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ELBERT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL PARTNERS WITH AUGUSTA UNIVERSITY TO OFFER TELEMEDICINE FOR ACUTE PATIENTS AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Elberton, GA - Elbert Memorial Hospital is dedicated to ensuring the citizens of Elbert County and surrounding areas have quality health care services available to them 24 hours per day, seven days per week. That commitment starts with the implementation of the new service of telemedicine, ensuring our patients will have critical care physicians accessible at all times. Elbert Memorial Hospital has now partnered with Augusta University's Telemedicine Program to provide these services.

In 2019, AU Health Partnered with Amwell to organize a grant-funded program to provide telemedicine emergency services at six rural hospitals in Georgia with TWO major goals in mind: Improve care in rural communities and keep their hospitals financially viable.

Tele-ER program is set up to make consults available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to rural emergency rooms. All AU Health, including pediatric emergency physicians, participate in the program. This allows AU Health physicians to assist rural providers with processes such as intubations and mechanical ventilation.

In July 2020, with the dramatic surge in COVID-19 cases, AU Health realizes rural hospitals required additional support. This prompted AU Health to explore how to provide inpatient consults to rural hospitals by using the same infrastructures at the Tele-ER program, creating the Tele-Critical Program. The Tele-critical care program leverages the same processes as the Tele-ER program. It enables emergency physicians to provide inpatient consults under the virtual oversight of AU Health critical care physicians.

Kerry Trapnell, CEO of Elbert Memorial Hospital states, "We are excited to add one more layer of exceptional patient care to our existing Emergency Room and Acute Care providers. We want to ensure that this Community has access to the best possible care right here at home."

About Elbert Memorial Hospital: Elbert Memorial Hospital is a 25-Bed Critical Access Hospital that has been providing care to Elbert and surrounding counties for 70 years. Services include acute care, swing bed, emergency, inpatient and outpatient surgery, state of the art radiology, outpatient rehab and many more.

Our Mission is to continuously seek ways to improve our delivery of healthcare and related services that exceed the expectations of our patients, their families, and all other customers. To learn more about Elbert Memorial Hospital visit www.EMHcare.net.

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