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New digital health partnership brings 'patients closer to care' in Namibia

Proven remote patient monitoring technology from the UK is now available to people in Namibia as Clinico Health Group announces new partner.

Access, affordability and quality of healthcare services in Namibia are set to be transformed through a pioneering new partnership between Clinico Health Group and Clinitouch.

The remote patient monitoring technology, developed by UK-based Spirit Health and powered by Microsoft, allows medical professionals to track people's health from anywhere, helping to provide better care, no matter the location.

Clinico Health Group provide medical aid and health insurance administration, as well as clinical services both in hospital and for outpatients. The Clinitouch app will deliver real-time remote measurement of patients' vital signs and symptoms, creating an affordable and reliable 'virtual' healthcare solution.

The partnership will focus on 'lifestyle conditions', including Type 2 diabetes and hypertension, where remote monitoring technology can help to monitor symptoms and promote better self-management. It will also explore digital health pathways for asthma, post-operative monitoring and infections that can be managed within primary healthcare.

With proven results that Clinitouch helps to reduce hospital admissions for long-term conditions¹, this partnership will deliver better care for patients whilst helping to reducing high claims costs for insurers.

Dr Elton Black, Managing Director at Clinico Health Group, said: "The Clinitouch telemedicine technology will assist Namibian healthcare players in bringing patients closer to care at a time when quality and affordable healthcare seems to be a distant and seemingly unattainable reality for most."

Grant Ricker, Head of International Partnerships at Clinitouch, added: "This transformative partnership with Clinico Health Group highlights our dedication to forming a global network of partners, leveraging Clinitouch's remote patient monitoring technology to create easy and accessible remote monitoring healthcare solutions.

"The team have shown exceptional insight into the challenges of healthcare delivery in Namibia and have identified a number of opportunities. Ultimately, this partnership will advance our shared vision of providing patients with closer access to quality care no matter their location and I'm excited to launch these projects in the coming months."

¹ Ghosh S, O'Kelly N, Roberts EJ et al. Combined interventions for COPD admissions within an urban setting. BJHCM: 2016;3:122–131.

The expansion into Namibia is the latest step in the global expansion of Clinitouch, which started in neighbouring South Africa earlier this year. The technology is now available in six countries worldwide, including Nigeria, Trinidad & Tobago and the UK, with more to come before the end of the year.

For more information about Clinitouch and the recently launched Partner Program, visit www.clinitouch.com.