



Preventing Admissions with WristCare

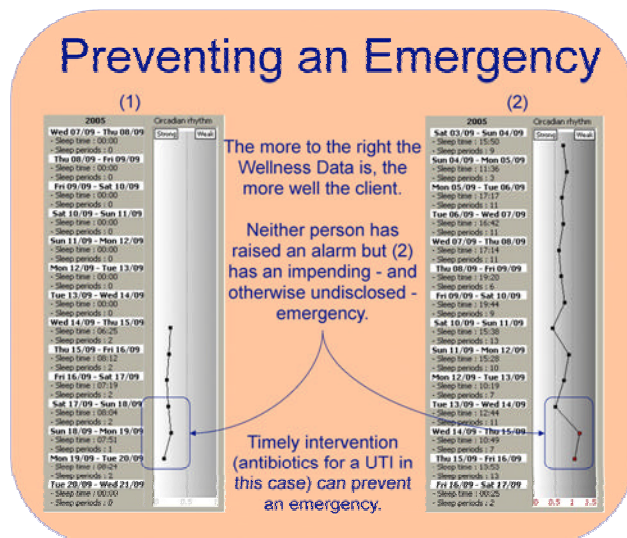
With over 20,000 WristCare systems in use across Europe, Warwickshire County Council chose an established technology for their Telecare project. The Council also wanted to see if it would build partnership working. It did.

Janice Hopkins, Associate Director of Corporate Services at Rugby Primary Care Trust said, "Working in partnership effectively for the benefit of patients is achieving excellent results".

Councillor Bill Sewell, Portfolio Holder for Housing at Rugby Borough Council, said "We are very pleased that the technology we provide to allow older people security in their own homes allows a wider benefit to the health service in caring for patients".



The WristCare Home System combines conventional social alarm technology with Wellness monitoring in one watch-like unit, worn on the wrist. Manual and automatic alarms are sent to the local Community Alarm Service. Wellness Data, which allows staff to identify potential needs earlier, is accessed by Care Managers via the internet. Vivatec helps partner organisations to develop WristCare based services.



A real case:

One patient was having Prostate problems but thought it was normal. WristCare Wellness Data showed the Intermediate Care Team the level of intrusion he was suffering at night. His GP went to see the patient and a prostatectomy was arranged. This improved the clients quality of life, prevented a significant falls risk and probable emergency admission due to retention from his enlarged prostate.

What next?

- ❑ The service was the only Telecare finalist in the 2005 HSJ Awards.
- ❑ Future development in Warwickshire includes support for people with Dementia, Medication Dispensers & Reviews and Long Term Conditions.