

# Maryland Telehealth and Telemedicine (THTM) Survey



Rural Maryland Council  
Maryland Rural Health Association  
Upper Shore Regional Council

# What is Telehealth?

- Telehealth: the use of electronic information and telecommunications technologies to support long-distance clinical health care, patient and professional health-related education, public health and health administration.



# What is Telemedicine?

- Telemedicine is the use of electronic communication: diagnosis, treatment, transfer of medical clinical data. Many describe telemedicine in subspecialties like telemental health, telecardiology, and teledentistry.



# History

- 2008 – Maryland Rural Health Association and the State Office of Rural Health holds a series of listening sessions in rural Maryland.
- 2009 – Maryland Rural Health Implementation Plan identified access to primary and specialty care as the number one priority for a healthy rural Maryland.
  - Second priority is to expand and enhance telehealth.
- 2009 - Rural Maryland Council holds a Telehealth Roundtable..
  - Conclusion: a statewide inventory of telehealth projects needs to be done.
- 2009/10 – RMC, MRHA and USRC began Inventory.
  - Inventory is ongoing at <http://www.rural.state.md.us>

# Rural Maryland Council Maryland Rural Health Association Upper Shore Regional Council



- Survey: Compilation of an accurate inventory of telehealth and telemedicine projects underway in Maryland.
  - Funded by the Maryland Agriculture Education and Rural Development Assistance Fund (MAERDAF).

# Survey

- Goal:
  - Compile an accurate inventory of TH/TM projects underway in Maryland.
- Purpose:
  - Advance reimbursement of services;
  - Support credentialing and licensing;
  - Increase access to care in rural communities;
  - Inform statewide policy and implementation in coordination with the statewide Health Information Exchange initiative in Maryland.

# Who we targeted?



- 137 organizations
  - All hospitals in Maryland
  - Maryland Federally Qualified Health Centers
  - University of Maryland School of Medicine
    - Along with individual departments
  - Johns Hopkins Health System
    - Along with individual departments
  - Local Health Departments
  - Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
  - Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

# Participants

- 5 Hospitals
- 4 Health Departments
- 2 Medical Schools
- 2 Mental Health Facilities

Survey can still be taken at:

- <http://www.rural.state.md.us>

- Atlantic General Hospital
- Calvert Memorial Hospital
- Dorchester County Health Department
- Johns Hopkins Medicine
- Johns Hopkins Schools of Nursing and Medicine
- Mid Shore Mental Health Systems
- Sheppard Pratt
- St. Mary's Hospital
- University of Maryland
- University of Maryland Medical System
- University of Maryland School of Medicine
- Western Maryland Health System
- Western Maryland Health System
- Wicomico County Health Department

# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

- Western Maryland Health System
  - Western Maryland Regional Medical Center
  - Univ. of MD Cancer Center
  - Sheppard Pratt
  - And others
- Cardiology, Emergency services, Mental Health and Radiology.
  - via web based software.



# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

- Sheppard Pratt Health Systems
  - Providing health diagnostic services and medication management to lower shore county partners.
  - Funding originally through HRSA and USDA
    - Now locally funded.



# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

- University of Maryland School of Medicine.  
MAPSS Perinatal Telemedicine Project
  - Partners: Union Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital
- Provides patient management in OB/GYN and perinatal genetic counseling through interactive video.



# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

- Johns Hopkins Medicine
  - Remote Access in Otolaryngology
  - Imaging, patient management, and diagnostic services via desktop software and robotics.



# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

- Maryland Telepsychiatry Network Program
  - Mid Shore Mental Health Systems & others
  - Provides mental health diagnostic and patient management through interactive video.



**Mid-Shore Mental  
Health Systems, Inc.**  
*Excellence in Public Mental Health*

# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

- Verizon Emergency Department Robot Project (Verizon Foundation)
  - Johns Hopkins Medicine Center for Innovation in Quality Patient care.
    - Neurology and linguistic translation via interactive video and robotics.



# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

- Maryland eCare
  - Christiana Hospital, Union Hospital, Atlantic General, Calvert Memorial, Civista Medical Center, St. Mary's Hospital, Peninsula Regional Medical Center, Washington County Health System.
  - Provides clinical critical care patient management and monitoring for Intensive Care Unit patients.



# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

- Pediatric Diagnostic Telemedicine Project
  - St. Mary's Hospital; Children's National Medical Center
  - Pediatric cardiology and neurology services



# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

- Maryland Telehome Care Network
  - University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS)
  - Chronic disease management through handheld wireless monitoring devices and interactive video in the homes of patients.



# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

- Telehome for Community Dwelling African Americans.
  - Johns Hopkins School of Nursing
    - Cardiology and chronic disease management using Intel Health Guide Telemonitoring and telehomecare device.



JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY

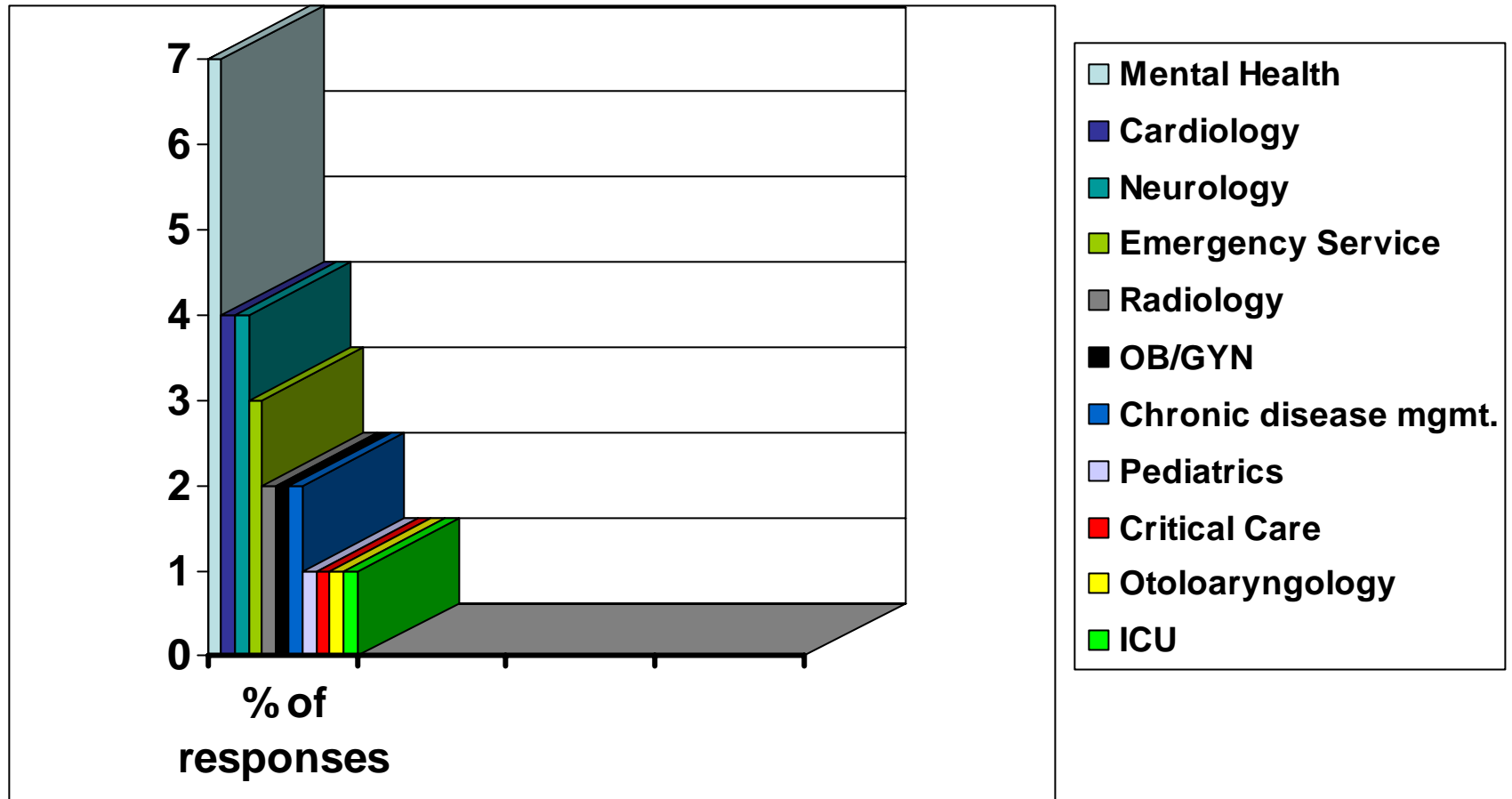
School of Nursing

# Major TH/TM Projects Identified

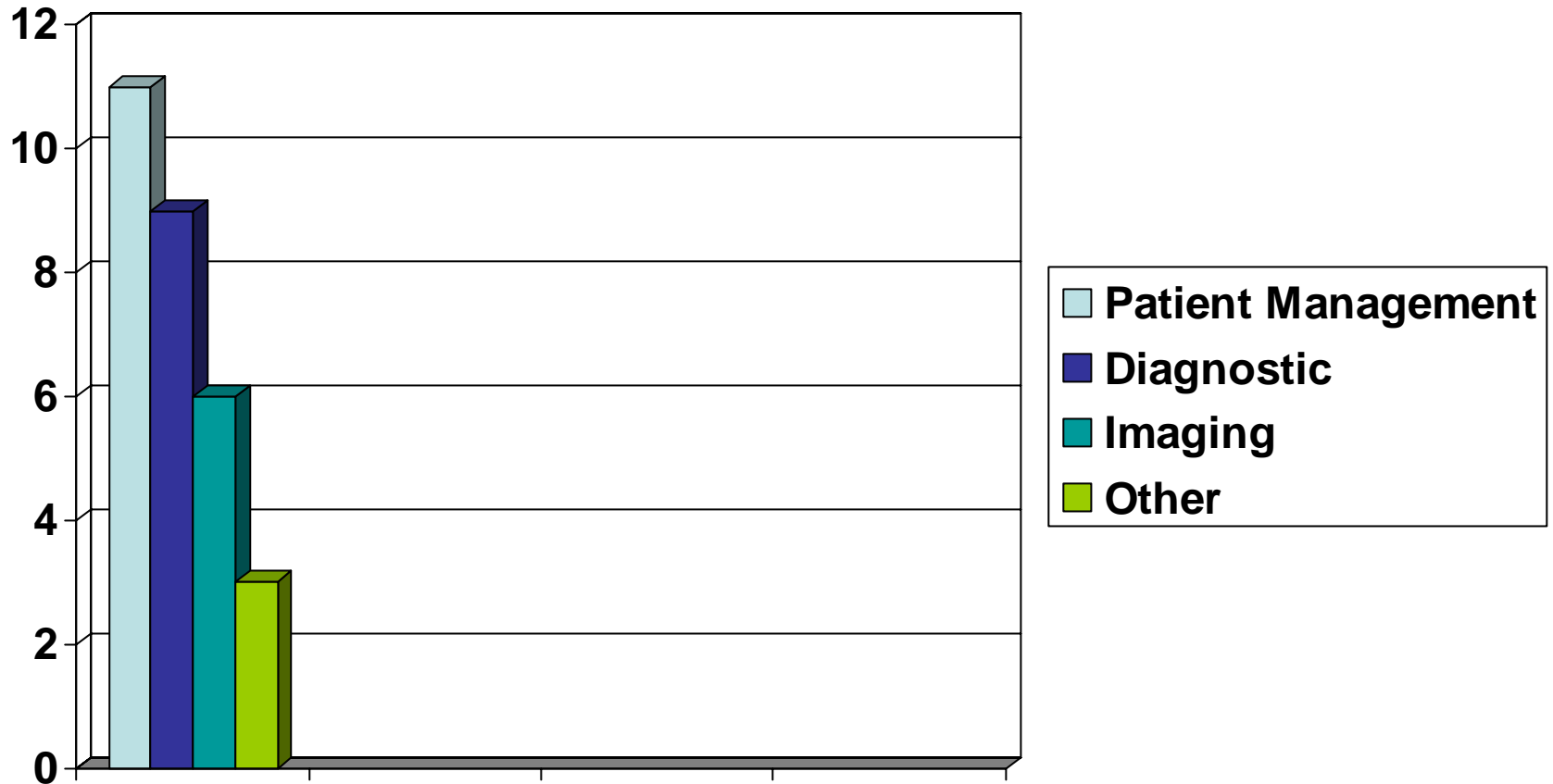
- Maryland Telestroke
  - University of Maryland
    - Neurology diagnostic, imaging and patient monitoring via desktop software, handheld wireless monitoring devices, interactive video and web based software.
    - Anticipated to go live in 2011.



# Distribution of TH/TM Clinical Services

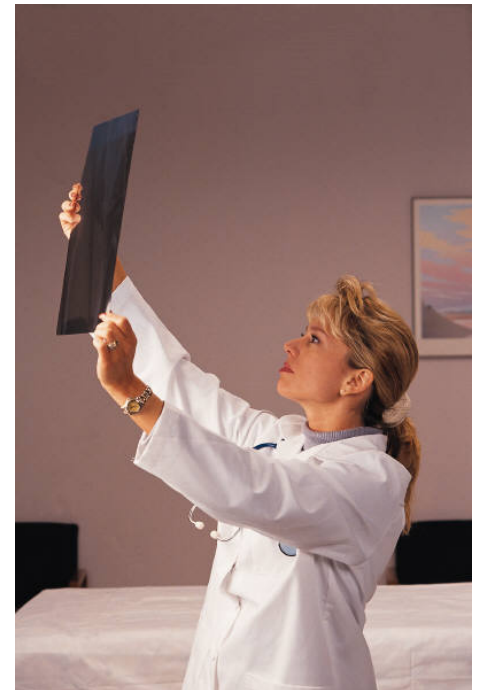
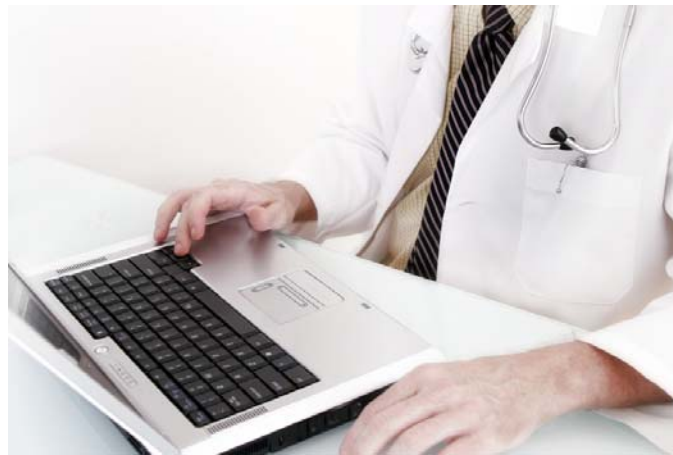


# Procedures



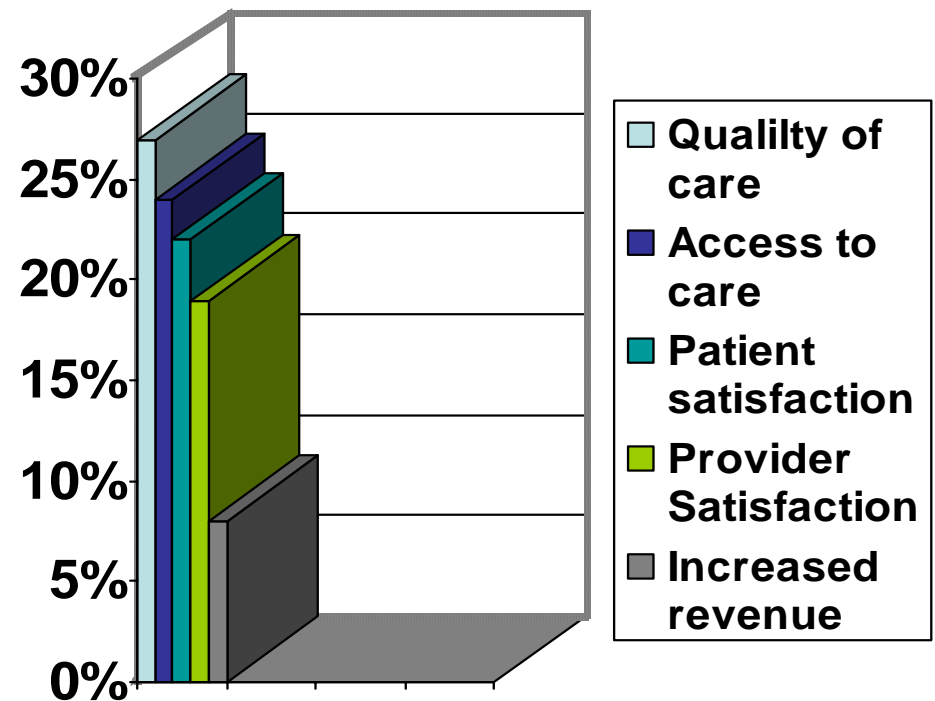
# General Benefits of TH/TM

1. Patient satisfaction
2. Provider satisfaction
3. Decreased length of hospital stay



# Reported improvement to delivery of care

- Quality of care
- Access to care
- Patient satisfaction
- Provider satisfaction
- Increased revenue



# Cited barriers to TH/TM

- Reimbursement
- Credentialing of Providers
- Cost of equipment
- High administrative cost
- Interactive video



# What is needed to take the next steps?

<u>Cited</u>		<u>Number of respondents</u>
• Increased \$ and staff	-	21
• Technology	-	8
• Secure network	-	5
• Provider licensing – (within the state)	-	5
• Provider licensing – (across state lines)	-	3

# Priorities for Maryland

1. Reimbursement and Financing
2. State leadership
3. Broadband Access
4. Reimbursement of Private payers
5. Licensing and credentialing



# Discussion/Questions?



Future event: **The MD Telehealth/Telemedicine Survey Roundtable**, December 6, at the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Annapolis.