

Region South Denmark - The COPD Briefcase



The COPD Briefcase pilot was developed as part of European eTEN project Better Breathing that ran between 2007 and 2009 and aimed at creating a new model for continuous care of chronic patients. The goal of the COPD Briefcase pilot was specifically to reduce the numbers of readmissions of patients with acute exacerbation in COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) with the deployment of telemedicine consultations that linked by video the sub acute COPD patient from their home and the respiratory nurse from the hospital.

The set-up is today a running service at the Odense University Hospital. To this date, 933 COPD-patients in the Region of Southern Denmark have been treated in their own home with the COPD Briefcase. This corresponds to 9317 acute telemedicine treatments. The service has improved significantly the quality of life of chronic patients who now enjoy fewer readmissions, less isolation and better management of their chronic disease. In addition, the service has resulted in economic benefits for the health care sector as a result of a decrease in the number and the length of hospitalizations.

Ms Anne Sorknaes, senior respiratory nurse at Odense University Hospital, will carry out a life demonstrating of the usage of the Patient Briefcase and present the documentation of the usage.