

Oncology Service

Home monitoring for cancer patients

Background

According to research published by The BMJ, remote monitoring for cancer patients receiving chemotherapy helps to better manage side effects and improve quality of life. The Inhealthcare oncology service monitors and provides support at home to patients who are undergoing chemotherapy and immunotherapy.

Solution

- Inhealthcare's home monitoring allows a patient to monitor their vital signs remotely.
- Vital signs captured include SpO2, blood pressure, weight, temperature and heart rate.
- If readings fall out of thresholds, or if side effects are flagged, an alert is raised for clinical follow up, meaning patients can be appropriately prioritised.
- The patient also receives feedback and advice on how to manage the side effects of the treatment.
- To be truly inclusive, patients can choose technology that works for them, these include:



Email



Bluetooth devices



SMS



Automated phone call



Online



Smartphone app

What the service covers

The pathway covers the following areas:

- Generic chemotherapy
- Generic immunotherapy
- Generic chemotherapy - immunotherapy
- Chemotherapy Capecitabine
- Chemotherapy combination Capecitabine - Oxaliplatin

And the following disease sites:

- Skin
- Urology
- Breast
- Colorectal
- Lung
- Upper GI
- Haematology
- Gynaecology
- Head and neck
- Brain
- CUP
- Sarcoma
- Other

Benefits of the service

- **Prioritises patients**

Clinical teams can quickly determine patients who are unwell or having side effects to the treatment. Clinical teams can prioritise patients, giving care to the patients who need it most.

- **Digitally inclusive**

The service is digitally inclusive and patients can submit readings using a communication method that suits them.

- **Provides information**

Information is stored in the GP system, meaning information is available to authorised professionals.

- **Saves time**

Clinical teams no longer have to call each patient and gather large amounts of information, saving time and administrative workload.

- **Improves patient satisfaction**

Thorough monitoring means patients feel supported.

How the service works



“This innovative system designed by patients and oncology teams should provide patients with early advice at the onset of symptoms to empower a patient to safely manage milder symptoms at home or, when symptoms are more significant, to seek urgent advice from the acute oncology hotline service.”

Dr Amélie Harle, oncology consultant and clinical lead for the programme at NHS Dorset