealth enabled
- PAH Infectious Diseases commenced services
- PAH Respiratory commenced services
- PAH Colorectal surgery commenced services
- PAH Neurosurgery General commenced services

Karen Lucas
Senior Telehealth Coordinator—Metro South



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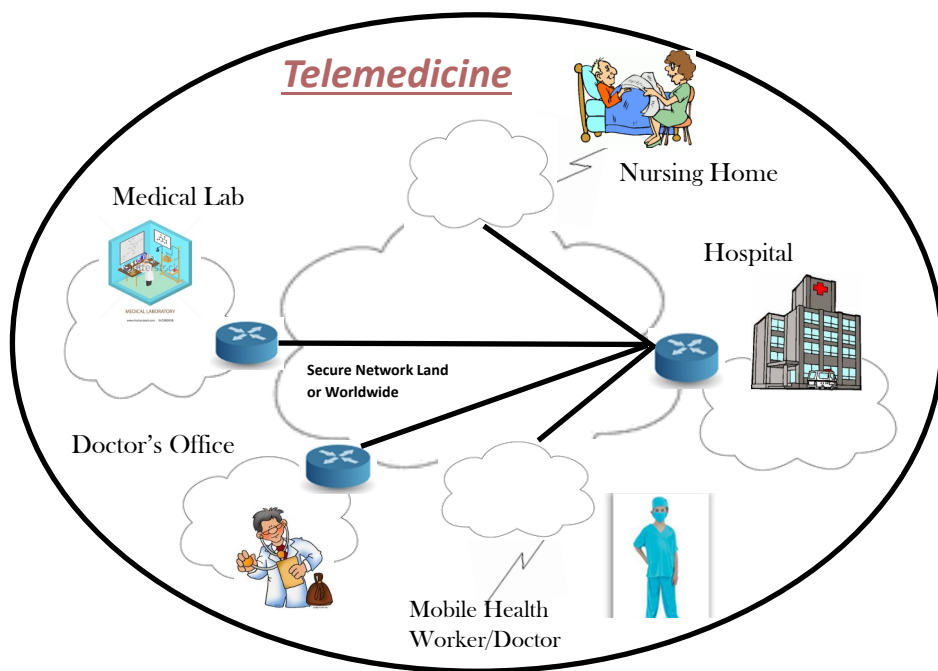


Image: Recruitingforhealthcarejobs.file.wordpress.com

Technology Profile

Telehealth Portal

The future is now. Advances in technology is now enabling patients to receive care from the comfort of their own home. The Telehealth portal was launched about a year ago, giving patients the opportunity to connect to their clinician through either a website or an app on their smart device. The portal utilises open source Web Real-Time Communication (Web RTC) protocols to connect to Queensland Health cisco systems through any browser or the Pexip app (free download). This means patients can connect to their appointment without the need to download additional software. It may seem like a very simple process but the impact it has is profound. The Portal has expanded the patient cohort that our clinicians can see via Telehealth.

The Portal makes health care even more accessible for patients in rural and remote communities by connecting them with their care team virtually, on a screen, through the internet at home. This innovation does have its limitations though, not all patients can appropriately be seen this way. In some instances patients require treatment, observations or physical examination which cannot be done through the Portal.

Anesce Stapelberg
Telehealth Coordinator, PAH

Fast Facts

Queensland Hospitals completed >50,000 Telehealth consultations in 2015/16

Did you know.....

On an average day in Australia...

- 342,000 people visit a GP
- 6,800 people are transported by ambulance; a further 900 are treated but not transported
- 71,000 km are flown by the Royal Flying Doctor Service and 107 evacuations performed
- 23,000 people are admitted to hospital (including 5,000 for an elective surgery)
- 17,000 people visit an emergency department at larger public hospitals

UPCOMING EVENTS

- The Australian Telehealth Conference
27-28 April 2017—Melbourne
- 2017 Telehealth Summit
2-7 June 2017—California
- MHealth + Telehealth World 2017
24-25 July 2017—Detroit
- Successes and Failures in Telehealth
30-31 October 2017—Brisbane
**Call open for abstracts:
Submissions Close: Midnight Monday 26 June 17
www.sftconference.com**

Research Profile

Aronson, S. H. 1977. The Lancet on the telephone 1876-1975. *Medical History*, 21(1), 69–87.

This article published in *Medical History* provides interesting insight into the beginnings of telehealth by exploring the use of the telephone for medicine and health as far back as 1876. The author tracked all mention of the device over the course of 100 years in *The Lancet*, a prominent medical journal. While we often think of telehealth as a new or futuristic way of providing services, this article documents that telehealth was improving medical diagnoses and increasing efficiency of hospitals as far back as the 1800s. Just like today, the new way of providing service at the time came with initial reservations and concerns. Would everyone prefer tele-consultations and stop attending in-person appointments? This was a question posed by the journal's editor on 1 December 1883. This article both highlights how far we've come and at the same time how some things just haven't changed.

A full list of publications can be found: <https://coh.centre.uq.edu.au/publications>

Partnerships

The Centre for Online Health (COH)

Since 1999, the COH, which is a part of the Faculty of Medicine at The University of Queensland, has been recognised internationally for its role in research, service delivery and education and training in the fields of telemedicine, telehealth and e-Healthcare. The COH's multidisciplinary team of clinicians, academic researchers, educators, technicians, engineers and administrators brings together a broad mix of skills.

The centre's keys areas of activity are:

- Clinically focussed research with an emphasis on examining the feasibility, efficacy, clinical effectiveness and economics of telehealth and telemedicine in a variety of settings
- Academic and vocational education and training in e-Healthcare and clinical telehealth
- As a service provider of clinical telemedicine services

These three synergistic activities provide a unique environment in which telemedicine within the modern health service may be explored and understood.

Further information can be found at: <https://coh.centre.uq.edu.au/>



SFT-17 AUSTRALIA

Successes and Failures in Telehealth
8th Annual Meeting of the Australasian Telehealth Society
30-31 OCTOBER 2017 | BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
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**CENTRE FOR
ONLINE HEALTH**



Princess Alexandra Hospital
Telehealth Centre



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