

# Just in Case: What to Do If Congress Doesn't Extend the AHCAH Waiver in 2024

**Linda DeCherrie, MD** | Medically Home

**Elizabeth De Pirro, MD** | Presbyterian Healthcare Services

**Lindsay Williams, PhD, MS, RN, NEA-BC, PHN, PMP** |  
Cedars-Sinai Health System



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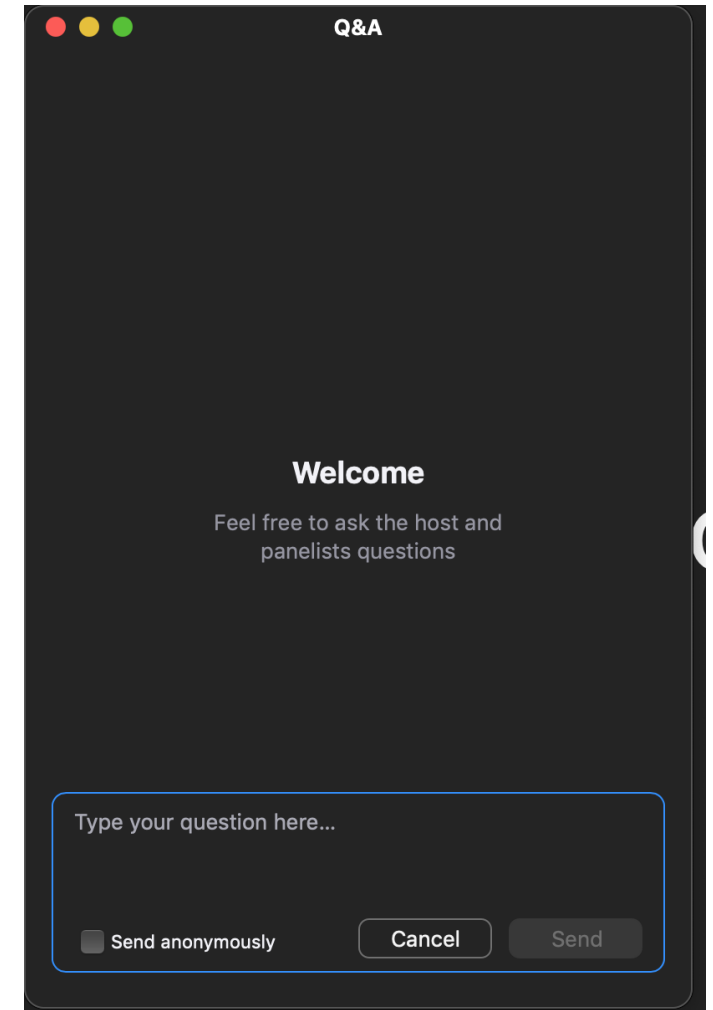
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# ZOOM Webinar Housekeeping

- Please submit your questions via the Q&A option.
- Due to the large audience for today's webinar, everyone has been placed on mute.
- If you have any technical issues, please contact Jane Donahue (jdonahue@aboutscp.com) or send her a message via the Zoom chat feature.



# Hospital AT Home USERS GROUP™

**Website:** [hahusersgroup.org](http://hahusersgroup.org)

**Twitter/X:** @hahusersgroup

**TA Center:** [hahusersgroup.org/technical-assistance-center](http://hahusersgroup.org/technical-assistance-center)

# The HaH Users Group Webinar Series

Building Your Dream Team: Strategies for Staffing Your Hospital at Home Program

Hospital at Home for COVID-19: What We've Learned and What We're Learning

Are We Ready?: Preparing Your Clinical Team For Delivering Hospital At Home Care

Measuring Up: Meeting Program Standards for Hospital at Home

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CMS on Hospital at Home: The AHCAH Waiver Study and the Future of the Field

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# Users Group Caregiver Experience Study

- A team of researchers at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai is looking to interview HaH caregivers to learn more about caregivers' experience and the range of equity challenges relevant to HaH practice, research and policy.
- To get involved, scan the QR code or contact [info@hahusersgroup.org](mailto:info@hahusersgroup.org)





**Linda DeCherrie, MD**

Vice President, Clinical Strategy and Implementation  
Medically Home

# Today's Webinar

## Just in Case: What to Do If Congress Doesn't Extend the AHCAH Waiver in 2024



# Today's Speakers



**Elizabeth De Pirro, MD**

Medical Director,  
Presbyterian Complete Care, Hospital at  
Home, and Post-Acute Care  
Presbyterian Healthcare Services



**Lindsay Williams,**  
PhD, MS, RN, NEA-BC, PHN, PMP

Director, Care at Home  
Cedars-Sinai Health System

# Panelist Disclosures

- **Elizabeth De Pirro, MD**
  - None
- **Lindsay Williams, PhD, MS, RN, NEA-BC, PHN, PMP**
  - None

# Update on the Waiver

- Good news earlier this week –5-year extension was written into the Continuing Resolution (CR) after extensive negotiation back and forth with Republicans and Democrats.
  - Seemed on track for voting this week.
- Yesterday that seemed to have derailed.
  - Not concerned about HAH but other items in the long CR bill.
- Possibility of a 3-month “kick the can” extension and further discussion with the new Congress.
- Without one of these bills, the waiver ends on 12/31/2024



# Hospital at Home

Presented by:  
Elizabeth De Pirro, MD  
Program Medical Director

Dec 2024



# Presbyterian Hospital at Home Introduction

- Presbyterian is an integrated health system which includes a delivery system, a medical group and a health plan.
- Presbyterian started the Hospital at Home program in 2008 for PHP members as an OP department.
- In Sept 2021 Hospital at Home added Medicare patients through the CMS Wavier. Hospital at Home was redesigned as an IP department and is now a hospital unit at Presbyterian Hospital.
- Oct 2008 - Nov 2024 served 2120 patients
- Sept 2021- Nov 2024 served 661 patients, 218 (33%) under the wavier.
- Average admissions per month past 6 months = 25.8



## The Beginning Oct 2008-2014

**EHR:** McKesson Home Health

**Legal Entity:** Home Health

**Pharmacy:** Contracted with an infusion pharmacy for IV medication + supplies and an outpatient pharmacy for oral medications including control substances.

**Reporting:** McKesson, Midas, and manual spreadsheets

**Billing:** Manually created invoice to the health plan based on condition specific DRGs, contract did not include professional fees.

## 2015-Aug 2021

**EHR:** Ambulatory EPIC

**Legal Entity:** Presbyterian Medical Group

**Pharmacy:** Contracted with an infusion pharmacy for IV medication + supplies and an outpatient pharmacy for oral medications including control substances.

**Reporting:** Kept Midas during transition to EPIC

**Billing:** EPIC customized billing codes created for predetermined clinical conditions which automatically directed to the health plan for payment based on condition, contract did not include professional fees.

## Sept 2021-Current

**EHR:** Inpatient EPIC

**Legal Entity:** Presbyterian Hospital

**Pharmacy:** IP Pharmacy except for controlled substances

**Reporting:** EPIC

**Billing:** EPIC including Professional Fees



# **Cedars-Sinai @ Home**

## ***Just in Case: AHCAH Waiver***

December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

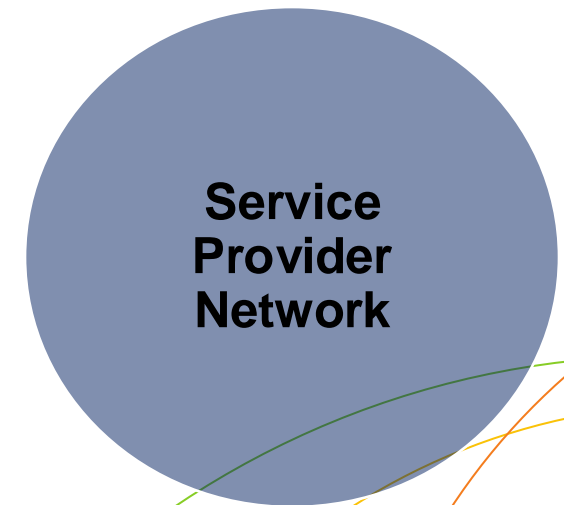
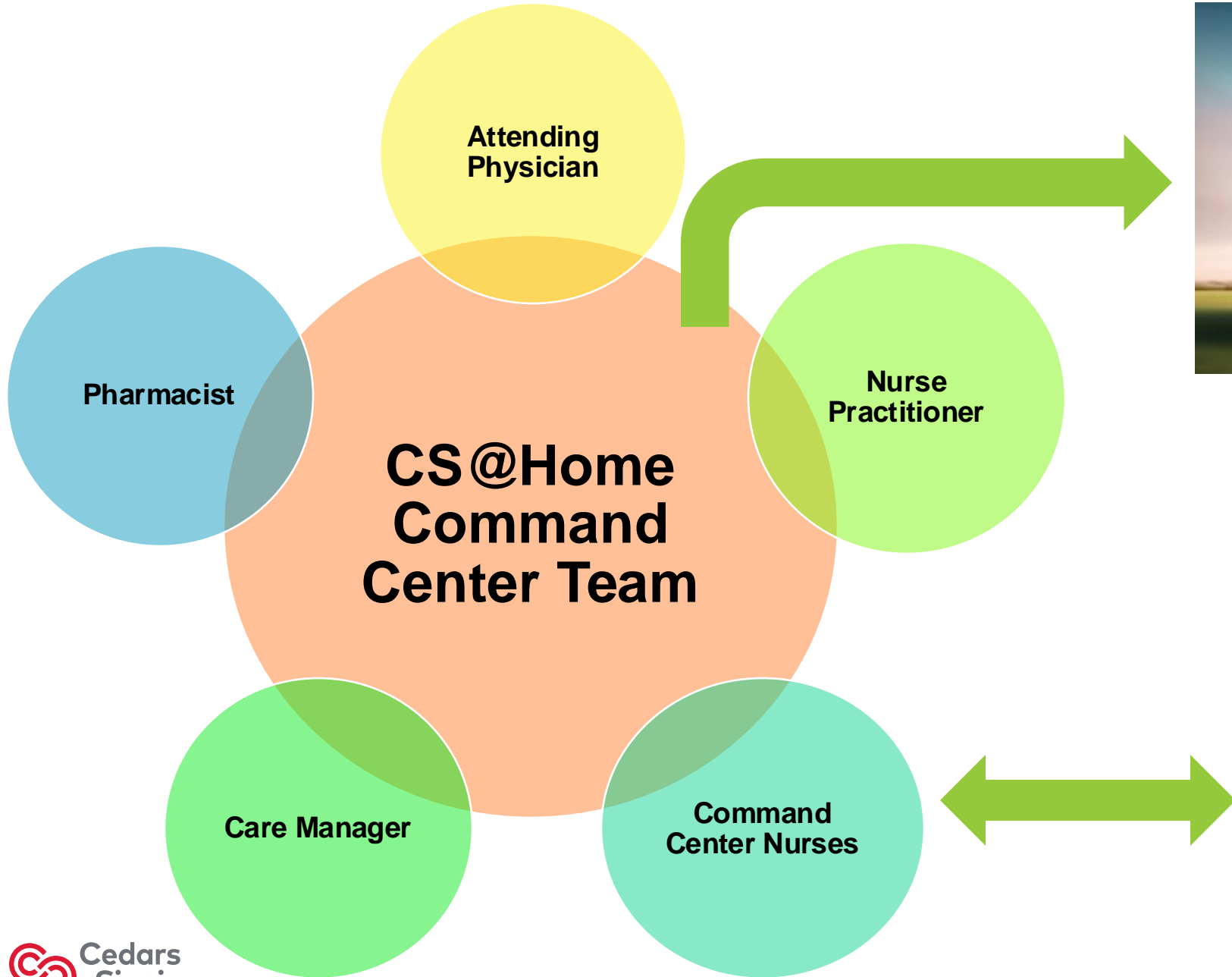


# Cedars-Sinai @ Home Program Overview

In partnership with Medically Home, we created **Cedars-Sinai at Home**, a new program that harnesses technology to provide advanced care in the home

In its initial phase, the program will help to **alleviate capacity challenges** at the main medical center.

In the long-term, the **infrastructure and processes we build** to support the program can be leveraged **across the health system** to increase capacity and deliver high-value care.



## CS@Home – *By the Numbers*

- **Program Launch:** April 9, 2024
- **Patients Enrolled:** 170
- **Average monthly admissions:** 21
- **Waiver Program?:** No – California Department of Public Health ended approvals of H@H after the COVID-19 Public Health emergency ended



## *Legal Considerations* **Cedars-Sinai Medical Center**

*This program is a collaboration between CSMC and the Medical Network.  
Program is housed in the Medical Network, with care provisioned under a physician license.*



# CS@Home – Pharmacy



## CSMC Outpatient Pharmacy

- *Enrollment medications x 5 days*
- *Patient Administered Meds*

## Infusion Pharmacy

- *IV Medications throughout enrollment*

## Long Term Pharmacy

- *Refills during program*

# CS@Home – EHR Build

Use Inpatient Workflows in EPIC, with some exceptions for pharmacy, enrollment and graduation orders

## Enrollment & Discharge from CSMC

### Identify & Screen Potential CS@Home Patients

- Patient List, CST, SST, Reporting & Metrics (Future Topic)

### Create Pre-Admission for CS@Home (Admissions)

- New Pre-Admission Requirements & Wristband/Label Printing
- E-consent Collection for CS@Home Pre-Admission

### Med Rec in Discharge/Readmit Navigator (CC Attending)

- Discontinue/Update/Enter New Orders & Medications
- Using Discharge to CS@Home Order Set

### Discharging Physician Documentation (IP Hospitalist)

- Discharge Instructions, AVS, & Discharge Summary

### Pharmacy Verify & Evaluate Medication Needs (CC Pharmacist)

- Review Pharmacy, Meds to Beds, POM, Due Times, etc.

### Prep to Discharge from CSMC (IP RN)

- E-consent, Discharge Checklist (ex: wristband/labels), Discharge

## Training Resources

### Issues and Support Needs

- [CS@Home Issues and Support Needs Triage Guide](#) - Nurses - CS@Home

### Command Center (CC) Nurses

#### Training Materials:

- [Training Slides](#) - Coming soon!
- [CS-Link Login Sheets](#) - Coming soon!
- [CS-Link Exercise Booklet](#) - Coming soon!

#### Job Aids:

- [Cedars-Sinai @ Home Command Center RN CS-Link Workflows](#) - Command Center (CC) RN - CS@Home
- [Cedars-Sinai @ Home Command Center RN Checklist](#) - Nurses - CS@Home

### Service Coordinators (Medically Home)

- [Service Coordinators Workflows in CS-Link IP View Only: Cedars-Sinai at Home](#) - Coordinators - CS@Home

### Inpatient Bedside Nurses

- [Cedars-Sinai @ Home Inpatient RN Workflow](#) - Nurses - Inpatient

## Providers

- [Cedars-Sinai@Home Command Center Physician & NP Workflows](#) - Providers - CS@Home

## Pharmacy

- [Cedars-Sinai @ Home Pharmacist CS-Link Workflows](#) - Pharmacists - CS@Home
- [Cedars-Sinai@Home CSMC After Hours Pharmacy Support](#) - Pharmacists - CS@Home
- [Cedars Sinai @ Home WAM and AHSP Pharmacy](#) - Pharmacists - Willow Ambulatory (WAM)

## Main Admissions

- [Cedars-Sinai at Home Preadmission Creation](#) - Registration Staff - Admissions

## Taper Imaging

- [Cedars-Sinai at Home](#) - Imaging Staff - Radiant

# CS@Home – Reporting & Billing

## Reporting

*Tableau – enrollment, bed days, demographics, etc.  
Safety Incident Reporting w/ Medical Network  
Executive Leadership – CSMC and MDN Reporting  
structure*

## Billing

*DRG payments  
Physician Professional Billing  
We do not bill patient insurance  
Invoicing for Service Provider Network Costs*



# CS@Home – *The Bottom Line without a Waiver*

## ***The good news...***

You have flexibility!

- Frequency and timing of visits
- Use of FTEs
- Temporary Residence Options

## ***The bad news...***

There's operational redundancy and potential for waste

- Use of multiple pharmacies
- New build in EHR
- Manual steps



Q&A

# Users Group Caregiver Experience Study

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# For More Information

- Hospital at Home Users Group  
<https://hahusersgroup.org/>
- Hospital at Home Users Group Technical Assistance Center  
<https://www.hahusersgroup.org/technical-assistance-center/>
  - **Featured Resource – Webinar on CMS Report**  
<https://www.hahusersgroup.org/event/cms-on-hospital-at-home-the-ahcah-waiver-study-and-the-future-of-the-field/>

# THANK YOU



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**Hospital** AT **Home**  
USERS GROUP™



# Service Provider Network

(Service Provider Network (SPN))

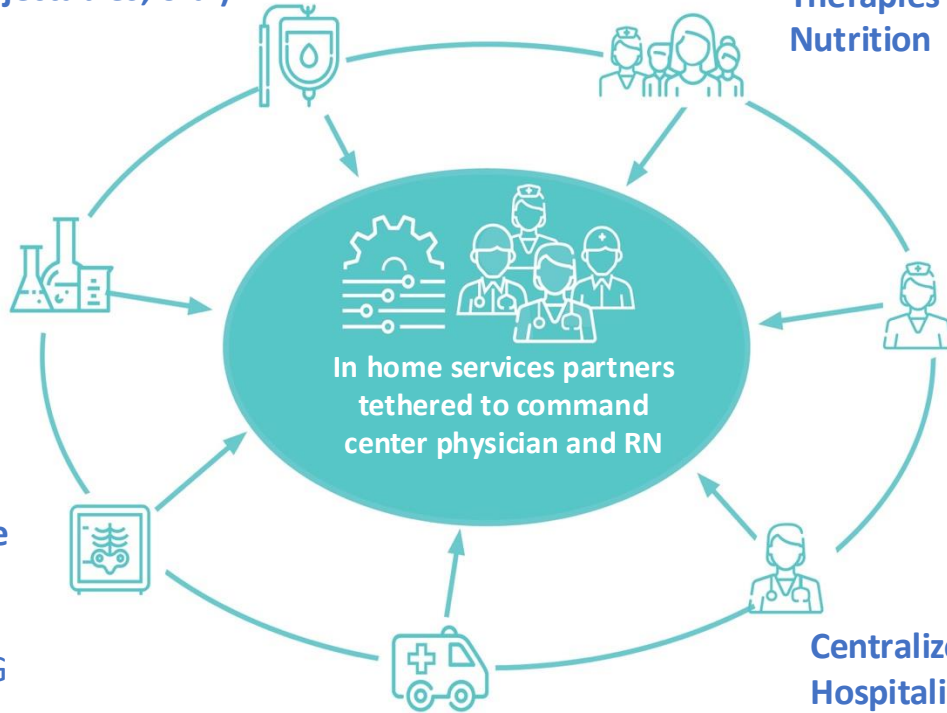
*Everything patients need brought to the home on-demand*

**24/7 Meds (IV, injectables, oral)**

**Skilled Nursing Therapies (PT/OT/SLP) Nutrition**

**STAT Labs**

- Mobile phlebotomy
- POC testing (soon!)



In home services partners tethered to command center physician and RN

**Nurse Practitioner In-Home Visits**

- Day 2 and PRN

Leverage internal and outpatient services where available (e.g., pharmacy, lab) and complement with third party services managed by Medically Home

**Video-consults via Zoom or CS Link for ease of provider and patient schedules**

**STAT Mobile Imaging**

- Xray, US
- Echo, ECG

**Centralized Hospitalist and Specialty Consults**

**Primary In-Home Clinicians (acute-trained RNs):**

- Triage
- IV Access (pIVs, PICCs, midlines)
- Lab draw/drop and/or EPOC
- ECG, ultrasound
- IVF/antibiotics
- Oxygen, FHN

**Transportation:**

- hospital-to-home
- return-to-hospital for complex procedures (thora, para, CT, MRI)

*Learn more at [HaHUsersGroup.org](http://HaHUsersGroup.org)*



# Target Population



- **Medical-surgical floors, ACUs, surgical patients**
- **Reside within geographic service area**
- **Government Payers and Vivity HMO**
- **Exclusions:**
  - under 18 years old
  - hemodialysis
  - telemetry/PCU/ICU
  - complex pain mgt



# Cedars-Sinai @ Home: Care Model

## Hospital Phase of Care

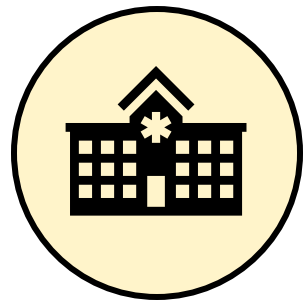
## CS@Home Phase of Care

## Graduation and TOC Post-acute care in the community

- CC partners w/ Hospital Attending to:
- Complete Clinical/Social Stability Screens
  - Prepare patient/family to enroll
  - CS@Home physician completes med rec and places discharge order

- Physician tuck-in visit on Day 1 (DOD)
- In-person NP Visit on Day 2
- Daily virtual physician visits
- 2-3x daily in-home RN visits
- Daily POCR Rounds with IDT
- All care coordinated by CC RNs
- Labs, imaging, meds, therapies, etc...

- CS@Home CM coordinates HH, DME, f/u appts, other referrals
- CS@Home physician does hand-off to PCP



Admitted to  
Cedars-Sinai  
Medical Center



Discharged  
from  
Cedars-Sinai  
Medical Center



Enrolled in  
CS@Home  
(Foundation  
Program)



Graduated  
from  
CS@Home



[Learn more at HaHUsersGroup.org](http://HaHUsersGroup.org)

# Technology in the Home

Patient “Room” Hardware and Software designed for redundancy, reliability, and ease of use

## Communication and Safety

*Multi-Path Redundancy and patient-friendly form factors*

## Biometrics and Engagement

*Device accuracy, reliability, and ease of use for our target populations*



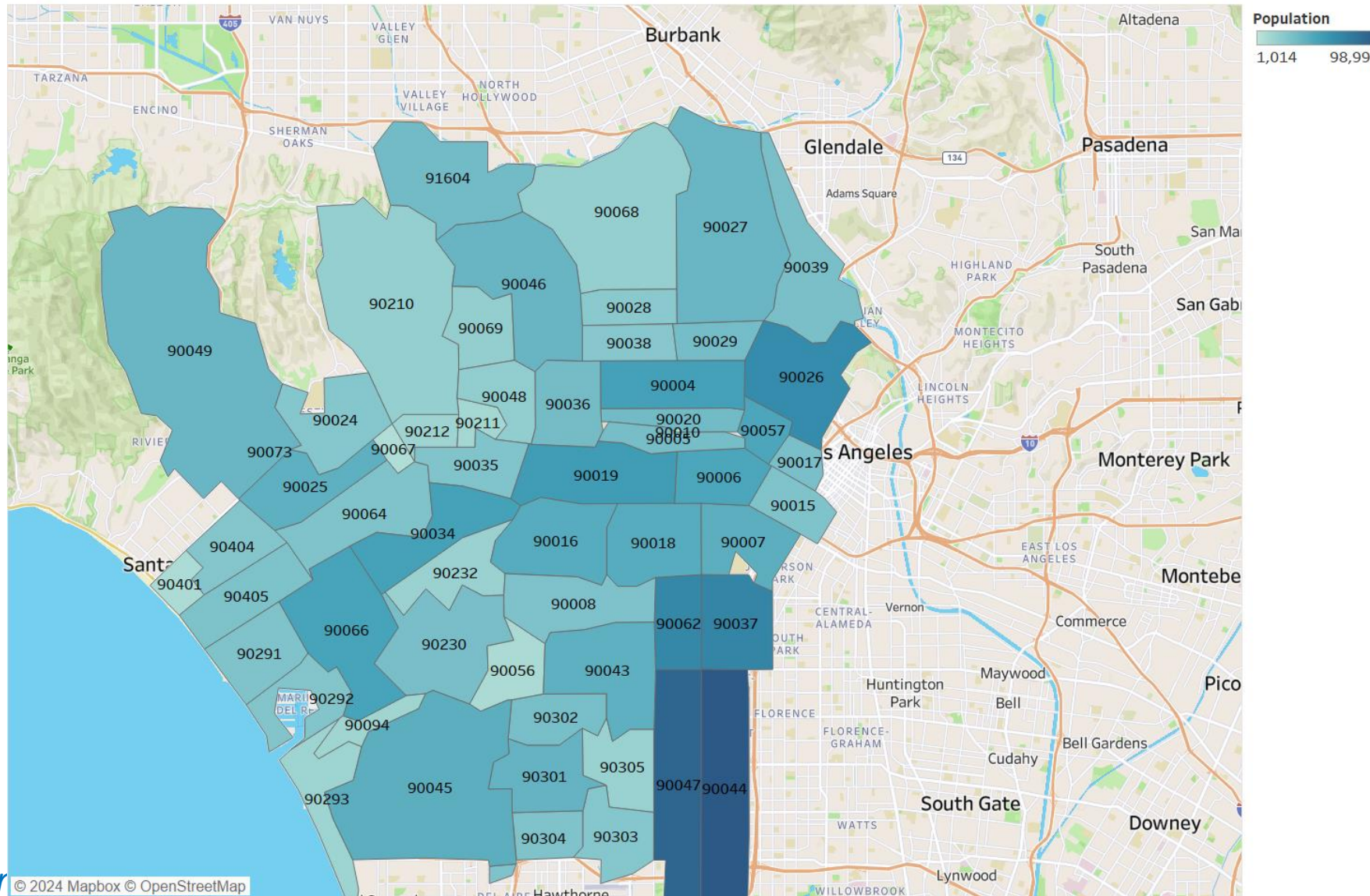
## Tablet Features

- Daily Schedule
- Service Provider Integration
- Device Integration
- Inbound/Outbound Video
- Vital Signs Collection
- Patient Outcomes Reporting
- Patient Education

[Learn more at HaHUsersGroup.org](http://HaHUsersGroup.org)

# CS@Home – Service Area

CS @ Home Area



## Geography

Patients who live within 15 miles of Cedars-Sinai Medical Center

# Ways to Refer Patients

- Text the CS@Home Physician and/or NP (check Amion or Voalte)
- Call the Command Center: 323-866-7777
- Place a “CS@Home Screen” order:

**Cedars-Sinai at Home Screen**

Priority:

Frequency:

At

Reason for Consult:

! Estimated Date of Discharge

! In your best judgement, what is the likelihood this patient will require a surgical procedure during this hospitalization?

Comments:



# Cedars-Sinai @ Home: Program Capabilities

## In-Home Labs

daily, bid, prn

## In-Home Imaging

ultrasounds, X-ray, EKG

## Return-to-Hospital (RTH) for Procedures and OR

paracentesis, thoracentesis, I&D

## Vascular Access

PICC, midlines, extended dwell

## RTH for Imaging

CT, MRI

## Wound Care & Drain Management

wound vac, dressing changes  
Pleur-X, JP drains

## Ancillary Services

PT, OT, SLP, dietary

## Foley Management

placement, voiding trials

## Specialty Consults

video visits