

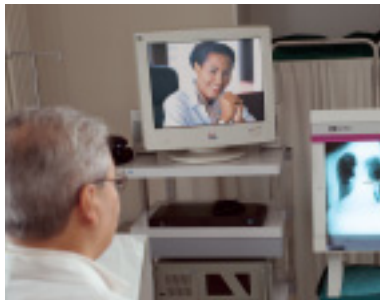
The International Telemedicine Centre in Russia

Telemedicine is utilized in a variety of medical and nursing arenas such as the transmission of a patient's CT to a radiologist, the defibrillation of a cardiac patient while the patient is still at home, disease diagnosis following a real-time video assessment, and videoconferencing with geographically remote patients.

The International Telemedicine Center (ITC) in Russia has provided organized telemedicine services such as these since 1998. ITC unites several diagnostic centers and offers a wide range of telemedicine services throughout Russia. ITC began working with telemedicine equipment several years ago. In September 2001, with the help of Aethra's Russian distributor, TZ Elettronica, they purchased two STAT 100 telemedicine systems (known as the Eykona 700 system in Europe) and installed them in the Diagnostic center in Irkutsk and the Telemedicine Center in the Sverdlovsk region.



Aethra's STAT 100 solution is used to provide live videoconference sessions, via ISDN or IP network, between a patient and his 'presenter' (normally the primary care physician) and a consultant or specialist. The consultant reviews relevant material before the live session, conducts a live consultation, and sends a written report to the remote location.



ITC selected the STAT 100 system for its unique patient information management system. They have found the most valuable feature to be that the system enables the creation of electronic medical records, which are necessary for further diagnostics. STAT 100 is also specially designed for the connection of medical instruments such as scanners, ultrasound and CT devices and microscopes. The STAT 100 systems have proven to be extremely reliable. ITC has found that its case conferences can now be conducted via Aethra STAT 100 as well as in person. They have also found the systems easy -to-use, providing high audio and video quality.

In the opinion of the specialists who work with the systems, the most important features of STAT 100 are:

- Security: the system involves transmission of real patient data, which the patient may consider sensitive. STAT 100 has a high level of transmission security; information cannot be altered or viewed during transmission.
- Reliability: The ITC system uses ISDN and leased lines that are highly reliable.

With the help of STAT 100, the regional Telemedicine Center Irkutsk provides a live connection with the largest diagnostic centers in Siberia and the Far East, as well as some of the best clinics in other countries. Physicians can share x-rays, ultrasound readings and other diagnostic information, and can provide these services in a manner that saves them time and travel costs.

To measure the effectiveness of using STAT 100, specialists in Irkutsk reported videoconferences using STAT 100 allowed them to:

- More accurately define the diagnoses of patients who receive health care in Irkutsk clinics;
- Correct the course of medical treatment for many patients;
- Reduce the costs of teleconsultation to 6-7 times less than the costs of traveling.

In addition, the use of STAT 100 resulted in a savings of 1,670,000 rubles. Spending on teleconsultation, on the other hand, cost approximately 250,000 rubles.



About Aethra

Aethra (www.Aethra.com) is a leader in the global telecommunications market, with distribution of its leading-edge products through more than 40 telecommunications carriers worldwide. The company develops, manufactures and markets a wide range of high-performance telecommunications products, including ISDN and xDSL products, video communication systems and audioconferencing solutions, and management solutions for audio, video and data services in over 60 countries. These exceptional products have distinguished Aethra as a leader in the telecommunications industry worldwide for over 30 years, reflecting its expertise in bringing cutting-edge communications technologies to market.

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