

Telecare Case Studies

Mr

Mr is a man with physical disabilities and severe epilepsy, who had lived in residential care for many years. His Care Manager recognised the opportunities that telecare could provide him with and put these in place which enabled him to move from residential care to independent accommodation in the community on the 12/8/07.

The costs of Mr residential care totalled £709.31pw. When he moved to the community from the 13/8/07 – 9/11/08 he received support of one hour per day from a care agency which cost £146.16 pw.

From 10/11/08 his care package has reduced to 3.5 hrs pw, at a cost of £66.36 pw.

To date (2/4/09) Mr has been living in the community for 19 months. This has massively increased his quality of life and in addition has led to a huge saving in costs.

The cost saving for the first 14 months was £709.31 - £146.16 (cost of 7hrs pw care) = £563.15 x 60 weeks = **£33,789**

The cost saving for the last 5 months has been £709.31 - £66.36 (cost of 3.5hrs pw care) = £642.95 x 20 weeks = **£12,859**

Total saving to date = £ 46,648

Future annual saving will be £ 33,433.40

2 NHS Continuing Care patients

Mr is a 43 year old man and Ms is a 22 year old woman. They both suffer from severe epilepsy. The telecare team was approached by the Deputy Head of Continuing Care to request the purchase of 2 night time epilepsy sensors. This has enabled the reduction in staffing from waking night time carer to a sleep-in member of staff who is only awoken if the epilepsy sensor is activated.

Average costs for a waking night time carer between the hours of 10pm to 7am is £106.23 per night. In contrast, the cost of a sleep-in carer for the same hours per night is £77.00 – a saving of £29 per night - £203 per week - £812 per month and £9,744 per year. The cost of an epilepsy sensor is: £220 and the cost of fitting by PCC is £70.

Apart from the cost saving the epilepsy sensor has greatly increased these people's privacy and independence as prior to having them they had to have regular checks made on them while they were sleeping to check they were OK – these are no longer necessary.

Mrs

Mrs is a 74 year old woman who has a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and who lives alone. She has a package of care of 3 x 30 mins a week to assist with personal care. At 5am on the 8/2/09 she was found by the police wandering outside with no coat or socks on. There is great concern from her family about her vulnerability if wandering outside. Door exit monitors were fitted to her property and a memo minder. Feedback from Mrs daughter is

that they have been contacted by the monitoring centre in response to the door exit monitors and have been able to find Mrs before she has wandered too far. She is very pleased with the peace of mind this has given and she commented on the pleasant attitude of the monitoring centre staff. Whilst there has been no change to Mrs care package the telecare is offering peace of mind to the family and is helping Mrs to remain independent for longer.

Mrs

Mrs is a eighty six year old woman suffering from dementia who was living in her own flat at the time of referral. There were concerns for her safety as she had started to wander and had once had to spend the night on a neighbour's sofa as she was found wandering and had locked herself out. She had a care package of 4 visits per day costing £57.67 pw. In Oct 08 door contacts and a bed exit monitor were installed at her flat. This equipment helped to provide the least restrictive option to this woman, delaying her admission to residential care, by providing extra support should she leave her flat. Based on the costs of residential care being £300 pw. with the deduction of her care package it is possible that there has been a saving of £250 pw. for 14 weeks (up until her admission to residential care on 16/2/09. = **potential saving of £3,500**

Please see testimonial below from her daughter.

'We can't thank you and your team enough with the equipment you installed at our mother's flat, I have no doubt that it saved her life on many occasion when she was leaving the house in the middle of the night and we received a call promptly from the centre to say that she had gone out; it was a life saver. Without the alarms no one would have known that she had gone out at 1.30am in the winter, it certainly help her to stay in her own home for as long as was possible. Thank you again'.

Mrs

The telecare equipment installed at Mrs have enabled her to remain at home instead of entering residential care or possible admission to psychiatric care. Mrs values her independence highly and so telecare has been a good outcome for her and has provided a tailor made service. To date it is possible that it has prevented a hospital admission of several weeks and residential care of approx 6 months to date. **Potential saving of £7,200 (cost of residential care is £300 pw.** (The costs of the Quiet Care system itself have to be deducted from this saving – these amount to £950 for the year, and also the call out responses that have been provided by the Home Care Team and the Estates Services Officers.

Mrs

Mrs has a door exit monitor, she is at high risk of wandering. Since having the monitors her wandering has reduced. Without Telecare an admission to psychiatric care would have been a likely outcome with residential care afterwards. This would have separated Mrs from her husband which would have been a great problem as they are very close. To date it is likely that the equipment has delayed residential care admission by 8 months, and also reduced hospital bed use by several weeks. **The potential saving on residential care would be 8x4x £300 = £9,600**

Mrs

Mrs had door exit monitors installed in March 08 and was later admitted to psychiatric care in Oct 08. Her Care Manager comments "Yes, I would say

that having the door exit monitor installed for Mrs enabled her to remain at home for longer than otherwise". **If we calculate the potential saving on the cost of residential care for 6 months this would come to £7,200.**

Mrs

Issued with a falls detector 3/12/07. Was not wearing it when she had a fall in her kitchen in February 08. It took her an hour to crawl into her front room. She could not reach her falls detector to set off the alarm as she had left it on a table. She managed to crawl to a pouffe where the phone was and call her son who called the ambulance service. The neighbour who had a key was out walking her dog so one paramedic went to look for her with another neighbour and the other kept talking to her through the letter box until they arrived back with the key.

Mrs sustained a broken hip from this fall. Whilst in hospital she had a heart attack and a stroke and a punctured lung while having a pace maker fitted. She was an inpatient for 3 1/2 months. She has since had input from the Independent Living Service for rehabilitation and now has 15 minutes a day care. She is still walking with a frame but always puts her falls detector on now and has had no further falls. She said that she has learnt her lesson about wearing it all the time.

Whilst the falls detector did not prevent her major fall in February as she was not wearing it can be argued that her use of it since returning has enabled her care package to be reduced. She was receiving two half hour visits 7 days a week on her initial discharge but now has only one 15 minute visit per day.

Potential saving is £32.83 per week.

The effect on the relatives' quality of life cannot be quantified.

Mrs has a pendant alarm. It can be argued that having this in place has reduced the strain on her relatives enabling them to have a break knowing that the alarm can be raised if need be. It is possible that if this had not been put in the services of the sitting service might have been required to offer respite to the carer.

Depending on whether this was a block purchase or a spot purchase this could have cost either £14 per week for 2 hours or £24 per week for 2 hours.

Mrs had her alarm installed in Jan 08. For 10 months on the basis of sitting for 2 hours per week this would amount to:

**A saving of £560 at the block purchase rate
Or a saving of £960 at the spot purchase rate.**

