Telestroke aids critical care when seconds count

ANCHOR LEDE

Telemedicine is a common and useful part of today's health care landscape. But it's sometimes not fast. So how can telemedicine play a critical role when millions of brain cells are at stake in a matter of minutes?

TAKE VO

Enter telestroke. Doctors see people virtually when they come to the Emergency Department with a suspected stroke.

SOT

Dr. Amer Alshekhlee [ah-MEER // all-SHEK-lee], stroke program director at DePaul Hospital in Bridgeton, Missouri

"We see patients quickly. We triage them from hospital to hospital. That provides very quick treatment." (:11)

VO TAG

Each minute a stroke goes untreated, the brain loses around 2 million cells it cannot recover. Strokes can also have lifealtering consequences like vision, walking and swallowing difficulties. They can take years off your life and put you at risk of another stroke.