

HomMed® TeleHealth Saves Lives



Dorothy Lubahn knew that something was wrong when her husband Arthur, a natural athlete, did not even have the strength to stand two days after he had undergone heart surgery. She knew he was experiencing terrible pain on the right side of his chest and that he was feeling very weak. So she checked his blood pressure and decided to give him some of the prescription pills that had been sent home from the hospital to help ease any pain he might experience. The doctor had told them that Arthur's platelets were low, and that there could be some risk with the surgery. She was concerned that his recovery might be slowing because of this. However, she had no idea how serious his condition really was.

"I can take his blood pressure and give him the right pills at the right times," Dorothy said. "All of his pain was on the right side of his chest, so I didn't even think that he was having heart problems. If the pain would have continued for a few days, I probably would have taken him to the doctor then."

Dorothy soon learned that waiting even a few more hours would have been too late.

Because Arthur had chosen to recover in the comfort, security and privacy of his own home, his home health care company, Great Lakes Caring, had given him a HomMed® TeleHealth machine. This is a remote health monitoring system which allows patients and their caregivers clinically accurate daily updates on all important health data. Using computer technology, TeleHealth patients can receive "virtual check-ups" as often as four times per day, seven days a week. The data is automatically transmitted to Great Lakes Caring where professional clinicians can review the information and respond appropriately.

Dorothy sensed something was not right on this Saturday morning. She called Arthur's home care company and the nurse in the office asked her to re-monitor Arthur. The office nurse knew immediately that Arthur's condition was serious, and she sent a home care nurse to his home. It wasn't long before a Great Lakes Caring health professional was knocking at their door. The nurse assessed Arthur's condition and immediately called an ambulance. Arthur was rushed to the hospital just in time for physicians to perform emergency, life-saving procedures. Subsequently, Arthur's cardiologist inserted a pacemaker to regulate Arthur's heart.

**“I know that
the machine
saved my life,”
Arthur said.**



Ann Johnson, a Great Lakes Caring health care provider, explained that the HomMed® TeleHealth machine provides professional clinicians with important and accurate data everyday. It also allows patients to stay in their own homes, rather than make frequent trips out of the home for the same type of check-up. She too believes that it was the machine that saved Arthur’s life.

“We use the HomMed® TeleHealth machine for exactly this reason,” Ann said. “The TeleHealth machine recorded his heart rate and immediately sent that information to our professional clinician. If Arthur and Dorothy hadn’t had the daily monitoring, and had taken Arthur for a check-up every few days, we might not have had a true reading on his heart until it was too late.”

Ann pointed out that the HomMed® TeleHealth machine is also used to monitor blood pressure, weight, oxygen saturation, temperature, blood glucose levels, spirometer, peak flow, prothrombin time/INR, ECG rhythm and digital images for wound care. It can help break the cycle of emergency care and hospital re-admissions for patients, and like it did with Arthur, provides prompt communication of abnormal parameters and routine trend reports to physicians.

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name
IS our
mission.**



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