Equipment Components

Camera

The camera is usually located at the top of the equipment and is what captures the video feed that is transmitted to other videoconference systems that are connected to the event. For both clinical carts and room-based systems, the camera can be controlled by using the arrows on the remote control.

Codec

The codec is the main brain of the system controlling the camera, monitor and any other medical peripherals plugged into the system. If the codec is switched off, then no videoconferencing is possible. The codec derives its name from the functions that it serves. It both codes video signals that are sent to the other sites as well as de-codes video signals that it receives from the far sites.

Monitor

The monitor is purely a display screen and works in conjunction with the codec. Consequently, it is important to emphasis that if the codec is turned on - then the monitor should be turned on as well. This ensures that if someone connects to an event early, you will be able to see them on the monitor. Please note that turning off the monitor does not turn the system off.

Equipment Components

Microphone

The microphone has a range of 20 to 25 feet. The microphone is extremely powerful and can pick up peripheral sound such as whispering, tapping pens and swiveling chairs.   Ideally the microphone can be placed underneath the monitor or at the end of a table. Never place the microphone directly in front of the monitor speakers as this will create unnecessary feedback.

Network and Power

The network cable has to be plugged into a dedicated OTN jack. If you plug the network cable into a regular network jack then the system will not work. Consequently, you need to know precisely where the OTN jacks are located before moving the system to different locations. For the clinical cart use the Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) to power the system entirely on or off. For a room based system, use a surge-protected power bar.