# Tele-Stroke Rapid Response to a Stroke Emergency

Montgomery County Memorial Hospital + Clinics Ron Kloewer, Brent Perdue



Montgomery County Memorial Hospital (MCMH) has been serving the families of our service area twentyfour hours a day, seven days a week since 1907.

MCMH has a long history of using advanced medical technology to serve our rural population. We have excellent primary care supported by over 20 medical specialties in our Specialty Outpatient Clinic.

#### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT – What & Why

MCMH was the first Critical Access Hospital in Iowa to become a certified Primary Stroke Center. A Primary Stroke Center must have a neurologist available 24/7, the Tele-Stroke program from Nebraska Medicine provides that. This partnership, along with local EMS training and community outreach has dramatically changed how MCMH responds to and treats patients with this life threatening ailment. The Tele-Stroke service provides our rural communities with rapid, specialized stroke care, improving patient outcomes and saving lives. The Tele-stroke program has been a game changer in our ability to diagnose and treat stroke patients.

### **HIGHLIGHTS** of the MCMH Tele-Stroke Program

Our go live date was set for December 26, 2018; however, on Christmas Day we had a patient with severe stroke symptoms arrive in our emergency department. The neurologist at Nebraska Medicine was contacted and decided to act using the Tele-Stroke system. The patient received the clot busting drug, tPA and was air lifted to Nebraska Medicine.

Miraculously, the patient was able to return home 4 weeks later without any major disability. The Tele-Stroke program has been a tremendous success! The people served by MCMH now have access to advanced care by using telemedicine!



Average time from Tele-Stroke activation to on-screen, MD consultation.

# Five Minutes





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#### **OTHER TELEHEALTH SERVICES**

- \* Tele-Mental Health
- \* Tele-Hospitalists
- \* Tele-Endocrinology
- \* Tele-Presence, Pharmacy
- \* Tele-Post Stroke
- \* Tele-Epilepsy
- \* Stratus Interpreting
- \* Family Connect
- \* Store & Forward
- \* Direct to Consumer
- \* TigerConnect
- \* Intensive Behavioral Health



## **FUTURE PLANS, VISION, INITIATIVES**

- > Tele-Infectious Disease.
- > Tele-Stroke/Tele-Neurology daily rounding on stroke patients.
- > Adding Smart Rooms with integrated telemedicine capabilities as part of a planned facility expansion.