

The RAVEN Initiative

There are multiple nursing facilities in Pennsylvania participating in the RAVEN Initiative program. This program is funded by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and is a joint effort with the Aging Institute of UPMC Senior Services and the University of Pittsburgh.

The program has 4 main goals:

- Improve *health outcomes* for residents
- Improve *quality of care* when residents move from hospital to nursing facilities
- Reduce the *frequency of hospital admissions and readmissions* that could have been avoided
- Reduce *health care spending* without restricting access to care or choice of healthcare providers

For additional information on the RAVEN Initiative, contact:

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AGING INSTITUTE

of UPMC Senior Services and the University of Pittsburgh

RAVEN Telemedicine

RAVEN

Reduce **AV**oidable Hospitalizations using
Evidence-based interventions for **N**ursing
facilities in Pennsylvania

RAVEN Telemedicine Hours

Monday-Friday 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Weekends 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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“Telly” Cart

The “Telly” cart is a movable cart containing several electronic, diagnostic devices that can be rolled right up to the resident’s bedside. With the help of the bedside nurse, the Nurse Practitioner (CRNP) examines the resident using the audio and video devices on the cart.

The “Telly” Cart contains:

- **Cameras** - a stationary camera and a portable camera that allow the CRNP to see the resident in “real time”
- **Speaker/microphone** - allows the resident to speak to and hear the CRNP
- **Stethoscope** - an instrument used to check the resident’s heart, lung, and abdominal sounds by transmitting sounds that both the bedside nurse and the remote CRNP hear
- **EKG** - allows the CRNP to check for changes in the resident’s heart rate and rhythm
- **Otoscope** - a type of camera that allows the CRNP to see into the resident’s ears, nose, or mouth



What is Telemedicine?

- Enables the resident to be seen by a “remote” CRNP right at their bedside during evenings and weekends
- With the help of the bedside nurse, the CRNP uses the “Telly” cart that contains audio, video, and diagnostic devices to see, talk to, and examine the resident remotely

Benefits of Telemedicine for residents may include:

- Examination by a remote CRNP from the comfort of their own bed
- Ability to stay in a familiar environment when they are not feeling well
- Having caregivers around them who know them and their needs
- Avoiding the concern of an ambulance trip