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Dartmouth Health expands partnership with Androscoggin Valley Hospital to support Intensive Care through telemedicine -further supporting rural health care delivery

24/7 TeleICU is latest telemedicine service implemented by AVH to enhance local care and help keep patients and families close to home

Lebanon, NH – Dartmouth Health Connected Care Center for Telehealth is expanding its partnership with [Androscoggin Valley Hospital](#) (AVH), a member of [North Country Healthcare \(NCH\)](#), a nonprofit affiliation of four medical facilities in New Hampshire's White Mountains Region, to provide intensive care services to patients via telemedicine.

Dartmouth Health TeleICU (intensive care unit) provides around-the-clock patient monitoring which will enable AVH to care for critically ill patients locally. Using high-quality interactive audiovisual technology, Dartmouth Health's TeleICU program partners board-certified intensivists and critical care nurses with bedside teams to provide real-time care, support, monitoring and clinical consults. In addition, advanced analytics allows the TeleICU team to monitor trends in patient vital signs and acuity metrics, enabling earlier intervention when problems arise.

"We are pleased to extend AVH's telemedicine partnership with Dartmouth Health to include intensive care services," North Country Healthcare Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer Brian O'Hearn, MBA, BSN, CEN, said. "Providing 24/7 monitoring and access to the expertise of Dartmouth Health specialists only enhances the quality of care already available at AVH, and demonstrates our commitment to maintaining local access to critical care for people throughout our rural region."

In addition to TeleICU, Dartmouth Health partners with AVH to provide TeleEmergency, TeleNeurology, TelePsychiatry, TeleICN (intensive care nursery), and TelePharmacy services. NCH member hospitals Weeks Medical Center in Lancaster and Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital in Colebrook also partner with Dartmouth Health to offer TeleEmergency and other services, all designed to enable patients to receive the best possible care close home.

"Dartmouth Health recognizes the unique challenges to ensure health care delivery for patients located in the most rural areas of the region and is very pleased to expand our telehealth relationship with AVH to now support intensive care services," Dartmouth Health Connected Care Medical Director Kevin Curtis, MD, MS. "Our critical care clinicians will work collaboratively with the outstanding team in Berlin to care for patients in their own community, where they are most comfortable and can be supported by loved ones."

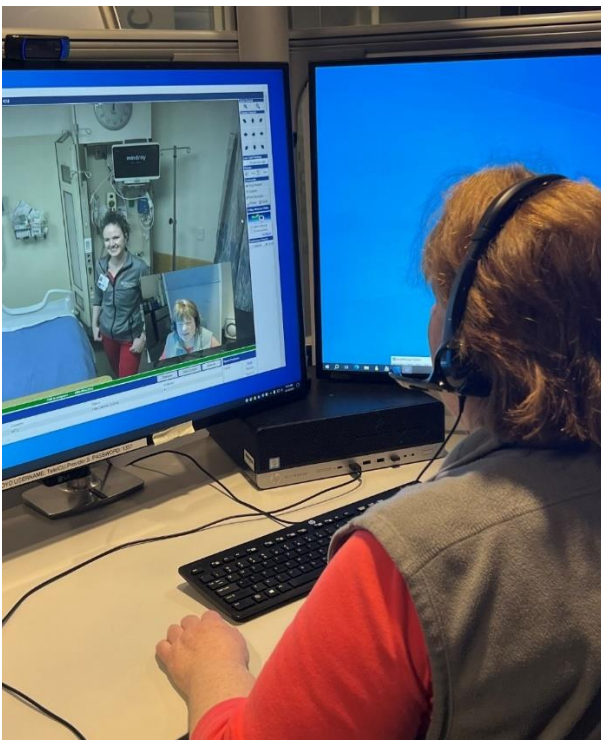
At AVH, Dartmouth Health clinicians utilize remote monitoring and two-way, interactive audio and video technology to support and assist the local clinicians in critical situations, allowing patients to receive enhanced specialty care.

The 24/7 support of TeleICU helps keep patients and families closer to home by supporting clinical decision making and providing additional expert evaluations and recommendations.

To learn more about Dartmouth Health Connected Care, visit dartmouth-hitchcock.org/connected-care.



Photo caption: Androscoggin Valley Hospital ICU Staff Nurse Beth Dandeneau, RN, BSN, stands in a patient room in the intensive care unit at Androscoggin Valley Hospital in Berlin, NH, and speaks with Dartmouth Health TeleICU Staff Nurse Maryellen Louth, BSN, RN, CCRN (on screen) at Dartmouth Health Connected Care Center for Telehealth's 'hub,' located at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon, to demonstrate how Dartmouth Health clinicians will utilize remote monitoring and two-way, interactive audio and video technology to support and assist the local AVH clinicians in critical situations.



Caption: Dartmouth Health recently expanded its partnership with Androscoggin Valley Hospital in Berlin to provide intensive care services to patients via telemedicine. At AVH, Dartmouth Health clinicians utilize remote monitoring and two-way, interactive audio and video technology to support and assist the local clinicians in critical situations, allowing patients to receive enhanced specialty care.

About Dartmouth Health: [Dartmouth Health](https://www.dartmouthhealth.org/), New Hampshire's only academic health system and the state's largest private employer, serves patients across northern New England. Dartmouth Health provides access to more than 2,000 providers in almost every area of medicine, delivering care at its flagship hospital, Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) in Lebanon, NH, as well as across its wide network of hospitals, clinics and care facilities. DHMC is consistently named the #1 hospital in New Hampshire by *U.S. News & World Report*, and is recognized for high performance in

numerous clinical specialties and procedures. Dartmouth Health includes Dartmouth Cancer Center, one of only 51 National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Centers in the nation, and the only such center in northern New England; Dartmouth Health Children's, which includes the state's only children's hospital and multiple locations around the region; member hospitals in Lebanon, Keene and New London, NH, and Windsor, VT; and Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire; and more than 24 clinics that provide ambulatory and specialty services across New Hampshire and Vermont. Through its historical partnership with Dartmouth and the Geisel School of Medicine, Dartmouth Health trains nearly 400 medical residents and fellows annually, and performs cutting-edge research and clinical trials recognized across the globe with Geisel and the White River Junction VA Medical Center in White River Junction, VT. Dartmouth Health and its more than 13,000 employees are deeply committed to serving the healthcare needs of everyone in our communities, and to providing each of our patients with exceptional, personal care.

About North Country Healthcare: Named a 2020 Best Place to Work by Modern Healthcare, North Country Healthcare (NCH) is a non-profit affiliation of four medical facilities in the White Mountains Region of New Hampshire. NCH includes numerous physicians and medical providers at multiple locations. This leading comprehensive healthcare network which employs hundreds of highly-trained individuals delivers integrated patient care through three community hospitals, medical laboratories, and home health and hospice services. NCH remains committed to the health and well-being of the communities it serves.

Member organizations include Androscoggin Valley Hospital in Berlin, North Country Home Health and Hospice Agency in Littleton, Upper Connecticut Valley Hospital in Colebrook, and Weeks Medical Center in Lancaster. NCH is proud to be the largest employer in the North Country.

North Country Healthcare also collaborates with Coös County Family Health Services in Berlin and Gorham. Together they have formed a Limited Liability Corporation (LLC) to develop a Clinically Integrated Network for all hospitals and providers in the North Country to address population health and to improve the health indicators for all of the residents of the North Country.

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