Neonatal Transport after ACH dispatch calls the ANGELS Call Center, the consult request and facilitate and maintain the IAV connection, while Neonatal Consults 'back transports' from UAMS to allow room for less stable patients needing access. The consult can meet with parents and answer questions and alleviate their emergency department and needs a consult with ACH pediatrician. IAV allows the emergency departments that have a Tandberg unit for AR SAVES Telestroke program and the content server to record interactions. The Call Center also document recommendations and call consents.

OB Consults and Transport
The receiving nurse and physician meet the patient via IAV before the transport. This decreases patient anxiety about going to a tertiary hospital and allows the physician the move to virtually assess patient.

Postpartum Moms
Some babies are transported in the ACH NICU for care. Sometimes the postpartum moms is unable to see the baby. The interactive video connection between the postpartum care where the moms located and NICU and can also meet with mom to help baby during a NICU bed is not available.

AR SAVES Telestroke program
Arkansas ranks #1 nationally for stroke related mortality. Rural Arkansas does not have the necessary specialized care. Telestroke allows larger urban hospitals to virtually connect with smaller rural hospitals to provide emergency services for patients. In 2007, the ANGELS Call Center began to comprehensively triage and provide direct care to patients. In 2007, the ANGELS Call Center began to comprehensively triage and provide direct care to patients.
Telemedicine Update

Telemedicine is increasingly expanding its services for our Arkansas community. Most recently Gordon Low, M.D. was awarded a $735,000, three-year grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and its Office for the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT) titled “Arkansas System to Access Rural Telecolposcopy.” The grant will provide ANGELS (Arkansas Network to Access Rural Telecolposcopy) with the resources to expand the existing telecolposcopy program, Arkansas START (System To Access Rural Telecolposcopy). The grant will be used to expand the existing telecolposcopy program to include all seven of the rural hospitals in the state, including Ouachita Medical Center, Camden, Ouachita Regional Medical Center, Newark, National Park Medical Center, Mountain Home, Washington Regional Medical Center, Fayetteville, Newport Medical Center, and Pineville. The project goals include: 1) expanding the existing telecenters to other rural hospitals; 2) improving the workflow and technology of the existing telecolposcopy program; and 3) increasing the number of women who can access the services through telemedicine. With the funds awarded, the program can be expanded to include other rural hospitals in the state. The program will be able to provide telecolposcopy services to more women in the Arkansas region, improving access to screening services for women in rural areas. The grant will also fund the expansion of the program to include other rural hospitals in the state, increasing access to care for women who are unable to travel to the existing telecenters.

American Telemedicine Association Presentations

Telemedicine: A Business Model

By Randell Alexander, M.D., Ph.D. and Karen Farst, M.D., M.P.H.

With the proliferation of services available to the public, it is important to understand the business model of telemedicine. This presentation will cover the current state of telemedicine, including the challenges and opportunities for providers and patients. It will also discuss the potential for telemedicine to increase access to care and improve patient outcomes. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of the future of telemedicine and its impact on healthcare delivery.

Fetal and Pediatric Echocardiography Utilizing Telemedicine

Presented by Bryan L. Burke, Jr., M.D., F.A.A.P., associate professor, center for pediatric cardiology

We have several exciting projects in the works that we will be mentioning in this presentation. One project is the ANGELS (Arkansas Network to Access Rural Telecolposcopy) program, which is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The ANGELS program provides pediatric echocardiography services to patients at the Arkansas Children’s Hospital (ACH) and four other hospitals in the state. The program is designed to provide high-quality, comprehensive pediatric echocardiography services to patients in a cost-effective and convenient manner. Another project is the Telemedicine in Neonatal Regionalization of Care – Ensuring that the Right Baby Gets the Right Nursery program, which is funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health. The program is designed to provide neonatal intensive care services to babies in rural hospitals, improving access to high-quality care for babies in rural areas. The program will also be discussing the potential for telemedicine to increase access to care and improve patient outcomes.

The Research Corner

By Israel Gerar and Sarah Rhoads

The ANGELS team has been working with the ACH to develop a new model for telemedicine in neonatal intensive care. The model, called Telemedicine in Neonatal Regionalization of Care – Ensuring that the Right Baby Gets the Right Nursery (TNR-ABG), provides telemedicine services to neonatal intensive care units in rural hospitals, improving access to high-quality care for babies in rural areas. The model will be discussed in detail, including the challenges and opportunities for providers and patients. The presentation will conclude with a discussion of the future of telemedicine and its impact on healthcare delivery.

Pediatric Report

Coming Soon

The ANGELS team will continue to make great strides in the pediatric sector. In addition to the Telemedicine in Neonatal Regionalization of Care – Ensuring that the Right Baby Gets the Right Nursery program, the team is working on several other projects aimed at improving access to care for patients in rural areas. These projects include the Telemedicine in OBGYN (Obstetrics and Gynecology) program, which is funded by a grant from the National Institutes of Health. The program is designed to provide telemedicine services to patients in rural hospitals, improving access to high-quality care for women in rural areas. The program will also be discussing the potential for telemedicine to increase access to care and improve patient outcomes.

Upcoming Education Events

December 24
Cancelled due to the Christmas holiday

December 31
Cancelled due to the New Year holiday

January 14
Prevention of Adolescent Sports Injuries

Translational Research Topic

January 1
Prevention of Adolescent Sports Injuries

For more information on these topics, please contact the Arkansas College of Public Health.