

CASE STUDY:

Access TeleCare Maternal-Fetal Medicine Specialists Detect Rare Heart Condition

MFM Specialists Identified Condition Before Delivery and Guided Complex Care Plan



The Case

When on-site teams at a rural hospital performed a routine ultrasound for a pregnant patient, the poor quality of the results prompted a consultation with Access TeleCare's teleMaternal-fetal medicine specialists. Following up-to-date best practices, the facility's dedicated Access TeleCare telemedicine MFM specialist ordered a focused fetal echocardiogram. The test revealed a new diagnosis of pulmonic stenosis, a rare and potentially fatal heart valve disorder that went undetected during the initial ultrasound.

The Care Plan

Access TeleCare's maternal-fetal medicine expert quickly consulted with the patient's obstetrician and recommended a follow-up with a pediatric cardiologist who agreed with the Access TeleCare specialist's assessment and timely care decisions.

The patient's local hospital lacked the resources to care for what was now a high-risk pregnancy. Access TeleCare's MFM specialist coordinated with the patient's on-site care team to facilitate a medically necessary transfer to a higher-level hospital equipped to manage the complex care the patient and fetus required. The accepting hospital's staff included a pediatric cardiologist as well as a pediatric cardiac surgeon.

Peace of Mind for Providers and Patients

Access TeleCare's teleMaternal-fetal medicine specialists consistently identify abnormalities in 6 percent of ultrasounds deemed "normal" by local sonographers and obstetricians.

The Result

With the rare condition diagnosed *in utero* and the patient transferred well before delivery, the care team avoided both delivery at the local hospital that likely would not have been prepared for the emergent condition and emergent transfer of a potentially unstable newborn.

Access TeleCare Maternal-Fetal Medicine Program Benefits



Optimize transfers by reducing unnecessary ones and ensuring timeliness for high-risk cases



Improve ultrasound interpretation and diagnosis of fetal abnormalities



Increase the number of local deliveries where medically appropriate



Improve perinatal and maternal outcomes