Telemedicine Behind Bars

Healthcare costs are skyrocketing. Medical expenses for Inmates in federal, state and county prisons are no exception—a sobering reality as tax revenues decrease and agencies face budget restrictions. One large state spends, on average, more than $40 per day, per inmate for health care, when you factor in the cost of guards who must accompany inmates on visits to outside doctors. That’s more than $14,000 per inmate every year. And costs are expected to continue to increase as the prison population ages.

In addition to increasing costs, correctional agencies struggle with:

• Security risks associated with transporting inmates to off-site medical facilities
• Inmates who lacked preventative healthcare before entering prison
• Increasing incidence of inmate mental illness
• Shortage of healthcare providers in rural areas

As a result, administrators are looking to telemedicine solutions to help improve the quality of inmate care and control costs. Historically, telemedicine has been defined as the use of telecommunications to provide medical information and services. Because of technological advances including the declining cost of sophisticated video conferencing equipment, increased availability of high-speed communications links, and advances in IP Communications (VoIP) that allow secure and reliable connectivity over the Internet, telemedicine has become a viable option for many healthcare providers.

Studies have consistently shown that Telemedicine helps control healthcare costs primarily through reductions in patient travel and related costs and streamlined operations for healthcare providers. By utilizing telemedicine across an entire prison system, synergies can be achieved, staffing can be balanced between locations and clinical backlogs can be reduced. Telemedicine can be utilized by primary care physicians for initial patient consultations and can be effective in specialty care assessments and chronic care follow-up appointments. Telemedicine can also help reduce the cost of patient treatment in prison systems. One state found it could save an average of $500 in transportation costs and officers’ pay when telemedicine was used to treat a prisoner without leaving the prison.

Introducing Verizon Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons Services

Verizon leverages our leading network and IT solutions to introduce Verizon Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons, a visual communications solution that helps improve access to medical resources and control the costs and safety risks associated with the transportation of prisoners to clinics and hospitals. With Verizon Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons, physicians can meet with inmates over video links and use remote monitoring devices to keep track of patient’s health. Psychiatric care can be provided by video conference in the same manner as if the psychologist were in the same room with the inmate. Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons can enhance the delivery of primary care services as well as numerous specialties including neurology, cardiology, radiology and pathology.

Verizon Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons helps correctional agencies:

• Expand availability of medical services to inmates
• Reduce transportation costs associated with inmate travel to medical facilities outside the prison
• Mitigate security risks for the general population by keeping inmates incarcerated during exams

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Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons Services Helps Correctional Agencies:

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• Reduce transportation costs associated with inmate medical visits outside the prison facility
• Mitigate security risks to the general population by keeping inmates incarcerated during exams

Together, We’re Better

In order to provide a comprehensive suite of Telehealth services, we’re teaming with industry leaders in the visual communications arena including Polycom, TANDBERG, and Cisco. Together we’re able to deliver powerful unified communications and collaboration (UC&C) over our robust public and private IP networks. Whether you want to facilitate remote consultations with primary care physicians or develop a comprehensive telepsychiatry program, Verizon can provide the robust and secure connectivity as well as the equipment that fits your unique telemedicine needs.

Verizon provides a complete lifecycle approach to Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons:

• **Phase 1:** Our Telehealth Readiness Assessment is an actionable roadmap that can identify underlying business drivers, analyze existing technological resources and determine the impact that Verizon Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons will have on your agency.

• **Phase 2:** We’ll work with you to identify, design and implement equipment and services from our robust solutions portfolio that includes traditional audio, web and video conferencing as well as HD quality immersive video with connectivity to medical devices.

• **Phase 3:** Depending on your specific requirements, we can assist you with the proactive monitoring and management of your converged data and voice networks. We offer Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons on-premise, hosted and/or as a managed service to provide a reliable and secure solution.

An Established Partner to Healthcare and Government Agencies

Verizon offers a broad service portfolio and the professional expertise necessary to help public agencies deploy an effective telemedicine solution. Ninety percent of the Fortune 1000 healthcare companies rely on Verizon for their communications needs, trusting us to deliver a reliable infrastructure capable of supporting advanced applications like telemedicine.

We also have decades of experience serving state and local governments. And because we work closely with our government clients, chances are we can provide Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons services on one of your state contracts, helping speed the procurement process and saving you time.

As communications technology becomes more complex and interdependent, our customers need a partner who has a proven track record of integrating technologies and developing solutions. Verizon Telehealth Collaboration for Prisons provides corrections agencies with platforms that extend their reach of services and enable greater access to specialized care. We have the infrastructure, personnel, and expertise to support the availability and performance you need from your telemedicine solution, so you can focus on providing quality care to your prison population.

Verizon has a robust portfolio of services to support your customer including:

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<th>Manage and Secure</th>
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<td>• Telehealth Readiness Assessment</td>
<td>• Solution design options include network infrastructure, audio, web and video conferencing, Telepresence and UCC services</td>
<td>• Hosted and Managed Services</td>
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<td>• Professional Services custom engagement</td>
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About Verizon Business

Verizon Business, a unit of Verizon Communications (NYSE: VZ), is a global leader in communications and IT solutions. We combine professional expertise with one of the world’s most connected IP networks to deliver award-winning communications, IT, information security and network solutions. We securely connect today’s extended enterprises of widespread and mobile customers, partners, suppliers and employees—enabling them to increase productivity and efficiency and help preserve the environment. Many of the world’s largest businesses and governments—including 96 percent of the Fortune 1000 and thousands of government agencies and educational institutions—rely on our professional and managed services and network technologies to accelerate their business. Find out more at www.verizonbusiness.com.