

Working with the NHS Northwest Innovation Agency July 2023

The July meeting of the Patient and Public Involvement Senate hosted two presentations.

The first talk was from a representative from Telehealth. Telehealth systems support people with Long Term Conditions (LTCs), such as COPD, Type 2 diabetes and chronic heart failure to self-manage their conditions, remain more independent, reduce hospital stays, allow early hospital discharge and also reduce the dependency on primary health and GP services.

Telehealth services usually consist of a smart hub which allows the patient to enter vital signs data or have the data collected by various devices (blood pressures readers, pulse oximeters, and blood glucose monitors) which automatically transmits the readings to the hub. This data is then transmitted to a monitoring service where the patient's health is monitored, and any alerts addressed by the appropriate service.

The second presentation was regarding a system for assisting patients following knee surgery (<https://www.bodii.uk/>).

The presenter was due to attend the last meeting of the Patient Safety Ambassadors but was forced to cancel due to illness. Details of the product are available on the June report as they were presented by the meeting organiser, but at this meeting, the patient instructions were discussed as to format and means of distribution. The group was also asked to discuss how likely they would be to use the device.

The Patient Safety Ambassadors met and were given details of the new Innovation Agency Patient Safety and Care Improvement Team structure and membership.

There was then a talk about the connection between deprivation and ill health. The most common areas where inequality manifests itself are:

- Maternity
- Severe Mental Illness
- Chronic Respiratory Disease
- Early Cancer Diagnosis
- Hypertension Identification

A national cardiovascular disease prevention programme has been set up in attempt to minimise risk factors for this, an example being the Agency's Heart Heroes who visit popular venues testing blood pressure and for atrial fibrillation and raised cholesterol in members of the public. It is now planned that the Heart Heroes will move to work in the most deprived areas of the region.

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