



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Quality & Patient Safety Conference Improving the Healthcare Journey for Patients & Staff



### TITLE

**Development of the COVID-19 Remote Monitoring programme in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda.**

### SUBMITTED BY

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### ABSTRACT

#### INTRODUCTION

The Remote Monitoring programme was developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, to provide a supported discharge option to Covid-19 patients who can be safely managed at home with additional clinical monitoring.

PatientMPower smart phone application for COVID-19 links to a portable pulse oximeter and is used to monitor patients' oxygen saturation, pulse rate, breathlessness and other symptoms. Information captured by patients in the app is immediately available for the Remote Monitoring team to view in a secure patient data portal. Using this data, the team can make appropriate decisions about the ongoing care of patients being monitored at home.

#### METHODOLOGY

The PDSA cycle was used – Plan Do Study Act - from the Model for Improvement.

#### AIM

Facilitate earlier discharge from hospital reducing the length of stay of Covid-19 patients; Avoid unnecessary hospital admissions; Identify patient deterioration at an earlier stage reducing the need for ICU admissions.

#### CHANGE IMPLEMENTED

The Remote Monitoring programme provides supported discharge to ensure patients are improving after discharge from hospital and identifies those at risk of deterioration who require escalation of care and a fast track to the Respiratory team for those requiring readmission.

#### MEASUREMENT

The number of patients enrolled in Remote Monitoring; number of bed days saved; and number of patients who were readmitted to the hospital via fast track to the Respiratory team.

#### RESULTS

Between April 2020 and end of December 2021, a total of 386 patients were enrolled in Remote Monitoring, 157,901 bed days were saved, and a total of 39 patients were readmitted to the hospital via fast track to the Respiratory team. The development of the Remote Monitoring programme is integral in reducing length of stay of COVID-19 patients in the hospital and in identifying patients who are at risk of deterioration requiring escalation of care.

#### VALUE

Perioperative positioning-related patient injury is uncommon but can have devastating consequences. Changes of patient position under anaesthesia can pose major risks to patients and can be challenging and stressful for staff. This checklist provides a practical tool to guide staff and enhance their ability to reduce risk and improve patient safety.

#### SUSTAINMENT

Remote Monitoring receives referrals from inpatient wards, ED and hospital Staff Hub, with pathways for referral established. Remote Monitoring is an effective service in controlling hospital capacity when there is an increase in COVID-19 patients presenting to the hospital.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Remote Monitoring could be used as an initiative to monitor patients with chronic respiratory conditions such as Asthma and COPD.