Remote Patient Monitoring can help you monitor COVID-19 symptoms alongside underlying health conditions.
Embracing virtual care amidst the COVID-19 pandemic

Telemedicine and virtual care have become important tools as health systems and payers try to balance scaling access to care while reducing strain on facilities and keeping employees and patients safe from unnecessary exposure as the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic quickly evolves. While virtual check-ins can confirm risk and symptoms at a point in time, remote patient monitoring allows you to stay connected with the patient beyond the visit, monitor changes and intervene as the patient’s condition changes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that older adults as well as people who have serious underlying medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes and lung disease are at higher risk for severe illness related to COVID-19. These are the very populations that may also benefit from Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) programs which can help them to better manage their underlying chronic and complex diseases at home, and in turn, potentially reduce unnecessary ED visits and admissions.

Philips clinical team has configured a 30-day protocol to evaluate and monitor these patient populations remotely regarding potential COVID-19 exposure and symptoms, which can be deployed in addition to standard or tailored clinical content and protocols that are available for underlying conditions. This allows your providers to focus on those patients exhibiting symptoms and risk factors with specific follow-up actions.

Key benefits for patients

- Can proactively connect with providers from the comfort and safety of home about COVID-19 related and ongoing concerns
- May experience reduced stress and anxiety from the uncertainties around their condition
- Access to support and educational content on risk factors and symptom management

Key benefits for providers

- Enables providers to focus their attention on patients with the greatest risk and active symptoms
- Reduces overall burden on system while enabling timely interventions and sustainable care workflows
- Can incorporate connected devices and virtual visits in care protocols as necessary

Daily symptom survey
Patients receive a daily symptom survey so their care team can track potential disease onset and progression and intervene according to the care protocol.

Tips and education
Philips has created an educational survey, and is making available educational videos about COVID-19 related to how to stay safe, recognize potential symptoms and practice social distancing among other topics.

Vital sign measurements
Patients are prompted to submit scheduled temperature and blood oxygen saturation (SpO₂) measurements to help detect deterioration and intervene before health events escalate.

Flexible reimbursement regulations
The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has loosened the regulations for telemedicine and virtual care early this year and again in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has waived the telehealth geographic and originating site restriction for Medicare Advantage plans, and is allowing physicians to work across state lines².

Adding Remote Patient Monitoring within your care management workflow helps you to support and educate the most vulnerable of your patient populations with their existing chronic conditions and an additional layer of screening and monitoring for COVID-19 exposure and symptoms, potentially reducing the risk of further spread of the virus and reducing the strain on your organization while offering your patients peace of mind.

Contact members of our sales team to find out more about our Remote Patient Monitoring solution including the COVID-19 Screening and Monitoring Protocol.

Do you need to assess and track potential COVID-19 patients across your health system?

If your organization is in need of a screening solution accessible to all patients, please reach out to your Philips sales team today to learn more about our new web-based COVID-19 virtual screening application. It can help you track and assess potential COVID-19 cases remotely at scale, allowing patients at low and medium risk to self-monitor their condition through online surveys while letting providers access dashboards highlighting actionable population health data and insights such as trends and risk stratification based on survey responses.