

Tunstall Healthcare
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Media Release

For Immediate Release

Title: Telehealth revolution taking off OS

On the back of a successful eight month trial using telehealth to support patients living with long term health conditions, UK's National Health Service (NHS) for North Yorkshire and York announced that they would purchase an additional 2000 telehealth systems to support locals.

These telehealth systems are installed in the patient's home and collect vital signs, such as temperature, blood pressure, blood glucose, oxygen levels and more, to determine the patient's current state of health.

Readings are sent directly, via the telephone line, to a central monitoring centre where any abnormalities are flagged and a clinician is alerted to contact the patient.

The main purpose of telehealth is to identify and act on any deterioration in a patient's condition before it reaches crisis point and results in admission to hospital.

Telehealth can also be used to help facilitate patients being discharged home early from an acute setting.

According to David Cockayne, Director of Strategy for NHS North Yorkshire and York, the NHS is keen to improve how and where care is delivered.

"As outlined in our recently published five year strategy, we are committed to providing care closer to home and improving the quality of life for patients living with a long term health condition", Mr Cockayne said.

"We recognise telehealth as being a key enabler to us achieving our aspirations".

With over 6000 patients in North Yorkshire and York admitted to hospital with respiratory or cardiac problems over 2008/2009, case managers like Rosie Walker Smith have quickly been able to see the benefits of using telehealth.

“Feedback from patients already using telehealth has been overwhelmingly positive”, Ms Walker Smith said.

“Not only does it reduce the risk of their condition deteriorating to the point they need hospital treatment, but also gives them the peace of mind that their condition is being monitored”.

“It’s great that more patients will get to benefit from this technology.”

While Australia and New Zealand are lagging behind US and UK, Tunstall Healthcare has started the ball rolling in Australia with a number of pilot projects underway.

Tunstall Healthcare is committed to assisting with the adoption of telehealth, with the recent establishment of two demonstrator facilities in Queensland alone.

Tunstall invites Government, industry professionals and the general public to visit the facilities and learn more about telehealth.

To find out more about telehealth demonstrators in Australia visit www.tunstallhealthcare.com.au or call 1800 611 528.

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If you require any additional information or images please contact Kirsty Skene, Marketing Coordinator 07 3637 2200, kirsty.skene@tunstallap.com
For more product information, case studies and latest news visit tunstallhealthcare.com.au

About Tunstall Healthcare

With over 2.5 million users globally, Tunstall is the market leading provider of telecare and telehealth solutions. Across Australia Tunstall’s solutions support older people and those with long term needs to live independently, by effectively managing their health and wellbeing. Tunstall provides technology, expertise and advice to millions of people enabling them to lead independent more fulfilling lives. For more information on how telecare and telehealth can improve quality of life, visit www.tunstallhealthcare.com.au