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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Aster Health adds NICU Telehealth Services**

**WADENA, Minn. – Aug. 1, 2025** – Aster Health recently added telehealth technology to its Obstetrics (OB) department. This new system helps care teams connect quickly with the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at CentraCare - St. Cloud Hospital, giving OB providers critical support, often in less than five minutes.

“The addition of telehealth NICU services means families now have access to a higher level of newborn care while staying close to home,” said Jackie Hoyhtya, Aster Health Director of Nursing Services. “It allows us to connect with neonatal specialists in minutes to provide timely, expert care when it matters most.”

Virtual sessions use an iPad equipped with special software so medical staff can communicate with specialists more effectively. The iPad is mounted on a rolling stand so it can be easily moved from room to room. This setup lets experts see and hear the baby and guide the team at Aster Health in real time.

Additionally, if the baby does need transport to an onsite NICU, this system streamlines the process and allows the care team to be prepared and ready for their arrival.

This service gives Aster Health staff better tools to care for babies who need extra help. It also supports families by helping them stay closer to home during a stressful time.

For more information, visit [asterahealth.org/ob](https://asterahealth.org/ob).

#### **CUTLINE:**

NICU Device

NICU virtual sessions are hosted on an iPad that can be easily moved throughout the facility.

#### **ABOUT ASTERA HEALTH**

Aster Health is an independent, not-for-profit healthcare organization dedicated to



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improving community health for over 100 years. Guided by our vision to be your trusted partner for life, we provide comprehensive, patient-centered care in orthopedics, oncology, urology, ENT, chiropractic care, women's health, and diagnostic imaging.

Our hospital, clinic, and cancer center in Wadena, along with five satellite and two physical therapy clinics in Bertha, Henning, Ottertail, Sebeka, and Verndale, serve Wadena, Todd, and Otter Tail counties. Our hospital features surgery suites, labor and delivery, lab, rehab services, and 24-hour emergency care. We are committed to expanding specialized care, advancing innovation, and enhancing care.

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