

## **Telemedicine in ICU**

Intensive care units arose from the need to co-locate expertise and large equipment to support patients with critical illness and injury. Technological advances including the development of the electronic medical record, image (“PACS”) systems, high resolution two way audio video connections, electronic sensors, and advanced computing have enabled the reallocation of tasks (administrative and professional) away from the bedside. Presently, about 15% of the ICU beds in the United States have distance service. In this lecture, we will explore the “flavors” of telemedicine and their impacts. We will discuss how the rise of telemedicine has influenced the economics of critical care and the lives of critical care professionals. We will discuss forces that are driving expansion and barriers to that expansion. We will emphasize the importance of interprofessional education and collaboration as foundational to the success of ICU telemedicine implementations.