

Care in a Homely Setting: What's it all about?

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Care in a Homely Setting: What's it all about?

Hi all, this blog will be a short introduction into 'Care in a homely setting' which is one of DHI's five challenge areas.

The whole idea behind this concept is to redirect people away from using primary and secondary care services where appropriate because a lot of the time, these are avoidable interactions. The way that DHI aims to achieve this, is by ensuring homes are fit for purpose and meet the needs of citizens as they age and their needs develop. Technologies which can allow people to be cared for in the comfort of their own home - and away from the overstretched care pathways- is the aim.

The health services and communities need to adapt to make full use of these opportunities but they also need to become much better integrated. Therefore, there is a push from the Scottish Government to integrate the health services and social care services to make the care in a homely setting concept a reality.

A statement from NHS Scotland tells us that "over the next 10 years the proportion of over 75s in Scotland's population – who tend to be the highest users of healthcare services – will increase by over 25 per cent. By 2033, the number of people over 75 is likely to have increased by almost 60 per cent." This is just one example of the demographic shift that is occurring in our society whereby we have more of an ageing population than ever experienced before. It is the older population which use the formal care pathways most and will thus likely benefit the most from the care in a homely setting concept.

Over the next few weeks I will take you through the different aspects of Care in a Homely Setting which DHI are addressing. These are:

- Home monitoring capabilities
- Built environment
- Palliative care
- Virtual care/communication tools

Thanks for reading and stay tuned for the next blog!