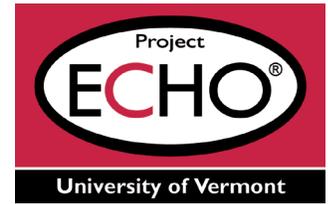# University of Vermont Project ECHO
Gender Affirming Care in the Medical Home

This six-session tele-ECHO series will explore current best-practice guidelines in providing gender affirming care in the medical home. The series will discuss the social, mental, and physical health of patients, as well as available resources and community partners. Each tele-ECHO session includes a brief didactic presentation followed by a case presentation and discussion. Case presentations are generated from the participant cohort, providing clinicians an opportunity to present their challenging situations and receive input from faculty experts and peers. **The target audience for this Project ECHO series is a cohort of individuals or primary care practice teams, including pediatric, family medicine, internal medicine adult primary care, and obstetrics-gynecology throughout Vermont.**

Learning objectives for this ECHO series include the ability to:
- Describe healthcare barriers and challenges commonly faced by transgender individuals, from adolescence to older adulthood
- Identify language changes and strategies that clinics can use to provide supportive, inclusive, and nondiscriminatory care
- Discuss clinical guidelines for prescribing hormonal therapy and managing side effects for patients who are transgender and/or nonbinary.

This program is offered at no cost to participants through a grant from the Vermont Department of Health. Participants can receive continuing education (CE) credits for each learning session attended.

2023 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

SESSIONS ARE ON WEDNESDAYS FROM 12:00 PM-1:30 PM		
DATES	**SESSION**	**DIDACTIC TOPICS (IN ADDITION TO CASE REVIEW)**
January 11	TeleECHO Session #1	Gender Affirming Care and Mental Health (Evan Eyler, MD)
February 8	TeleECHO Session #2	Creating Inclusive and Gender Affirming Clinic Spaces (Anja Jokela, MD and Kell Arbor)
March 8	TeleECHO Session #3	Masculinizing Affirmation: Medical, Surgical and Social (Eric Klett, MD)
April 12	TeleECHO Session #4	Gender Affirming Care Across the Lifespan (Kathy Mariani, MD)
May 10	TeleECHO Session #5	Feminizing Affirmation: Medical, Surgical and Social (Rachel Inker, MD)
June 14	TeleECHO Session #6	Gender Affirming Care for the Adolescent (Erica Gibson, MD)

TO REGISTER
Register by January 2, 2023.
Complete the registration form at: **https://redcap.med.uvm.edu/surveys/?s=4MFKNEJ4W37YY99L**
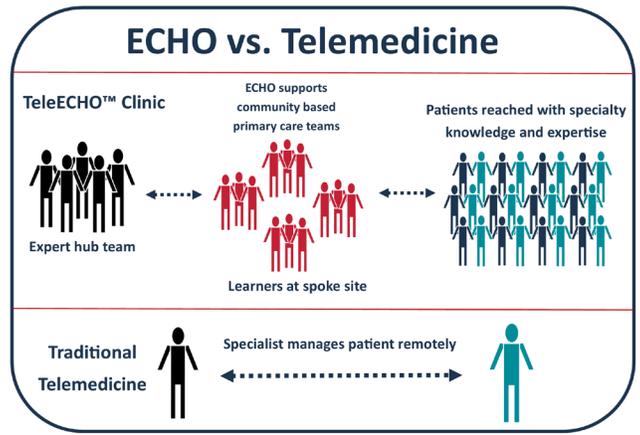
As part of the registration process, participants are asked to complete a Statement of Collaboration outlining the program commitments. Active engagement and a willingness to bring forward cases is expected. Cohort based learning in a supportive peer environment is foundational to this ECHO series. Participants should attend all sessions in the series.

Pre-registration is required. This program has limited enrollment. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come basis. The cohort will be finalized on January, 2 2023; registrations will not be accepted after that date.

General questions about the University of Vermont's Project ECHO can be directed to Patti.Smith-Urie@uvm.edu. Clinical/topic-specific questions can be directed to Katherine.Mariani@uvmhealth.org.
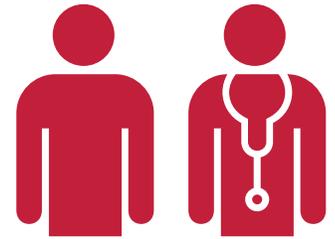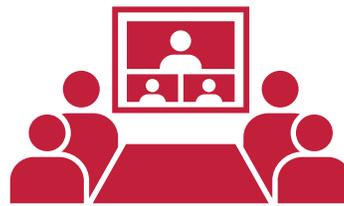
About Project ECHO

This program uses the Project ECHO model™. **Project ECHO**® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is an evidence-based interactive distance-learning method developed by researchers at the University of New Mexico. The ECHO model™ links teams of interdisciplinary specialists with primary care clinicians. During teleECHO™ sessions, experts mentor and share their expertise across a virtual network via case-based learning, enabling primary care practice teams to treat patients with complex conditions in their own communities.

ECHO vs. Telemedicine

The program will help participants build capacity by:

- Providing consultation from an experienced team of experts and specialists through regular web-based case conferences and teaching;
- Providing an interactive and engaged virtual learning environment;
- Focusing on critical issues that arise in the care of patients;
- Helping to support and facilitate quality care for patients.

Participants commit to:

- Participate in each Project ECHO case-based learning session, using a virtual meeting platform (see program schedule);
    - Each virtual learning session will consist of a brief lecture, a case presentation, and discussion;
- Use a webcam to participate face-to-face in each session (this is a core element of the Project ECHO model and is required for this program);
- Submit case(s) and present them to the group;
- Complete an evaluation survey at end of each session; and
- Provide requested evaluation feedback at the end of the full program.

PROJECT ECHO: Doing More for More Patients

PATIENT
· Right Care
· Right Place
· Right Time

PROVIDER
· Acquire New Knowledge
· Treat More Patients
· Build Community of Practice

COMMUNITY
· Reduce Disparities
· Retain Providers
· Keep Patients Local

SYSTEM
· Increase Access
· Improve Quality
· Reduce Cost

University of Vermont Office of Primary Care and AHEC Program • vtahec.org