

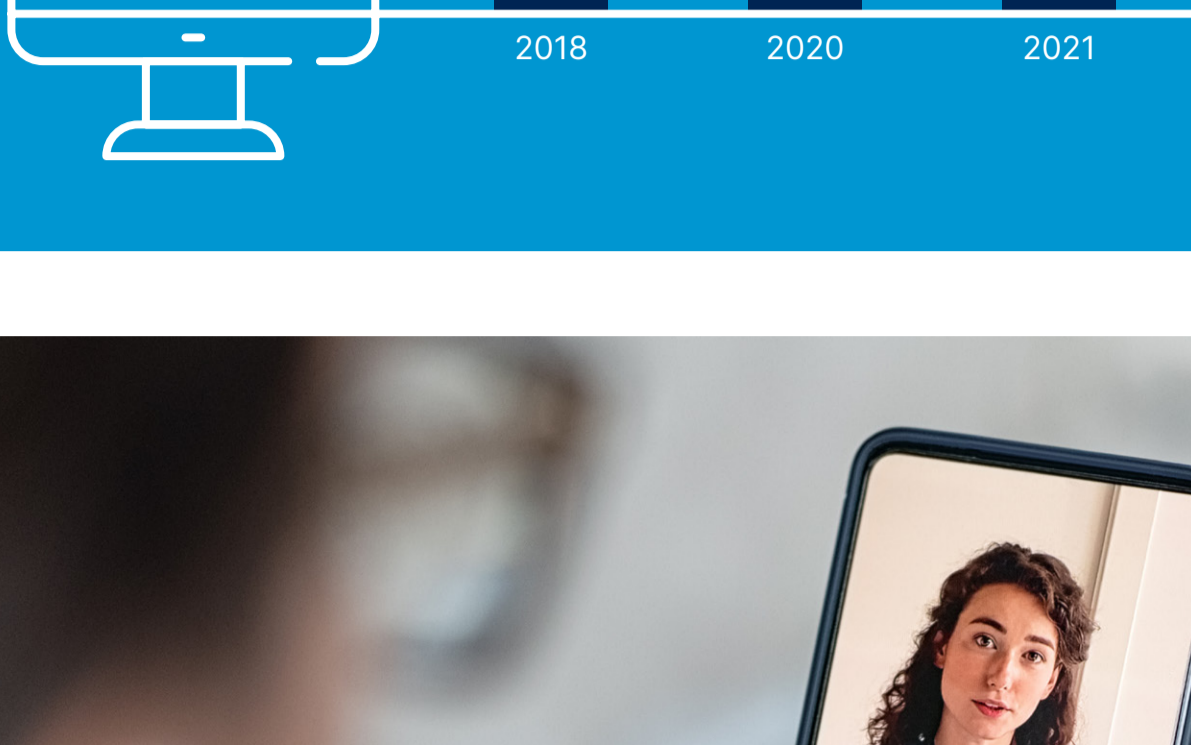


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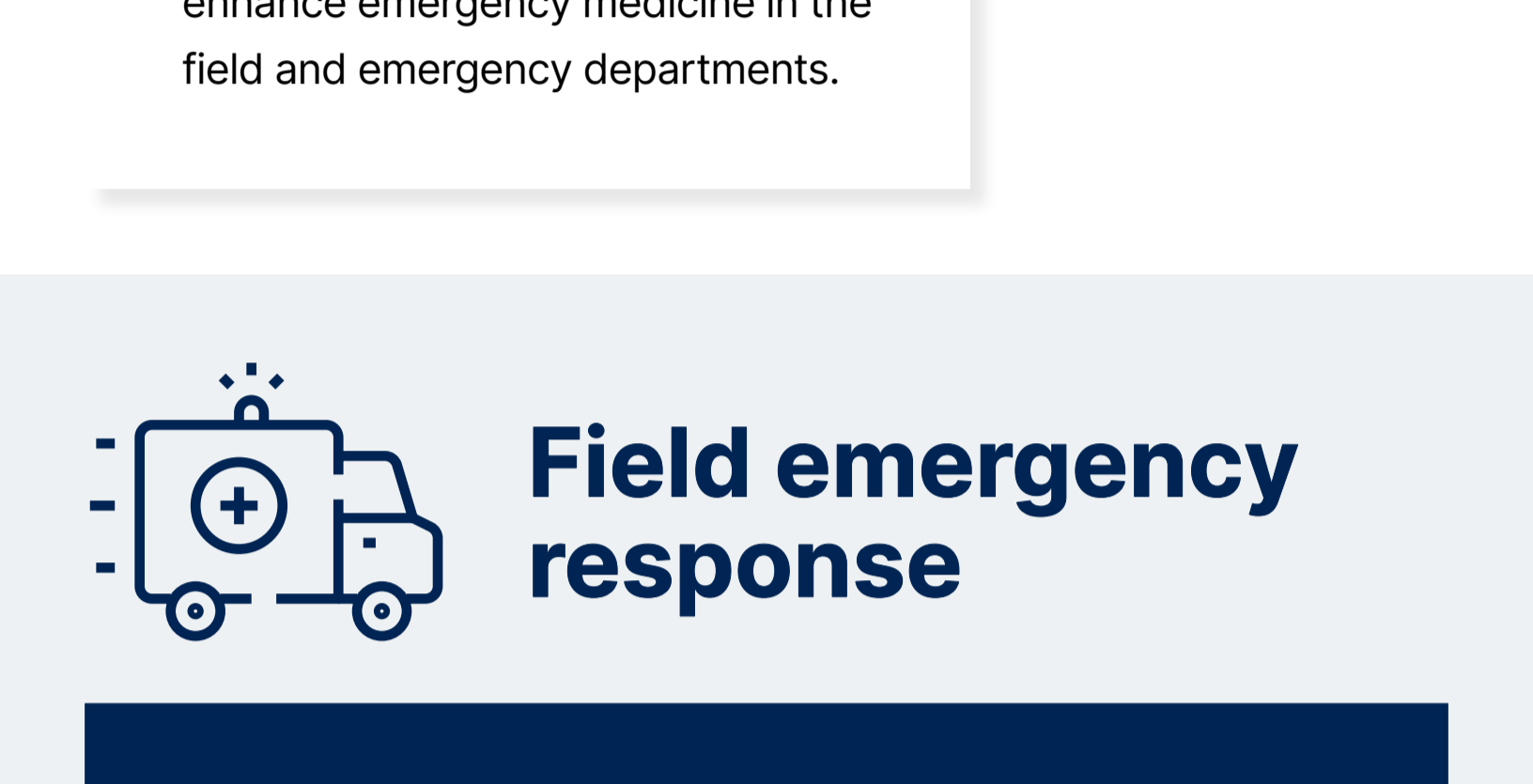
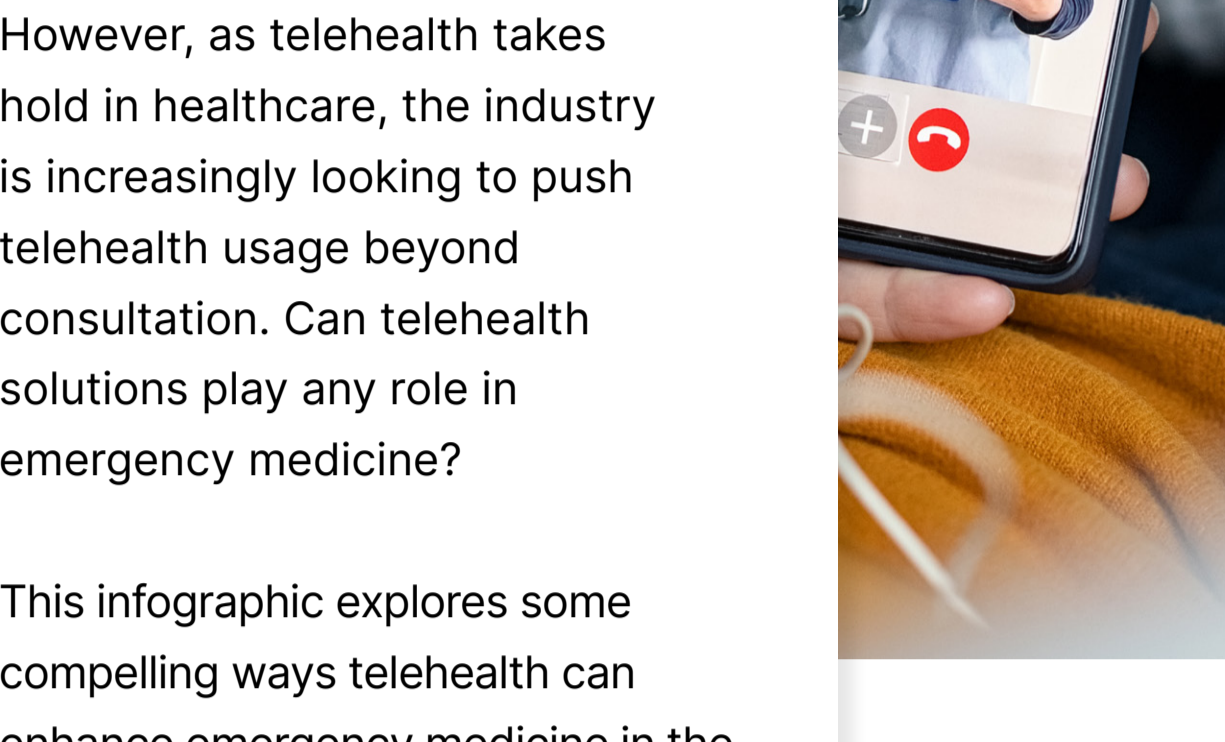
Emergency medicine telehealth: What's possible and what's practical

The role of telehealth technology has exploded throughout the pandemic, reaching adoption levels that were previously deemed unattainable.

According to a [study by Becker's Hospital Review](#), roughly 80% of Americans believe the quality of care issued through telehealth platforms could match that of in-person consultation, up from just 43% before the pandemic.

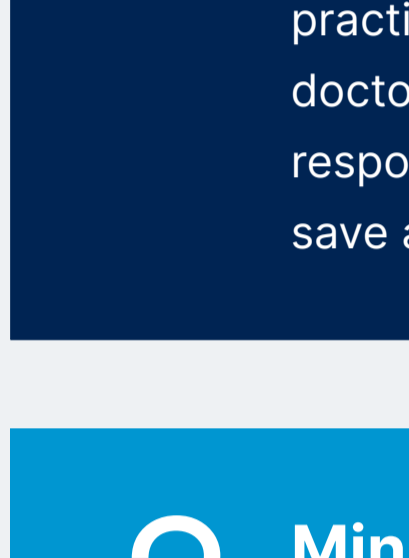


Moreover, 38% of the entire population is reported to have used telehealth services in 2021, up from 31% in 2020 and 23% in 2018.



However, as telehealth takes hold in healthcare, the industry is increasingly looking to push telehealth usage beyond consultation. Can telehealth solutions play any role in emergency medicine?

This infographic explores some compelling ways telehealth can enhance emergency medicine in the field and emergency departments.



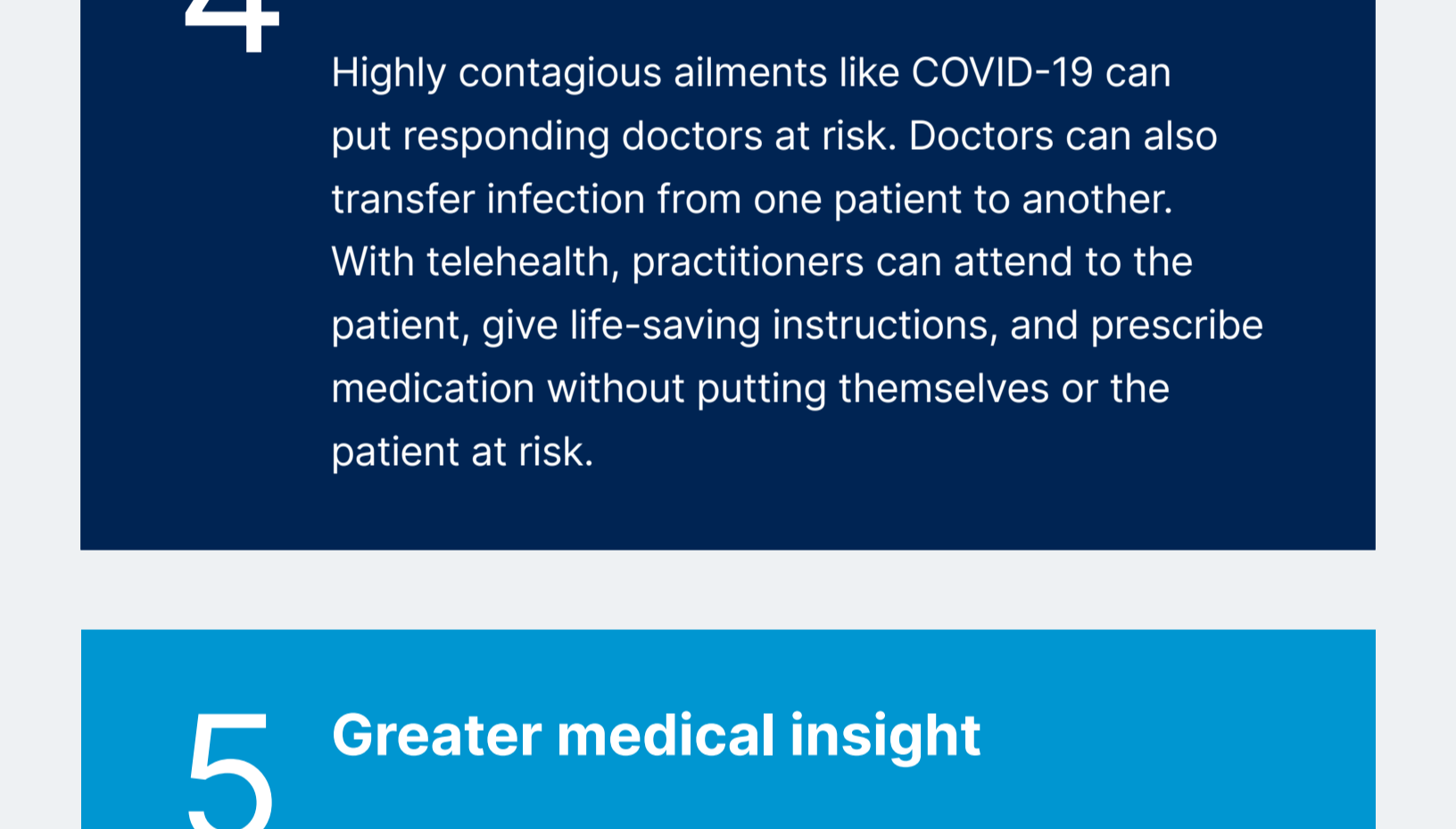
Field emergency response

1 Life-saving response

Every second is critical in healthcare emergencies. A telehealth platform can instantly connect emergency responders to medical practitioners. It can provide a direct line for doctors to issue first-aid instructions that responders can follow to reduce risk and even save a patient's life.

2 Minimal mistakes

Sometimes people responding to an emergency might do more harm than good simply because they do not know the right course of action. With a doctor on call, unskilled responders can know precisely what to do before qualified medical health professionals arrive.



3 Accessible care

Telehealth services allow patients unable to access medical practitioners because of their present location, current time, or even underlying health conditions to receive instant life-saving care.

4 Doctor and patient safety

Highly contagious ailments like COVID-19 can put responding doctors at risk. Doctors can also transfer infection from one patient to another. With telehealth, practitioners can attend to the patient, give life-saving instructions, and prescribe medication without putting themselves or the patient at risk.

5 Greater medical insight

Doctors can learn a lot about a patient by virtually visiting them at home. For example, a telehealth conversation can help a doctor gauge the safety of the patient's environment, whether a patient is in a condition to travel to the hospital, or whether anyone would be available to administer immediate care. With this information, the doctor can make a more informed decision on the next steps.



In-hospital emergency treatment

1 Less overcrowding

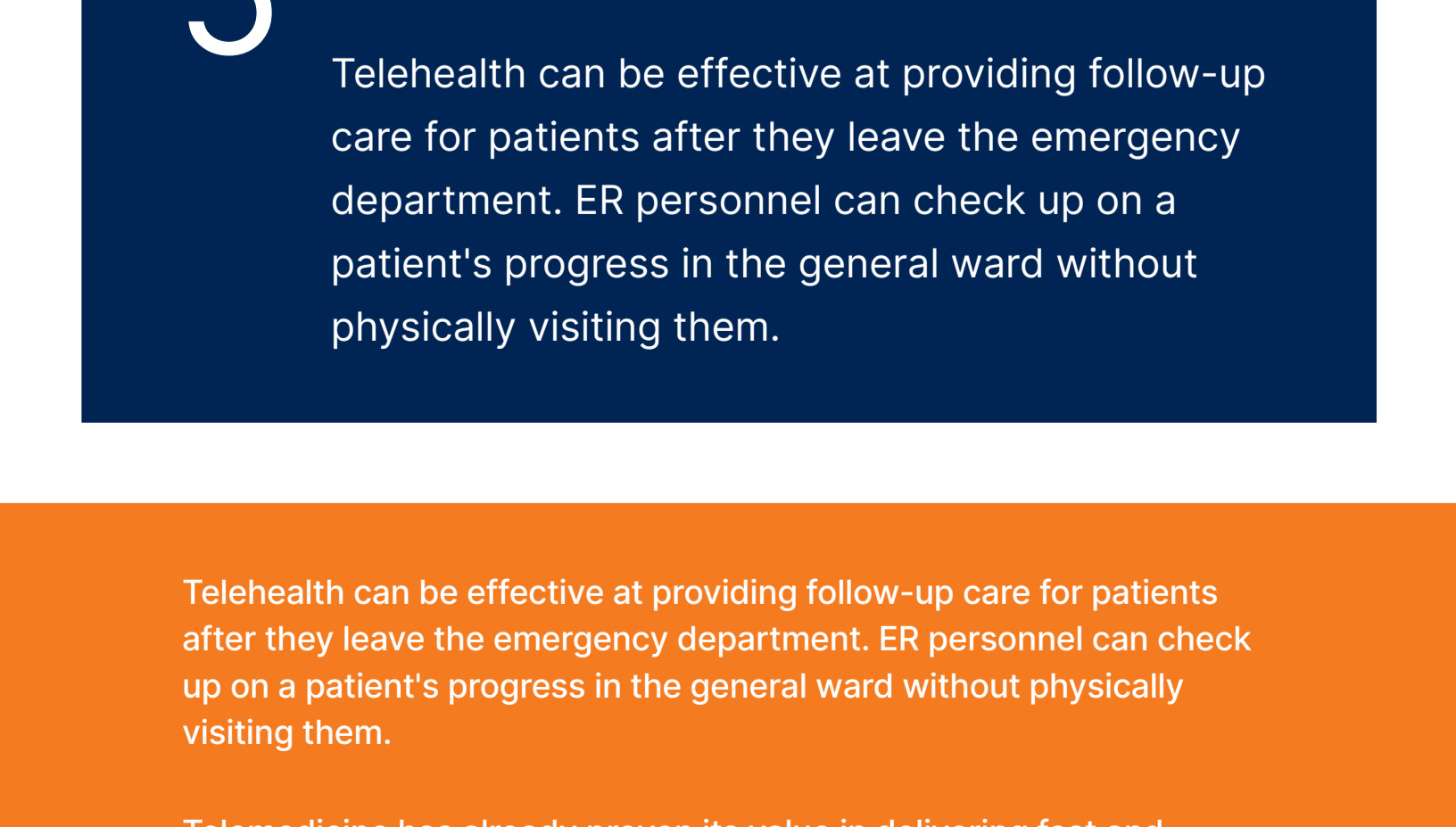
Using telehealth to address emergencies on the field can help turn them into non-life-threatening situations. So, when the patient gets to the hospital, they can spend less time in the emergency room or even skip it entirely. As a result, ERs are left less crowded and available for more critical cases.

2 Support for smaller hospitals

Tele-emergency care can connect providers handling emergencies in spoke hospitals with hub-based practitioners in real time. That way, they can get the support they need without requiring any physical hub-to-spoke travel.

3 Virtual rounds

Providers can use telehealth technologies to check on patients virtually instead of doing physical rounds, thereby helping limit movement in the emergency room and keeping contagious diseases under control.



4 Tele-triage

When practitioners are in high demand, a telehealth platform can be used to screen patients and administer emergency care as they await treatment in the ER.

5 Follow-up care

Telehealth can be effective at providing follow-up care for patients after they leave the emergency department. ER personnel can check up on a patient's progress in the general ward without physically visiting them.

Telemedicine has already proven its value in delivering fast and convenient healthcare, but it still has much to offer the industry. With telehealth emergency response platforms, practitioners can improve the access, speed, accuracy, and safety of emergency treatment and make on-premises ER operations more efficient.

[Learn more](#) about how RingCentral helps healthcare providers.

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