

Background

Hospitals are under increasing pressure from rising operational costs, workforce shortages, and growing patient volumes. These challenges are intensified by reimbursement constraints, regulatory demands, and clinician burnout. To remain financially sustainable while delivering high-quality care, hospitals must adopt innovative, scalable solutions.

The Challenge

Key operational inefficiencies include:

- **Costly patient transfers** due to lack of on-site specialists
- **Overburdened emergency departments** with long wait times and delayed triage
- **High staffing and overtime expenses** from 24/7 specialist coverage
- **Extended inpatient stays** due to delayed consults and discharge planning
- **Readmission penalties** under CMS's Hospital Readmissions Reduction Program

These issues directly impact hospital margins, patient satisfaction, and compliance with value-based care models.

The STeM Solution

Specialist TeleMed delivers a turnkey telemedicine solution featuring:

- **24/7 virtual access** to board-certified physicians in 24+ specialties, including neurology, cardiology, psychiatry, and critical care
- **On-demand consults** for emergency and inpatient care
- **Virtual follow-up services** to reduce readmissions and improve compliance
- **Flexible technology integration** for seamless deployment across hospital systems

Results

Hospitals partnering with Specialist TeleMed have achieved:

- **Cost Savings:** Reduced reliance on locum tenens and overtime staffing, saving up to **30%** in specialist coverage costs.
- **Revenue Retention:** Avoided patient transfers saved thousands per case and retained billable services in-house.
- **ED Optimization:** Improved throughput and reduced unnecessary admissions, freeing beds for high-acuity patients.

Case Study | Driving Cost Reduction and Hospital Efficiency with Telemedicine



- **Shorter Length of Stay:** Faster specialist access and coordinated discharge planning reduced inpatient days.
- **Readmission Reduction:** Virtual post-discharge care helped avoid CMS penalties of up to **3%** of Medicare payments.
- **Regulatory Alignment:** Supported compliance with CMS value-based care initiatives and telehealth incentives.

Conclusion

Telemedicine is no longer a convenience, it's a strategic imperative. Specialist TeleMed empowers hospitals to:

- **Enhance operational efficiency**
- **Improve financial performance**
- **Deliver better patient outcomes**

Executives seeking to future-proof their organizations should consider telemedicine as a core component of their care delivery and cost-containment strategy.

Contact Specialist TeleMed (STeM) to learn how our customized telemedicine services can bring clinical and operational efficiencies to your hospital, while also reducing your costs of specialty care delivery.