



June 1, 2021

To: Post-Acute Facilities in Southwest & Southeast Kansas

From: Healthcare Coalition Partners of Kansas

Reference: Telemedicine Project

In early August of 2020, the Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) contracted with Healthcare Coalition Partners of Kansas (HCCP of KS) to evaluate transitioning patients/residents from Acute Care facilities (hospitals in Kansas) to Post-Acute Care (PAC) facilities (any setting in Kansas where a patient/resident would receive additional medical care after discharge from a hospital) and to make recommendations that could help resolve the identified difficulties.

In an effort to identify regional strategy to assist hospital discharges and to identify barriers the Post-Acute Care facilities were experiencing impeding transition of patients/residents, the HCCP of KS PAC team created and distribution a survey to professionals within the Acute Care, Public Health and Post-Acute Care industries. After the Statewide survey results were received, sorted, and presented to the seven (7) regional Healthcare Coalitions (HCC) executive committees, several regional projects were identified and assigned to regional HCC's.

The project that was assigned to the Southwest (SW) and Southeast (SE) HCC Regions identifies and recommends that “the PAC staff regain access into the Acute Care facilities to evaluate patients/residents across the State.” Because of increased testing and the availability of COVID vaccines we have seen PAC staff members being allowed more access to patients into the Acute Care facilities. This is important for the PAC to ensure that they can meet the needs of the patient before they have transitioned into their facility. Additionally, PAC facilities in the SW and SE HCC Regions are being asked “to work with the regional HCC Medical advisors that would establish possible medical priorities and create a Telehealth network where PAC professionals would be educated on best practices.” A list of equipment to be utilized has been developed and submitted for approval to the HCC Clinical Advisors and Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE).

HCCP of Kansas has secured adequate funding to provide thirty-five (35) to forty (40) PAC facilities in both SW and SE Kansas with a small equipment package including a *Microsoft* Surface Pro 7+ i5/8/128 laptop computer , a *Curaplex* Fingertip Pulse Oximeter and a *3M Littmann* CORE Digital Stethoscope to be utilized for integration within their local telemedicine system. There will be no cost to a selected facility for this equipment package. We believe integration of the PAC's into local telemedicine system can not only assist with the transition of patients/residents from an acute care facility, but also with possibly reducing the movement of patients/residents to clinics or acute care for doctor appointments on a preventive bases.



The URL below is the application for those facilities that would be interested in participating in this exciting opportunity to bring telemedicine into the Post-Acute Care discipline. We will be accepting these applications until 5:00 pm June 15, 2021.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=AAkaju\\_pN0GOSIFE11irrf9Y11oCV\\_FOsUFIYSvRYURUNzA3RUNXVIE4QIQyNEFYNDRIMVdUSUsxRyQIQCN0PWcu](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=AAkaju_pN0GOSIFE11irrf9Y11oCV_FOsUFIYSvRYURUNzA3RUNXVIE4QIQyNEFYNDRIMVdUSUsxRyQIQCN0PWcu)

Requirements to participate include:

- Participating facilities will be required to be members of their respective Regional HCC. If you are not currently an HCC member you can contact your Regional Response Coordinator for more information. In Southwest Kansas contact Ms. Mindi Bremer at [sw@hccpkansas.com](mailto:sw@hccpkansas.com) and in Southeast Kansas contact Mr. Fred Rinne at [se@hccpkansas.com](mailto:se@hccpkansas.com).
- Facilities will be asked to provide a utilization report at six (6) months and one (1) year.