

How Virtual Critical Care Saved a Life



How Access TeleCare's telePulmonology and Critical Care coverage helped stabilize a young mother for safe transfer

The Case

A young mother with type 1 diabetes became critically ill at the small hospital serving her rural East Texas community of about 14,000 residents. Her condition was deteriorating quickly, and she needed immediate critical care consultation to determine the most appropriate next steps.

The hospital partnered with Access TeleCare for telePulmonology and Critical Care services. Through this service, the on-site clinical team was able to immediately consult with a critical care specialist who joined the patient's bedside remotely, evaluated her, and worked directly with the onsite clinical team during a rapidly evolving emergency.

The Care Plan

Access TeleCare's telePulmonology and Critical Care physician connected with the onsite team and evaluated the patient virtually, bringing ICU-level expertise to the bedside at the moment it was needed most. Working alongside the local clinical team, the physician helped guide immediate stabilization and critical care decision-making. That access gave the rural hospital team the specialty support needed to respond quickly, manage a rapidly worsening condition, and give the patient a chance at survival.

The Result

The patient's life was first saved at her local hospital, where immediate telePulmonology and Critical Care support helped the onsite team stabilize her at the point of care. Once stabilized, she was able to reach the receiving hospital safely, continue treatment at a higher level of care, and eventually return home to her family.

Her experience demonstrates the life-saving value of having specialty care available in rural communities when and where it is needed most. For critically ill patients, immediate access to virtual ICU expertise can help local teams make timely decisions, stabilize patients before transfer, and improve outcomes. In moments like this, specialty support at the bedside can be the difference between life and death.

Key Outcomes



Delivered critical care expertise in real time



Supported rapid assessment during deterioration



Guided the onsite team in escalating care appropriately



Enabled safe transfer and an eventual return home

"Because the telePulmonology and Critical Care specialist was at the bedside and was able to see her almost instantly, it saved her life. She was stable enough to be successfully transferred. She had a great clinical outcome and was eventually able to return home to her family."



WATCH THE VIDEO
Scan the code to
hear the full story

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