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Michael A. Ceballos  
Director

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**MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** December 28, 2020  
**To:** All Wyoming Providers, Hospitals, and Tribes  
**From:** Stefan Johansson, Deputy Director  
Wyoming Department of Health   
**Subject:** Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) Initiative  
**Ref:** SJ-2020-124

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The State of Wyoming has received permission to use CARES Act funding awarded to the state for our Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM) Initiative.

The initiative's primary goal is to reduce hospitalizations and emergency department visits by using technology to allow providers to monitor patients' overall health status, educate patients, engage patients in their overall plan of care, involve physicians and necessary support personnel, intervene when necessary, and guide patients through the healthcare arena while caring for them in the comfort of their own homes. Achieving this goal will aid in mitigating the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The initiative involves providing telehealth equipment to patients who are screened by their providers and who fit the inclusion/exclusion criteria described in this letter. Patients do not need to be enrolled as Wyoming Medicaid clients.

Patients will be monitored daily with state-of-the-art RPM equipment that will capture their weight, blood pressure, heart rate, pulse-oximetry, temperature and if warranted, their glucose readings. There will be a strong educational component as patients will be asked questions and given customized reminders.

Wyoming has purchased 755 RPM devices, including 500 RPM hubs and 255 tablets with integrated video. Peripheral devices are also available, including 755 digital scales, 755 digital pulse oximeters, 755 digital blood pressure monitors, 755 digital thermometers and 507 digital glucometers with 12 months of strips and lancets. The project funding also includes 12 months of communication fees, clinical software and licenses.

All readings obtained via the RPM equipment will be transmitted back to providers, so clinicians can triage this information and provide expert clinical oversight. Based on physician-approved

protocols, patients will be contacted when necessary, educated, and guided through the necessary interventions and escalation back to the provider. This also allows for transitional care.

Connect America will provide training, individual program and workflow development, policies and procedures. For providers interested in having the Connect America RN call center monitor patients, there is an option to separately pay a \$50 per patient per month fee.

**Inclusion criteria for patients:**

- Patients with one or more of the following diagnoses: CHF (Stage III or IV), COPD, uncontrolled hypertension, diabetes (With an A1C greater than or equal to 8, and/or hypoglycemia), and/or COVID 19
- Patients with greater than or equal to six emergency department visits per year; and/or patients with greater than or equal to two hospitalizations per year
- Patients must be physically and cognitively able and willing to perform the tasks necessary to the program and/or there is a willing and available caregiver

**Exclusion criteria for patients:**

- Dialysis patients (these patients are already monitored at dialysis)
- Non-compliance
- Patient refuses to participate

If your organization would like to be considered for participation in the State of Wyoming Remote Patient Monitoring Initiative, please complete [this provider request form](#).

We will notify provider participants as soon as possible. When making requests, please keep in mind:

- We have a limited supply.
- We intend to provide balanced geographic distribution.
- At least 50 percent of the requested monitors must be installed on patients within 60 days.
- If at least 50 of the requested monitors are not installed on patients within 60 days, the remainder of unused monitors will need to be returned, so they may be reissued to others.

**Applications should be received by January 15, 2021**, which is when the screening process will begin. If your organization would like to be considered for participation in the State of Wyoming Remote Patient Monitoring Initiative, please fill out the online form above. You may direct any questions or concerns to:

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