



Company Focus: **Telemedicine Solution for the Nursing Home**

Headquarters: **Pittsburgh, PA**

Year Founded: **2016**

CuraviHealth.com

Curavi Health offers a telemedicine solution specifically designed for the post-acute care environment. Utilizing board-certified geriatricians from the University of Pittsburgh, Curavi aims to ensure every resident is provided the highest quality of care regardless of their location and access to care.

After hours, nursing homes typically rely on telephonic consults when a resident has a change of condition. These consults are often done by a physician unfamiliar with the resident. Without the ability to see the resident or perform an examination, consults often result in a transfer out to a hospital. These transfers are time intensive for staff and stressful for residents. Transfers also present a financial loss for the nursing home and potentially a penalty for the hospital.

Curavi Health provides telemedicine to reduce these potentially avoidable readmissions, treating residents in the facility to save the nursing home time and money. Curavi creates a tailored solution for each facility using the CuraviCart, a state-of-the-art telemedicine cart, and CuraviCare, a HIPAA-compliant, video platform.



Key Benefits:



FOR NURSING HOMES:

Saves nursing homes time and money by reducing the number of unnecessary resident transfers



FOR RESIDENTS:

Reduces stress on the resident by avoiding a disruptive transfer to a hospital



FOR STAFF:

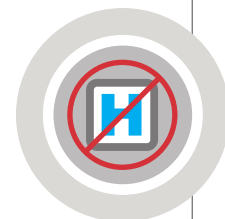
Improves staff satisfaction by encouraging quality care, innovation, and confidence

UPMC and Curavi – Providing Quality Care Through Telemedicine

In 2011, Medicare spent \$14.3 billion on hospital stays for patients who were transferred to hospitals from nursing homes – half of those hospitalizations (costing an estimated \$8 billion) were ultimately deemed potentially avoidable or unnecessary. Providing quality care through telemedicine during off-hours can transform a nursing home. Curavi Health partnered with UPMC to provide the best and most efficient care at nursing home facilities to avoid unnecessary transfers.

Potentially Avoidable Hospitalizations

The primary cause of unnecessary hospitalizations among the geriatric population stems from provider limitations: physicians are typically only onsite at skilled nursing facilities during business hours. When residents experience a change of condition when a physician is not present, the residents are often transferred from nursing homes to hospitals for examination, regardless of whether hospitalization is necessary. Most facilities rely on telephonic consults after-hours, but these consults often aren't enough. Curavi Health allows physicians to examine and diagnose the patient and address their concerns to develop a treatment plan allowing the resident to be treated in place and avoid an unnecessary hospitalization.



The Foundation of Curavi Health

UPMC Community Provider Services saw a service gap in nursing facilities and applied for a CMS Innovation Award, which became known as “RAVEN” (Reduce AVOIDable hospitalizations using Evidence-based interventions for Nursing facilities). This program sought to prove telemedicine to be an effective treatment option to reduce avoidable hospitalizations. The RAVEN program showed a statistically significant “reduced rate of hospitalizations and potentially avoidable hospitalizations as well as utilization-related expenditures.”¹ After realizing the potential of telemedicine, UPMC Enterprises explored a way to commercialize this solution for nursing homes.

Looking Forward

As a home-grown solution from UPMC Enterprises, Curavi Health worked closely with product developers and clinical experts in geriatric care to refine their telemedicine solution. UPMC Enterprises facilitated pilot programs and access to clinical feedback allowing Curavi to optimize their software solution. As an added benefit of a UPMC Enterprises portfolio company, Curavi Health has access to UPMC Shared Services such as Finance, HR, Legal, and Marketing services. Instead of building out these departments, Curavi is able to reimburse UPMC market rate for these services, only utilizing the exact amount of time and services needed instead of hiring part-time or contractor services. This allows Curavi to focus on product development and growth of the company and work with trusted-partners on other aspects of the business.

Curavi Health has completed hundreds of telemedicine consults for post-acute, and results show that 96 percent of residents were treated in-place and approximately 40 percent of on-demand consults resulted in an avoided hospitalization. Each avoided hospitalization keeps a resident in the facility, decreasing stress and avoiding loss of reimbursement.

¹<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination/Medicare-and-Medicaid-Coordination/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination-Office/Downloads/NFPAH2015AnnualReport.pdf>