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Proteus Digital Health launches Digital Oncology Medicines

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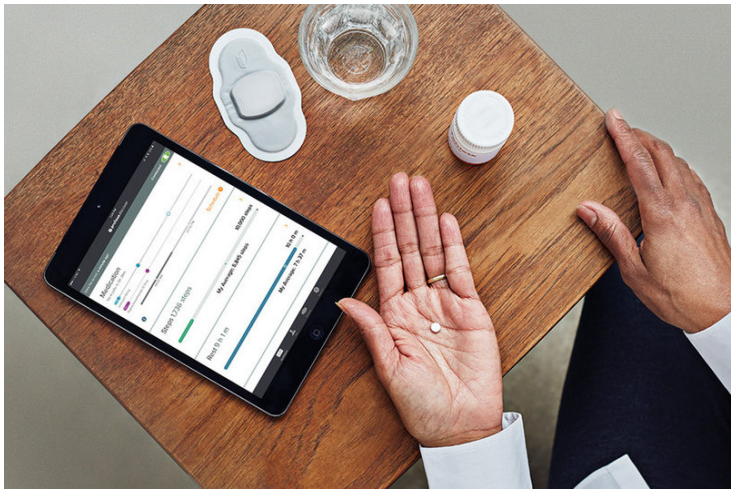
Proteus, Fairview Health Services, and University of Minnesota Health are first to provide Digital Medicines to Cancer Patients



Proteus Digital Health, Inc., Fairview Health Services, and University of Minnesota Health recently unveiled the care model for digital oncology medicines at the ASCO-GI 2019 Gastrointestinal Cancers Symposium in San Francisco.

The collaboration has announced that for the first time cancer patients are using digital oncology medicines to support treatment regimens and improve outcomes. This advancement helps patients complete oral chemotherapy cycles while oncologists gain new insights into their patients' treatment progress and overall health status.

Proteus developed the care model for oral digital oncology medicines with University of Minnesota Health and Fairview, which is the first health system in the world to prescribe digital capecitabine, a common chemotherapy drug prescribed with the Proteus ingestible sensor. Currently it is being used to help treat stage 3 and 4 colorectal cancer patients.

Dr. Edward Greeno, University of Minnesota Physicians oncologist/hematologist said, "Proteus has given us a great opportunity to take our passion for better care management of patients receiving oral oncolytics and move that forward, because we were starting to reach the limits of our current way of doing things. Proteus' digital oral chemotherapy provides a much more direct connection to the patient. It creates a way for us to achieve a lot of things that happen when a patient is in the clinic for infusions without them coming in person. Also, we can learn things about the patient that we can't learn from an office visit, like how the patient is doing with their treatment regimen while at home, on a daily basis."

The digital medicines program helps optimize treatment regimens while maintaining a patient's privacy. The program securely captures, records, and shares information about the time, dose, and type of oral chemotherapy medication taken. This information, as well as data on rest, activity, and resting heart rate, can be shared with the patient's consent with their physician, pharmacist, or caretaker. The information can only be seen by the patient and their designated individuals on a secure, mobile-friendly platform developed by Proteus.

Andrew Thompson, CEO and Co-founder of Proteus Digital Health said, "Currently, providers make decisions about oral chemotherapy based on patients' best knowledge of their medication taking. For the first time, digital oncology medicines give providers and caregivers new insights and ability to engage with more specific information in the remote care of colorectal

cancer patients. Based on our data around the use of digital medicines in other treatment areas, we believe this will enable oncology patients to stay on their therapy longer, avoid hospital admissions, and have better response to therapy overall."

Paul Morales, Fairview Infusion Pharmacy manager at the University of Minnesota Health Clinics and Surgery Center said, "Given the costs, complexity, and toxicity risk for oral chemotherapy, digital oncology medicine is an exciting step forward in cancer care. For pharmacists, it helps us identify patients who might be struggling to take their medication correctly and intervene, for example by giving them a call to explain how to safely move forward if they do miss a dose. For patients, it helps them feel in control as they take a more active role in managing their medication. The results are better outcomes for patients."

To gather more real-world experience and data from cancer patients using digital medicines, Proteus is launching a digital oral oncolytic medication registry. This study will gather data from multiple sites spanning academic medical centers to community practices and urban to rural facilities. Patients from participating sites will be prescribed digital capecitabine to assist them in their treatment. Data collected from the study will be used to share best practices across many sites, enabling richer data and outcome analysis.