

Gold Coast GP offers low bandwidth telehealth

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A Gold Coast GP has developed and combined a series of technologies which he claims can deliver low bandwidth telehealth to rural and remote Australia.

Ramana Panda, who is CEO of the Panda Group of Companies, said he had invested \$1.3 million to develop a low-bandwidth telehealth solution to assist regional and remote communities, particularly those with remote Aboriginal settlements.

Because the technology used low-bandwidth telecommunications, Panda said his medical conference software can be used via mobile phones and laptops and it eliminated the need for expensive equipment or complicated video conferencing facilities.

"Basically what we have done is to build an alternative system to the higher end video conferencing technologies some companies are offering to facilitate mobility, and telehealth facilities at an affordable cost for general practice areas or the home.

"Our scheduling systems allows practitioners to see other practitioners, specialists or patients via their existing iPads iPhones or 3G communications devices. I have developed this technology over the past 10 years and it works well over standard ADSL or 3G communications," Panda said

He said he would offer his solution free of charge to patients and consumers, but would charge a licensing fee to doctors and medical practices.

He said if there was a need for the doctor and the patient to actually see each other, his system would connect to the more sophisticated video telehealth equipment. Panda said key differentiators of his system included its integrated scheduling function and ability to use low bandwidth yet still connect to multiple systems.

Panda said he was in discussions with public and private organisations about opportunities for his telehealth solution



Gold Coast GP Ramana Panda has developed a low bandwidth telehealth solution he says will be ideal for regional and remote Australia

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