BIRAC’s specialty medical supportive/palliative care to patients at home

Millions of patients with chronic diseases are unable to receive specialist access and care at home. Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), New Delhi, supported start-up Ubiqare Health Pvt Ltd., has come up with a solution that seamlessly combines clinical telepresence technology, collaboration framework and last-mile clinical network of doctors, nurses and therapists. The innovation aims to build a pervasive specialty follow up care; virtual hospitals with beds at home. Ubiqare enables doctor-driven specialty care to patients at home, reducing hospital visits and stays and providing with all the facilities in the comfort of home. It is a collaborative care delivery model.

This innovation model has proved to be a boon in the times of COVID crisis. The patients can be cared for at home during most of the illness trajectory- from the asymptomatic stage to mild symptoms to moderate symptoms stage. This enables the hospital infrastructure to be leveraged for only those in the stage of severe symptoms. The government have been taking a lot of measures to ensure that the hospitals are well equipped to serve those in need. However, this healthcare innovation surely helps in ensuring all the facilities are well taken care of even if you choose to stay at home and get treated.

How does it work for patients in different stages?
- In the asymptomatic stage and mild symptoms stage, the patient’s health will be self-monitored, and the data will be uploaded to the cloud for analysis by an algorithm. This
analysis will further be reviewed by the care doctor. Interventions for collecting lab samples for testing will be supported. Non-compliance to care protocols during quarantine will be detected and alerted. During this stage monitoring of family members will also be covered.

- Ubiqare will support the patients in moderate stage by shifting them to an isolation ward in proximity and supported by the care doctor over the telepresence platform.
- For those with severe symptoms or patients with epidemiological risks, Ubiqare will support in shifting them to hospital under specialists care.

COVID-19 patients at home, under care from Ubiqare, will get:

- Extension of care of pulmonologist/ physician and interactive clinical telepresence.
- Regular monitoring by IoT enabled medical devices with cloud-based analytics on EHR.
- Analytics-assisted triaging and tele-consultation by Ubiqare doctor/ pulmonologist/ physician
- Sample collection or interventions by the last mile clinical network/ healthcare workers.

The subscription for this health solution ranges from Rs. 15,000 to Rs 20,000 per month. Entrepreneurs are leaping ahead in these challenging times to accelerate the next wave of creativity in the fight against this pandemic.

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