



Ultimately, The UWI Telehealth Programme not only improves the quality of health care locally and regionally but it also promotes collaboration and research among health care professionals as well as assists in supporting teaching programmes at the Faculty of Medical Sciences at The University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus.

The Next Step

Patients seeking an appointment are referred to The UWI Telehealth Programme by primary care physicians, and paediatric specialists attached to the Children's Hospital, Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex.

- The Manager will then make an appointment.
- Existing referral patterns will be honored.
- Each new tele-consultation request will require a clinical referral from a physician.

Follow-up consultations can be booked by our hospital staff or by the patient's primary care physician in consultation with the local specialist.

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Our Mission

Improving access to high quality paediatric health care by integrating telehealth into the standard health care delivery system and enhancing information sharing and collaboration with specialist health care centres abroad.

Key Stakeholders

Atlantic LNG Company of Trinidad & Tobago

Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex
Ministry of Health, Trinidad and Tobago

The Herbie Fund

SickKids Foundation
Toronto, Canada

SickKids Hospital
Toronto, Canada

The University of the West Indies

Under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency, **Professor George Maxwell Richards**, President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and Her Excellency **Dr Jean Ramjohn Richards**.



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Moving a generation ahead

UWI
telehealth



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What is telehealth?

Launched on September 14th 2004, the innovative **University of the West Indies (UWI) Telehealth Programme** at the Faculty of Medical Sciences is a multi-faceted programme offering specialist consultations for sick children, as well as continuing education for health care professionals. The live two-way video-conferencing link with the **SickKids Hospital** in Toronto, Canada, is supported through funding from **Atlantic** and the **Ministry of Health, Trinidad and Tobago**, for the benefit of children. Since its launch, the programme has helped hundreds of children gain timely, premium health care. Through the continued dedication of these professionals, the support of the University, corporate sector and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, the programme will continue to provide help and hope for many more.

We Can Help You

Five year old Brittney Ramai suffered from poor blood supply to her lungs (pulmonary atresia). At two weeks old, Brittney's mother, Kris, noticed her daughter's breathing looked abnormal. Doctors in Trinidad diagnosed Brittney with allergies. She progressively got worse and at 16 months a private doctor diagnosed Brittney with a congenital heart condition known as Tetralogy of Fallot with pulmonary atresia.

While reading a magazine one day, Brittney's father noticed an article about Herbie Fund. He immediately contacted us. Brittney was evaluated by the Hospital for Sick Children, and accepted to travel to SickKids for surgery.

In April 2008, this six-year-old received successful, life-changing heart surgery at SickKids. Kris and Brittney are so grateful to all those who donate to Herbie Fund for giving children access to life-altering care.

Families will find the process to be convenient, personalised and accessible. Over the years, the UWI Telehealth facility has provided effective world class health care to sick children through consultations among highly reputable health care providers at home and abroad.



The process is very simple. Patients can gain access to this quality service through referrals from their doctors. The first step is a referral by a doctor or health care provider to The UWI Telehealth Programme at the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex (EWMSC). An appointment is made and the patient is then seen by a doctor at the EWMSC. After the consultation, in the absence of local expertise, a consultation among local doctors and those at the Sick Kids Hospital in Ontario, Canada, may be required.

Families applying to the **Herbie Fund** for financial assistance are required to channel their request through The UWI Telehealth Programme.

Benefits to PATIENTS

- **Affordability:** the facility eliminates travel and accommodation costs associated with care overseas;
- **Accessibility:** Increases access by financially disadvantaged persons to high quality, tertiary health care, that may not be available locally;
- **Personalized Care:** Provides support for patients to receive one-on-one time with specialists overseas.

Benefits to DOCTORS

- **Networking:** the facility provides a supportive network for diagnostic, investigative and management decisions concerning the patient's condition;
- **Communication:** it allows continuity of patient care through enhanced communication between local health care providers and specialists at the SickKids Hospital, Canada;
- **Accessibility & Collaboration:** it facilitates increased access to professional education and minimizes professional isolation.