# What is Intestinal Failure?

Intestinal failure (IF) is a chronic, debilitating disease whereby the intestines cannot adequately absorb the nutrients, water and/or electrolytes needed for daily function. It is estimated to affect approximately 40,000 adult patients in the United States.

In recent years, parenteral nutrition (PN) has emerged as a life-saving therapy for patients with IF. With PN, nutrients, calories and trace elements are delivered to patients through a venous catheter. However, this treatment is complicated in a significant percentage of cases by life-threatening complications such as liver disease or recurrent central line-associated bloodstream infections (CLABSI).

The risk of life-threatening complications for patients with IF is heightened by the challenges of distance and access to care. Clinicians in remote areas and the patients they serve are hampered by lack of knowledge of both the fundamentals of IF management and new developments in the field. The ECHO model provides the means to allow non-specialist clinicians caring for complex patients with intestinal failure to receive specialist multidisciplinary support and to reduce current disparities in care.

### **SCHEDULE**

First and third Tuesday of every month

1:00 - 2:00 PM Eastern Time

Join from a computer, laplet, tablet or smartphone.



### **VISIT OUR WEBSITE**

liftecho.org

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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To learn more about Project ECHO, visit their website at echo.unm.edu.

# JOIN OUR ONLINE COMMUNITY OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS



Help LIFT the current standard of intestinal failure care, right from your computer, tablet or smartphone.



# Learn Intestinal Failure TeleECHO Clinic

The Learn Intestinal Failure TeleECHO (also referred to as LIFT-ECHO) is an online community of medical professionals dedicated to supporting the treatment and management of patients with intestinal failure.

LIFT-ECHO utilizes the ECHO model, which links specialist teams at academic 'hubs' with primary care clinicians or other non-specialists in local communities (the 'spokes' of the model). Together, hubs and spokes meet during scheduled, web-based teleECHO clinics, which are like virtual grand rounds combined with mentoring and case presentations. They are fully HIPAA-compliant and supported by widely available basic teleconferencing technology.



During teleECHO clinics, non-specialist clinicians from multiple sites present patient cases to the specialist teams and to each other, discuss developments relating to their patients and together determine the best course of treatment.

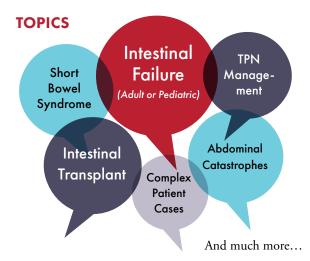
## TeleECHO Sessions

Video-conferencing sessions will be broadcast twice a month. These sessions will be available across the United States to anyone who is interested in participating.

#### THERE ARE NO PREREQUISITES TO JOIN.

During each session, one or two cases will be presented, each for 15 minutes. Each case will be followed by 15 minutes of group discussion regarding the specifics of the case. The sessions will then be capped off with a 15 to 20-minute didactic presentation, from one of many experts on a topic relevant to one or both of the cases.

Experts include but are not limited to: gastroenterologists, surgeons, nutritionists, nurse specialists, and social workers.



#### **BENEFITS**

- Free training without travel
- Free CME/CE credits
- Real time access to specialty consultation
- Further development of best practices in IF treatment
- Decrease liability through peer review
- Opportunity to engage and grow your own professional network

# **About Project ECHO**

Project ECHO® (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) is a lifelong learning and guided practice model that revolutionizes medical education and exponentially increases workforce capacity to provide best-practice specialty care and reduce health disparities. The heart of the ECHO



People need access to specialty care for their complex health conditions.



There aren't enough specialists to treat everyone who needs care, especially in rural and underserved communities.

model is its hub-and-spoke knowledge-sharing networks, led by expert teams who use multipoint video-conferencing to conduct virtual clinics with community providers.

In this way, primary care providers, nurses, and other clinicians learn to provide excellent specialty care to patients in their own communities.



ECHO trains primary care clinicians to provide specialty care service. This means more people can get the care they need.



Patients get the right care in the right place, at the right time. This improves outcomes and reduces costs.