



# Angels in Your Home



The singular mission of Great Lakes Caring is to provide superior quality care in the comfort, security and privacy of your own home. Serving the Midwest since 1994.

Great Lakes Caring is improving the standard of home health and hospice care—and has received numerous awards: Inc. 5000, Michigan Award of Excellence for Improving Care in the Home Health Setting, Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year for West Michigan, Michigan Small Business Person of the Year Award, National Home Care 100, Home Health Quality Improvement National Campaign participant, Detroit Free Press Top Work Place, Corp! Salute to Diversity –Winner, and select divisions of Great Lakes Caring are nationally accredited by ACHC. Please see our website for more information on accreditation.

The Great Lakes Caring family of health care service providers includes:

- Great Lakes Caring Home Health
- Great Lakes Caring Hospice
- Great Lakes Caring Home Medical Equipment

Insured and bonded. Rigorous employee criminal history and prior employment background checks are performed for your protection.

## What Can TeleHealth Monitor?

- Heart rate
- Blood pressure
- Weight
- Oxygen saturation
- Temperature
- Blood glucose level
- Spirometer
- Peak flow
- Prothrombin time/INR
- ECG rhythm
- Digital images for wound care



**Michigan Home Health 800.379.1600**  
**Michigan Hospice 800.311.5365**  
**Indiana 866.437.7770**  
**Ohio 888.260.9835**

GreatLakesCaring.com

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#7 IN SERIES | ITEM #: T2

## An Educational Guide to TeleHealth



## How Does TeleHealth Work?

There are several different systems in use today. Great Lakes Caring is the exclusive area provider using the industry-leading Honeywell HomMed® TeleHealth monitoring system. Every day, the monitor talks the patient through the vital data collection process. It then automatically transmits this data over a digital wireless private network or a telephone line to the Central Station located at the Great Lakes Caring office, where our professional clinicians can review the information and respond appropriately. TeleHealth is quick and easy, provides necessary monitoring seven days a week and takes less than three minutes per day.

## Why choose Great Lakes Caring TeleHealth?

- Great Lakes Caring is the exclusive area provider using the industry-leading Honeywell HomMed® TeleHealth monitoring system
- HomMed® TeleHealth monitors use hospital grade equipment to gather clinical data
- All home health care eligible patients are evaluated for appropriateness of TeleHealth monitoring
- Nurses are specially trained in TeleHealth monitoring
- Nurses have the time, mandate and technology to offer complete and individualized instruction and evaluations while daily monitoring is occurring
- Nurses and therapists have in-home access to all medical records and information via mobile electronic devices, in addition to TeleHealth monitoring
- Registered Nurse is in our office call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, waiting for your call



A part of the Great Lakes Caring family.

## Why use TeleHealth?

Today's patients are discharged from the hospital earlier, but their recovery care needs have not changed. Patients need help integrating the medical treatment plan into their daily lives. The hospital nurse doesn't have as much time as they want and discharge instructions are complex and overwhelming.

TeleHealth provides the solution. It combines advanced communication technology and health monitoring equipment to gather and transmit a patient's vital signs to a health care professional. The information is reviewed daily and early warning signs of problems are addressed immediately by a nurse or physician. The combination of daily monitoring at the Great Lakes Caring office and early intervention greatly improves the quality of care.



- Eliminates unnecessary and unscheduled visits to the doctor's office
- Breaks the cycle of emergency care and hospital re-admissions for patients with chronic illnesses such as CHF, diabetes, etc.
- Complete and objective clinical patient data is always immediately available to the physician
- Trend-over-time data ensures continuity of care
- Prompt communication of abnormal parameters and routine trend reports allow the physician to detect subtle changes in clinical status before a patient's condition deteriorates
- Helps the physician be more proactive in patient care, allowing for adjustments to the treatment plan or medications
- Encourages patient self-management by reinforcing positive behavior and lifestyle changes
- Facilitates patient and caregiver participation in the plan of care producing better maintainable outcomes
- Gives concerned family members the peace of mind that a professional clinician is monitoring the patient on a daily basis and communicating important information to the physician
- Patient has the option to check themselves as often as they desire, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Health care vital sign alert limits are individually set for each patient



## Who Pays For TeleHealth?

Home health care eligible patients who are referred to Great Lakes Caring for home health care services and meet the TeleHealth selection criteria will be monitored at no additional cost.

Patients not eligible for home health care have the option of being monitored for a nominal fee. Studies show both patient and concerned family members place considerable value on the peace-of-mind this service offers them.

## Is TeleHealth Available to Me?

Great Lakes Caring evaluates all patients for appropriateness of TeleHealth monitoring and home health services. Typically they include: individuals who are discharged from the hospital or nursing home but still require additional care; or, individuals who have short-term health care needs. Individuals or their families are invited to call Great Lakes Caring Home Health to schedule an in-home evaluation to assess needs in the home and potential appropriateness for home health care and TeleHealth monitoring.

Patients in a hospital or skilled nursing facility must request Great Lakes Caring Home Health to avoid being discharged to another home health care provider who may not offer TeleHealth or the extensive services and superior quality care provided by Great Lakes Caring Home Health.

Great Lakes Caring monitors patients throughout their Medicare service area. The Honeywell HomMed® TeleHealth system is unique in that it can monitor by telephone line or satellite via Skytel® if a phone is not available.

Diagnoses that may benefit from home TeleHealth monitoring:

- Myocardial infarctions
- CHF
- Pneumonia
- Angina
- Emphysema
- Pacemaker
- Angioplasty
- Hypertension
- Coronary artery bypass graft surgery
- Pericarditis
- Hypotension
- Post-surgical patients
- Valve replacement
- Patients receiving anti-coagulant therapy
- CVA/Stroke
- Arrhythmias
- Endocarditis
- Pleural effusion
- Coronary artery disease
- Cardiomyopathy
- Bronchitis
- COPD
- Heart block
- Diabetes