

Pediatric Virtual Nursing Considerations Guide

1. Strategic Fit & Organizational Readiness

- What are the primary challenges our organization hopes to address with virtual nursing?
- How does virtual nursing align with our organizational and/or nursing strategic goals (e.g., workforce sustainability, patient experience)?
- Do we have cross-functional leadership support (nursing, informatics, operations)?

2. Budget & Financial Considerations

- What budget is needed for start-up of a virtual nursing program (e.g. technology and training costs)?
- How will virtual nurses be integrated into unit staffing budgets? Are there FTE/hours that can be repurposed, or will this be an FTE/hours add?

2. Unit Selection & Scalability

- Which units are best suited for piloting virtual nursing based on volume, culture, and technology readiness?
- What criteria will we use to evaluate pilot success before scaling?
- How will we manage differences in adoption across units?

3. Technology & Workflow Integration

- What telehealth platforms and EHR systems do we currently use, and how compatible are they with virtual nursing?
- Should we use mobile carts, in-room cameras, or a hybrid approach?
- How will we ensure smooth communication between virtual and bedside nurses?

4. Staffing & Workforce Impact

- Will virtual nurses rotate from bedside roles or be dedicated staff?
- How will virtual nursing affect nurse workload, engagement, and retention?
- What support will be needed to help staff adapt to this model?

5. Patient & Family Experience

- How will we introduce virtual nursing to families to ensure understanding and trust?
- What feedback mechanisms (e.g., surveys, advisory councils) will we use to assess family experience?
- How can virtual nursing enhance the discharge process and reduce nighttime disruptions?

6. Data Collection & Evaluation

- What metrics will we track (e.g., time saved, documentation, patient experience)?
- How will we centralize and streamline data collection across platforms?
- What tools will we use to measure nurse burden and workflow impact?

7. Sustainability & Future Planning

- What support structures (e.g., command centers, daily huddles) will be critical during rollout?
- How will we build a community of practice for virtual nurses?
- What additional use cases (e.g., pharmacy consults, wound care) could expand the model's value?