



Lesson of the Month: Each month an innovative lesson is broadcast on the Director's Friday Conference Call. Here is an excerpt and a link to the full lesson that is in the VA's ([Virtual Learning Center](#)).

Innovative Lesson of the Month: VISN 1

April 5, 2002

The VA Connecticut Healthcare System home telemedicine program optimizes care to some of their homebound, patients by allowing clinicians to monitor physiologic data from patients' homes using the Internet. Patients receive Web-based education, questionnaires and disease management surveys. Their responses and the clinician interactions are integrated automatically into VISTA. A home monitoring device collects a broad range of patient data and transmits it back to the VA Medical Center via telephone lines, to a secure web site. The system is in full compliance with the VA Information Technology Security Program. Benefits of this project include a 21% reduction in clinic visits and a 19% reduction in bed days of care as well as enhanced patient management and increased patient satisfaction.

For more information, contact Donna Vogel, Director of Continuing Care & Case Management, 203-932-5711 extension 5876. Go to this address to view the full lesson on the Virtual Learning Center (VLC) [Home Telemedicine Improves Access & Quality of Healthcare](#) Click on the "+" sign to view in more detail. If you implement a similar program, please use the "Implement Lesson" option at the end of every VLC lesson to share your experience.

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