



Case Study: Ridgeview Medical Center

Reducing No-Show Rates With Automated Text Messaging



Ridgeview Medical Center is an independent, nonprofit, regional health care system serving 30,000 patients across six counties in greater Minneapolis, MN. Its network includes three hospitals, multiple primary and specialty care clinics, a freestanding emergency and urgent care facility, a long-term facility and independent living apartments.



“

We have an enhanced level of engagement with our patients. The program design makes the messaging personalized and relevant for each patient, and the automation allows us to do more with our current staffing.”

Ben Nielsen
Vice President, Ambulatory Services

PROBLEM

For years, Ridgeview Rehab Specialties was challenged with its no-show rate. Like patients at other medical organizations many of Ridgeview's patients would forget about their appointments or experience last-minute conflicts and never reschedule.

After recording 6,264 rehab no-shows in 2016, leaders at Ridgeview explored ways to improve patient outreach and overall engagement without adding work for its staff.

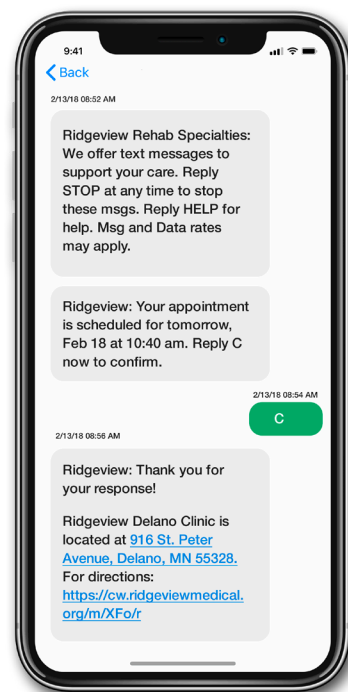
Ridgeview realized that it could use new technology — specifically text messaging — to keep patients engaged and have fewer no-shows.

SOLUTION

After comparing vendors, Ridgeview Rehab Specialties chose to implement Telmediq's patient and family communication platform to improve patient engagement and reduce the no-show rate.

With Telmediq, Ridgeview Rehab Specialties' clinicians can send valuable appointment information to their patients via SMS, including:

- Automated pre-encounter visit reminders, including scheduling and location details
- On-demand messaging to alert patients of unexpected scheduling changes
- Automatic recall messaging to request that patients rebook missed appointments
- Automated patient experience and satisfaction surveys after an appointment



From a patient's perspective, the text messages from Ridgeview Rehab Specialties are written clearly and it's easy to respond. Staff using Telmediq's secure, web-based platform find it simple and intuitive. Clinicians log in on their desktops and have instant access to real-time data, including overall patient engagement dashboards and individual text message responses.

Since most of Ridgeview's provider-to-patient text messages are automated — including visit reminders, rebooking messages and patient satisfaction surveys — staff don't have to manually call every patient to remind him/her about upcoming appointments or rescheduling. Instead, they can focus efforts on the small percentage of patients who haven't responded to text messages.

Ridgeview administrators use Telmediq to see a global view of how patients are engaging with text messages including participation, response and click-through rates.

RESULTS

Over a two-year period, Ridgeview Rehab Specialties used Telmediq's patient and family communication platform to reduce its no-show rate by 12.6%.

Generating an average of \$175 per visit, Ridgeview Rehab Specialties reduced no-show rates by 792 visits, and estimates its total revenue recovery from 2016 to 2018 to be \$138,600.

Other Ridgeview facilities are also using Telmediq's patient and family communications platform to reduce no-show rates, enhance patient engagement, reduce readmissions, gauge patient satisfaction and gather feedback from patients. As an organization, Ridgeview sends more than 235,000 messages to more than 100,000 patients each year to help them become more involved in their care and take charge of their health.



12.6%

DROP IN NO-SHOW RATE



\$138,600

IN TOTAL REVENUE RECOVERY



235,000+

MESSAGES SENT EACH YEAR



About Telmediq

The No. 1 KLAS-rated vendor for secure communication platforms, Telmediq streamlines clinical communication and workflow so health systems can improve patient safety, throughput and satisfaction. The Telmediq healthcare communications hub pulls together disparate hospitals systems—EMR, lab, nurse call, clinical alarms, call centers and call schedules—into one powerful and integrated platform for HIPAA-compliant communication and care coordination. To learn more about the unique and recurring use cases of Telmediq in acute and ambulatory settings, download our [use cases](#).

