



**Internet Access in Healthcare
2021 AVICC Resolution
Background Information**

When a citizen is required to spend an extended period confined to a Health Care Facility in British Columbia, they are often isolated and disconnected from their friends, their loved ones and their communities.

Individuals may be reluctant to receive treatment if it means being disconnected or segregated from their community, especially so if they are from a historically marginalized group. COVID-19 and the “New Normal” have emphasized the need for staying connected through reliable, accessible high-speed internet.

The barriers to internet access that exist within health care facilities include daily passwords, an internet room on a different floor, low download speed, low upload speed, high ping/packet loss, frequent disconnections, and no internet access at all in rural and remote settings. Ensuring that our most vulnerable are able to connect with their family loved ones needs to be a priority.

“Often noted is the holistic and integrative character of Indigenous worldviews, which emphasize the connections, harmony and fundamental relationships between all things.”¹

¹ Quote from Addressing Racism: In Plain Sight “An independent investigation into indigenous-specific discrimination in B.C. health Care”.
<https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/613/2020/11/In-Plain-Sight-Summary-Report.pdf>
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