

## NSW TELEHEALTH INITIATIVE—2005 SYMPOSIUM

The NSW Telehealth Initiative was established in 1996 to improve access to health services, especially for people in rural and remote communities, by using telecommunications to link health services and provide local access to clinical advice, specialist consultation, education and training services.

Many definitions for telehealth, telemedicine and e-health can be found. The NSW Health definition is: 'Telehealth is the transmission of images, voice and data between two or more health units via digital telecommunications, to provide clinical advice, consultation, education and training services'.

NSW Health has established one of the largest integrated telehealth networks in the world, with over 235 sites in public hospitals, community health centres, Aboriginal Medical Services, correctional health centres and the Mental Health Review Tribunal. Details of current telehealth services and sites can be found at the Department's telehealth website at [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au).

The telehealth network supports clinical consultations, workforce training and health administration using videoconferencing and image capture, store and forward modalities. Examples of telehealth in operation include:

- clinicians in metropolitan and regional centres conduct consultations via videoconference link to patients in rural and remote towns
- rural clinicians and regional/metropolitan specialists regularly conduct case conferences to discuss patient progress and develop treatment plans supported by technology such as image capture and videoconferencing
- the telehealth videoconferencing network supports the delivery of staff training, peer support and collegiate networking across the State.

### THE 2005 SYMPOSIUM

The 2005 Information Technology in NSW Health Symposium will provide an overview of the current status of telehealth and its proposed future developments.

The keynote speaker in the morning will be Dr Karl Kruszelnicki, Julius Sumner Miller Fellow at Sydney

University, speaking on 'Great Moments in Future Medicine'. There will be three concurrent sessions throughout the day including:

- Electronic Health and Medical Records
- Telehealth: Delivering Health Care
- Clinical Tools: Using Best Practice to Deliver Services
- Clinical Services ReDesign Convergence with E-Health
- Standards and Architecture.

To view the program and register, please visit [www.health.nsw.gov.au/pmd/telehealth/](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/pmd/telehealth/).

For more information regarding strategic information management and NSW Health Information Management and Technology Initiatives telephone (02) 9391 9857. ☎

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### Information Technology in NSW Health

*Symposium Program*

**28 October 2005**

Stamford Hotel Sydney Airport

Cnr Robey and O'Riordan Streets, Mascot  
Sydney NSW Australia

For more information: [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

incorporating  
**NSW TeleHealth**

**NSW HEALTH**