

# Care on call

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look at clinical care in  
remote locations



**W**hat is Tele-Medicine? Telemedicine is the use of satellite and internet channels and electronic instrumentation to provide video and audio communication and ultimately clinical care between the medical provider and the patient in a remote location, such as on board your yacht. Telemedicine allows land-based physicians and other medical practitioners to treat the yacht's crew and passengers on board the vessel, at sea. By using tools such as real time video imaging and conferencing, together with available instrumentation electronically measuring and transmitting electrocardiogram, blood pressure and glucose readings, from on board your yacht, a clinician is able to conduct a relatively comprehensive diagnosis from thousands of miles away. Telemedicine makes possible early medical intervention, which can not only save lives, but also reduce treatment time, medical expense and in the case of crew, lost work time and manning replacement costs.

Telemedicine also enables the yacht owner to provide primary healthcare for his crew at limited expense, monitoring or treating chronic conditions on board and increasing the likelihood of retaining Fit for Duty status.

## Rapid response

How Does Tele-Medicine Work on board your Yacht? Telemedical programs, such as that provided by Future Care, Inc., a managed healthcare specialist for the maritime community, are designed to respond to the specialized circumstances encountered in providing remote medical treatment to the injured or ill seafarer or passenger. Thus, Future Care's 24 hour 7 day a week Contact Centre provides the yacht owner and crew with continuous and immediate access to its world-wide network of medically trained first responders, physicians, nurses, and other medical professionals. Future Care's telemedicine at sea program is designed to be used for emergency diagnosis and treatment, as well as more routine consultation, while at sea.

Does Tele-Medicine Save the Yacht Owner Money? A well-managed telemedical program, such as that offered by Future Care, saves the yacht owner money by providing immediate medical diagnosis and treatment. Treating shipboard injury or illness on board can shorten recovery time; postpone or eliminate the necessity of shore-side treatment and avoid costly and unnecessary deviation or emergency evacuations, when medically appropriate.

## Cost control

A telemedical program such as Future Care's reduces the yacht owner's overall medical claims cost, both below and above the P&I insurance deductible. A well-run telemedical program lessens the likelihood of costly litigation through improving the speed and quality of medical care provided to the crew and passengers from the moment of illness or injury on board your yacht. For the yacht owner traveling in international waters and possibly subject to the ILO Maritime Labour Convention, a telemedical program such as that provided by Future Care will go a long way toward demonstrating compliance with the Convention's Title IV requirements for the provision of seafarers' medical care.

Today's technology offers the astounding ability to literally bring medical care on board your yacht while at sea. The price of such technology and the means of managing it, through such programs as that available from Future Care, are eminently affordable. Whether based on humane, financial or legal considerations the conclusion is the same. Tele-Medicine improves the quality of medical response; increases morale on board your yacht; saves costs and can save lives. The time is now to bring Tele-Medicine aboard your yacht.

For more details Tel: +1 212-207-3590 or visit  
[www.futurecareinc.com](http://www.futurecareinc.com)