

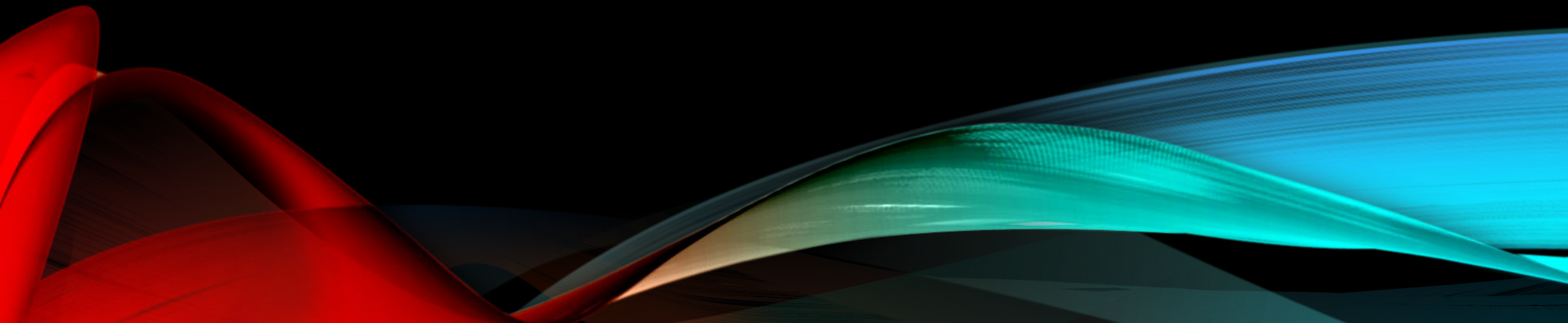


STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE DIAGNOSTIC ACCURACY IN THE ALASKAN FRONTIER

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October 14, 2025

NO DISCLOSURES



I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF ALASKA, THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LANDS UPON WHICH WE ARE ON, WHERE OUR HEALTHCARE INSTITUTIONS STAND AND WHERE WE WORK TODAY.

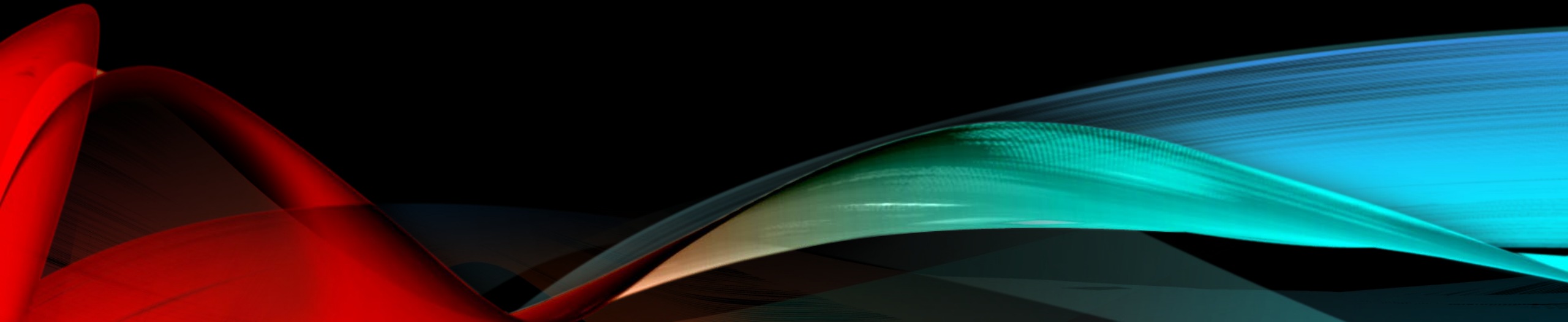
I ACKNOWLEDGE AND GIVE MY RESPECT TO ELDERS PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE; FOR THEY CONTINUE TO CARRY THE MEMORIES, TRADITIONS, CULTURE AND GROWTH OF THE NATIVE PEOPLES OF ALASKA.

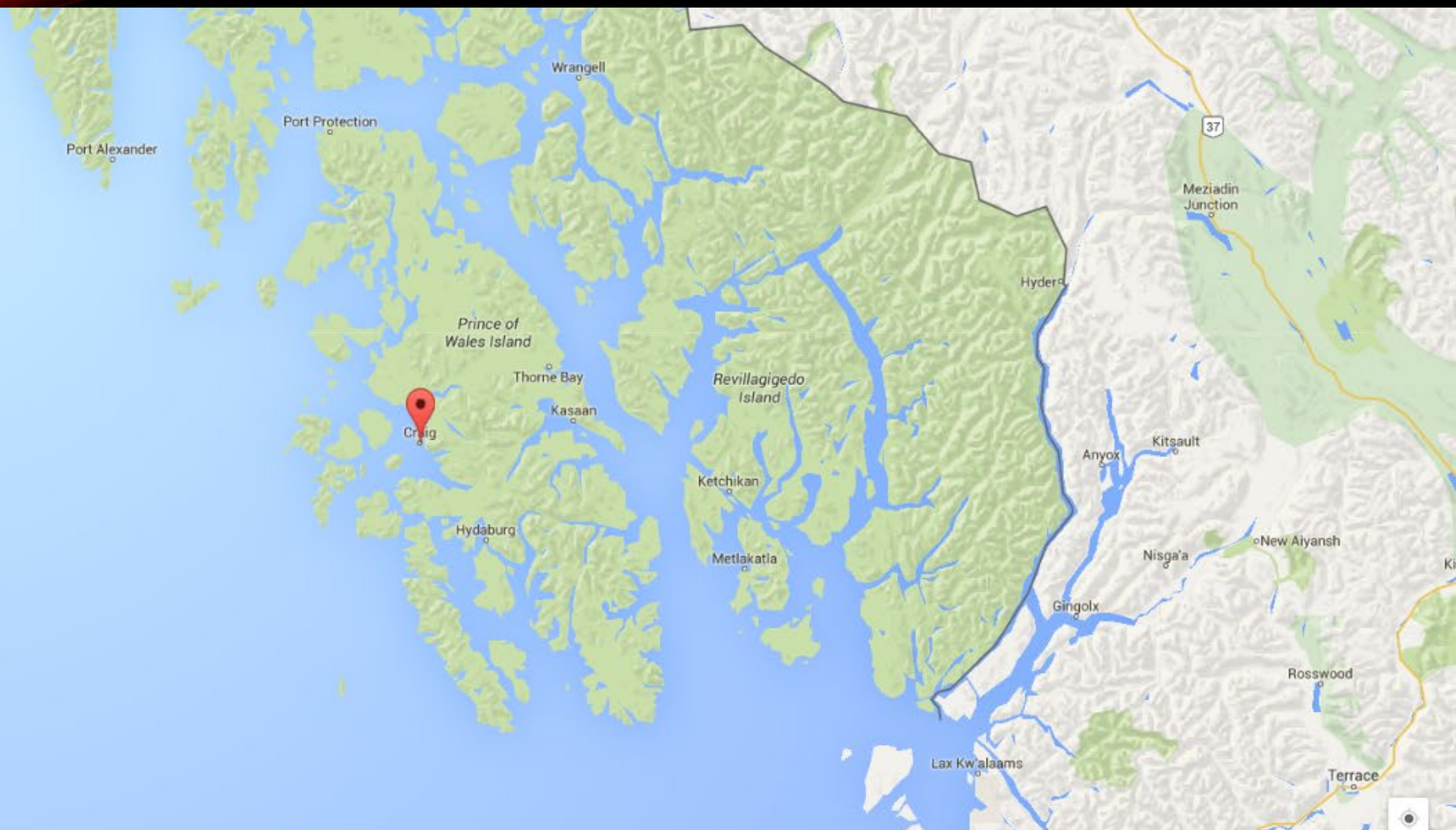






FIRST PROVIDENCE SITE TO USE E-ICU AND
TELESTROKE, DATING BACK TO PRE2010





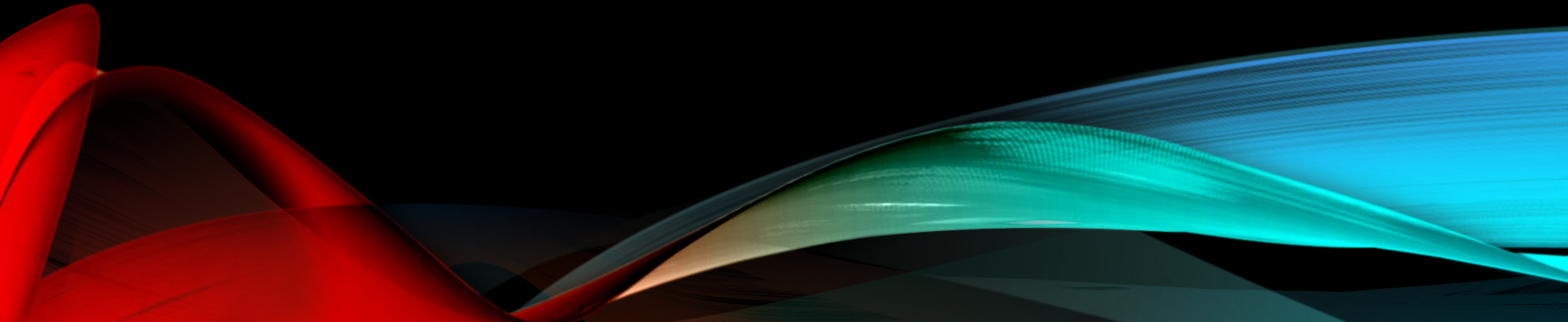
2015-2017

FORMIDABLE OUTPATIENT CAPABILITIES

*CLIA CERTIFIED POC (POINT OF CARE) IN-HOUSE LAB
(CBC, CMP, TSH, LIPID, A1C, LACTATE, TROPONIN, CRP,
UA, HCG, ETC)

*POCUS AND POC XRAY

*TELEHEALTH WITH SYSTEM SPECIALISTS

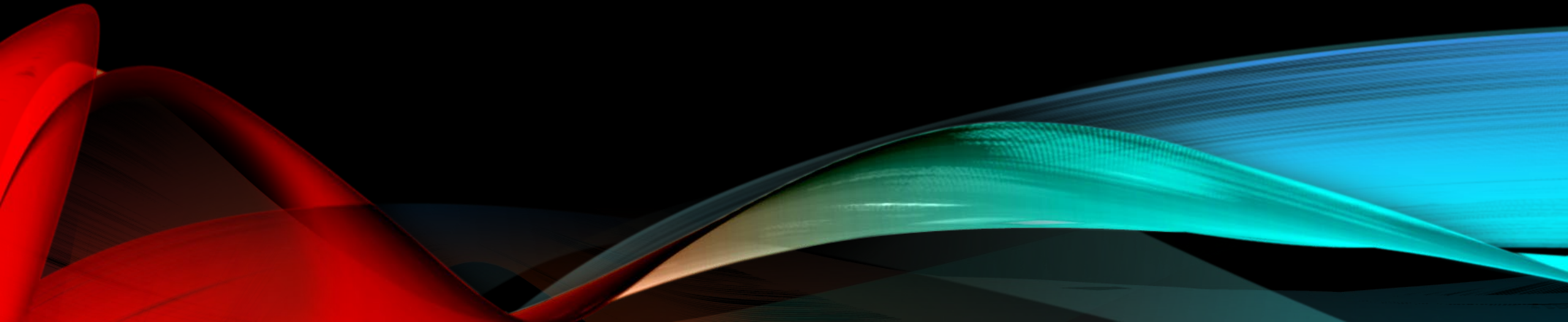




Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation Service Area



AND THE SYSTEM OF HEALTHCARE DELIVERY BLEW
MY MIND



- * APPROXIMATELY THE SIZE OF THE STATE OF OREGON
- * 26,000 RESIDENTS
- * 85% NATIVE ALASKAN
- * 50% LESS THAN 18 YEARS OLD
- * LIVING IN SMALL, ELEVATED, MULTIGENERATIONAL HOMES
- * AT LEAST 33% WITHOUT RUNNING WATER AND SEWER (HAUL WATER AND HONEY BUCKETS)
- * NO ROADS
- * 400 MILES FROM NEAREST REFERRAL HOSPITAL (BY PLANE ONLY)
- * ALL ACCESS BY PLANE, OCCASIONALLY FOR THE LUCKY BY SNOWMACHINE OR BOAT

AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, THIS CREATES SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

- *DISPROPORTIONATE AMOUNT OF SKIN, RESPIRATORY AND GI ILLNESSES

- *HIGH RATES OF TUBERCULOSIS

- *RESPIRATORY SEASON REGULARLY FINDS REFERRAL ICUS FULL OF PATIENTS FROM THE YK REGION (ESPECIALLY PEDIATRICS)

HEALTHCARE STRUCTURE

- *NATIVE HEALTH CORPORATION
- *ESSENTIALLY UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE
- *1 HUB COMMUNITY WITH HOSPITAL (40 BED, 10 OB, 10 ER, NO ICU, NO SPECIALISTS/SURGEON/SURGICAL SUBSPECIALISTS)
- *5 SUB REGIONAL CLINICS (MOSTLY STAFFED BY NP/PA)
- *OVER 50 VILLAGE CLINICS (MOSTLY STAFFED BY COMMUNITY HEALTH AIDES)
- *UNIVERSAL ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD
- *MOSTLY FAMILY PHYSICIANS/NP/PA
- *SOME PEDIATRICIANS, 1 OB GYN,
- *TELERADIOLOGY (READ FROM OHIO)
- *PSYCH SERVICE RUN BY PA/NP AND OVERSEEN BY REMOTE PSYCHIATRIST
- *DENTAL
- *OPTOMETRY
- *BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
- *LONG TERM CARE/ELDERS HOME
- *PREMATERNAL HOME
- *OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
- *ETC

NOW WITH THAT BACKGROUND:

COMMUNITY HEALTH AIDES

- *FEW MONTHS TO YEARS OF TRAINING

- *USE MANUAL FOR HISTORY AND PHYSICAL EXAM
GUIDANCE AND THEN REPORT TO OVERSEEING MEDICAL
PROFESSIONAL VIA EMR OR VIDEO (HISTORICALLY BY
RADIO/FAX/PHONE)

- *CULTURALLY CONGRUENT CARE AT HOME



- *LEARNING MEDICAL CULTURE: WEEKLY CONFERENCES INCLUDING MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY
- *CLINICAL GUIDELINES (MEDICAL STAFF WITH SUPPORT OF ADMINISTRATION HAVE DEVELOPED OVER 100 GUIDELINES BASED ON NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL EVIDENCE LOCALLY TWEAKED TO FIT OUR RESOURCES AND POPULATION)
- *TUBERCULOSIS PROJECT (BRINGING DIGITAL XRAY TO VILLAGES)
- *ULTRASOUND PROJECT (TRAINING MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS IN ULTRASOUND TO IMPROVED TIMELY AND ACCURATE DIAGNOSIS)
- *ALASKA MEDICAL LIBRARY FREE ACCESS FOR ALL EMPLOYED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, INCLUDING ONLINE DERMATOLOGY AI EMBEDDED DIFFERENTIAL DIAGNOSIS GENERATION)
- *ENCRYPTED TEXT COMMUNICATION WITH PHOTO AND VIDEO CAPABILITY WITHIN OUR ORGANIZATION AND WITH REFERRAL HOSPITAL
- *ALASKA IMPROVING DIAGNOSTIC ACCURACY IN MEDICINE CONFERENCE

HEALTH AIDES OF ALASKA | CHAP ALASKA

THE ROLE OF ALASKA'S TRIBAL HEALTH WORKERS IN SUPPORTING FAMILIES.

CHERNOFF M, CUEVA K.

JOURNAL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH. 2017;42(5):1020-1026. DOI:10.1007/S10900-017-0349-0.

IMPROVED ACCESS TO WOMEN'S HEALTH SERVICES FOR ALASKA NATIVES THROUGH COMMUNITY HEALTH AIDE TRAINING.

SOX CH, DIETRICH AJ, GOLDMAN DC, PROVOST EM.

JOURNAL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH. 1999;24(4):313-23. DOI:10.1023/A:1018798406751.

CULTURALLY-RELEVANT ONLINE EDUCATION IMPROVES HEALTH WORKERS' CAPACITY AND INTENT TO ADDRESS CANCER.

CUEVA K, CUEVA M, REVELS L, DIGNAN M.

JOURNAL OF COMMUNITY HEALTH. 2018;43(4):660-666. DOI:10.1007/S10900-018-0465-5.

FACTORS INFLUENCING THE RETENTION AND ATTRITION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AIDES/PRACTITIONERS IN ALASKA.

LANDON B, LOUDON J, SELLE M, DOUCETTE S.

THE JOURNAL OF RURAL HEALTH : OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN RURAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION AND THE NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION. 2004;20(3):221-30. DOI:10.1111/J.1748-0361.2004.TB00032.X.

CATEGORY:YKHC GUIDELINES - GUIDE TO YKHC MEDICAL PRACTICES

ALL GUIDES - UAA/APU CONSORTIUM LIBRARY