

TeamHealth Case Study

Terre Haute Regional Hospital, Terre Haute, Indiana

Improving patient care through focused education

The Challenge

Terre Haute Regional Hospital (THRH) originally partnered with TeamHealth to help improve the overall efficiency of its emergency department (ED) and enhance both patient and physician satisfaction. Kayur Patel, MD, medical director of the ED, realized that a major key to achieving these goals was more locally available, cutting-edge education for providers of emergency care at all levels—pre-hospital care providers, physicians, and staff at multiple hospitals throughout the region. The challenge, however, was that the physicians traditionally traveled to other cities to fulfill their continuing medical education requirements. Dr. Patel envisioned bringing medical updates from across the country to the Terre Haute/Wabash Valley community through a medical symposium that focused on topics that specifically addressed local healthcare needs.

Our Solution

With cooperation and support from TeamHealth and THRH, Dr. Patel and Valarie Jones, RN, ED nurse manager, began the work to shape Dr. Patel's vision into a reality. After months of coordination and planning, Terre Haute's first emergency medicine symposium was held. The program's main purpose was to provide up-to-date, evidence-based information and resources regarding the care and treatment of emergency medical conditions, current topics related to emergency care across the age spectrum, and updates in medical law. Problems unique to the Wabash Valley community were also emphasized, including critical management in the field, field technologies, and supply and medication updates.

The Results

The symposium was an unqualified success with more than 100 people attending the inaugural event. Presentations were delivered by top emergency medicine, critical care, pediatrics, and trauma surgery educators in the country, and Indiana University offered continuing education credits for those in attendance. Plans are in the works for more symposiums and educational events.

Through Dr. Patel's foresight and leadership, the general state of emergency medical care in the region was enhanced. For THRH specifically, the education received from the symposium by the emergency physicians and ED staff, in conjunction with Dr. Patel's continued leadership and vision, has enabled the ED to achieve its goals, while the patient volume and reputation in the community continues to grow.

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Contact Information

Kayur Patel, MD, FACP, CPE
Course Director
Kayur.Patel@HCAHealthcare.com

Valarie Jones, RN
Course Manager
Valarie.Jones@HCAHealthcare.com

Client Response

"The partnership between Terre Haute Regional Hospital and TeamHealth has taken our ED to a new level—including our designation as the first and only ED in the market to achieve Chest Pain Accreditation. Dr. Patel's leadership at the hospital and in the community has cemented our reputation as the

Chief Executive Officer