ANGELS: Telemedicine in Arkansas
How a successful specialty telemedicine program can support primary care

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United States neared $2.6 trillion in 2010, over ten times the $256 billion spent in 1980

How High Could It Go?
Health care spending has swelled since the 1960s, with the bulk of the spending coming from private insurance companies and federal programs.

TOTAL NATIONAL HEALTH CARE SPENDING
Adjusted for inflation

$2.0 tril.
1.5
1.0
0.5

'65  '75  '85  '95  '08 Est.

Out-of-pocket spending includes co-payments and deductibles. Other includes spending for the Department of Defense, Veterans Affairs, children’s health and other programs.

Source: Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Office of the Actuary

THE NEW YORK TIMES
Factors Driving Spending

- Patient
- Hospital
- Insurance provider
- Health care provider
Where you live should not determine whether you live or die!
In a state where 73 of 75 counties are designated as medically underserved, healthcare access is the most overwhelming reason for Arkansas’ poor health standing.
ANGELS offers the resources of the state’s only academic medical center into the rural communities of Arkansas impacting lives of rural women and providers.

- Virtual care University
- Connected Around State
- Linked ERs
- Linked Ultrasounds
Funding of ANGELS

A federal Medicaid contract that began in 2003 with oversight by Arkansas Medicaid allows ANGELS to make specialized care a reality in rural areas through Telemedicine.

The overall goal is three-fold:

- Decrease healthcare disparity
- Save the state money
- Increase quality of care
ANGELS Sites

Harris Hospital
Arkansas Methodist Medical Center
AHEC Pine Bluff
Jefferson Regional Medical Center
Mercy Medical Center
Millard-Henry Clinic
Pope County Health Department
Saint Mary’s Regional Medical Center
White County Medical Center
Miller County Health Department
Southwest AHEC
Wadley Regional Medical

Delta Memorial Hospital
Medical Center of South Arkansas
AHEC South Arkansas
Northwest AHEC
Washington Regional Med Center
Willow Creek
Fort Smith AHEC
St. Edward’s Mercy Medical
Sebastian County Health Department
Sparks Health System
North Arkansas Regional Medical Center
Delta AHEC
Helena Regional Med Center
Hempstead LHU
National Park Medical Center
St. Joseph’s Mercy Health Center
Willow Creek Women’s Center
Northeast AHEC
St. Bernard’s Medical Center
Chicot Memorial Hospital
Arkansas Children’s Hospital
St. Vincent’s Medical Center
UAMS
Mena Medical Center
Benton Regional Hospital
Subspecialty Health Care Access

- Allows some patients to remain in their community
- Community receives market share of resources
- Enhances rural economic development
- Meets psycho-social needs of patients to be near home
- Allows providers’ access to current best practices
Mortality per 1000 Medicaid Maternity Population

Post neonatal death

Neonatal death

All time trends statistically significant
ANGELS exists as an example of the benefits that could be extended into primary care.

Virtual Handholding for Local PCPs

Fractional Ownership for PCMH
Virtual Resources

- Subspecialists access
- Allied health providers
  - Diabetic educators
  - Pharm D
  - Speech pathologists
- Connections to Large Networks
  - Education
  - Business support
ANGELS Primary Care

Sickle Cell Telemedicine Program
Virtual ED support
Health Care Disparity

Where you live should not determine whether you live whether or die!
Thank you

For more information

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Sustainability of Telemedicine

- **Infrastructure support**
  - Cost redistribution
  - Outsourcing
  - Increasing Members
  - Hospital infrastructure

- **Provider support**
  - Reduction in traditional Fee/Service
  - Payment for originating site
  - Efficiency driven care
  - New kinds of contracts
    - Less/Loss= Profit
    - Sharing providers hospitals
    - New provider types (NOT Just DOCTORS)