

FOR RELEASE
January 11, 2017

Home health monitoring goes live in Yukon

Government of Yukon's home health monitoring trial is going live on January 16, 2017. It will allow Yukoners with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) to monitor their condition from their homes and communities.

The trial will support 50 patients with stage 2 and 3 COPD. Ten of these patients will be from two rural communities. The trial launch coincides with National Non-Smoking Week.

In addition to improving access to care, reducing transportation costs for individuals in rural locations and decreasing the need for hospital visits, home health monitoring will also help increase patients' awareness of their condition and improve their quality of life.

TELUS Health Solutions will provide the technical support for Government of Yukon to deliver this innovative service. The project was originally scheduled to start last September but was delayed to ensure the correct logistical elements were in place.

The trial period will last six months, after which results will be evaluated.

Quotes

"I am particularly pleased that rural Yukoners will benefit from this project by being able to collaborate virtually with health-care teams without having to leave their communities. This new technology will benefit rural Yukoners most."

–Minister of Health and Social Services Pauline Frost

Quick facts

- Government of Yukon has contracted TELUS Health Solutions to provide a fully managed service at a cost of \$501,000.
- Each patient will receive equipment for use during the trial, coaching on the management of their condition and access to a clinician to review symptoms and answer questions.
- Referrals for this trial will come from community nursing's chronic conditions support program to ensure patients receive follow-up care post-trial.
- A nurse practitioner will provide clinical oversight for the project.
- Home health monitoring is an add-on service, meaning it is not a replacement for usual or emergency medical care.

Contact:

Sunny Patch
Cabinet Communications
867-332-0362
sunny.patch@gov.yk.ca

Marcelle Dubé
Communications, Health and Social Services
867-667-3010
marcelle.dube@gov.yk.ca

News Release #17-004



Stay up to date with the latest Yukon government news by subscribing to our RSS feed here:
<http://www.gov.yk.ca/news/rss.html>. Or follow us on Twitter @yukongov.