
News Release

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For Immediate Release**Mayo Clinic offers new telemedicine options in Southeast Minnesota**

AUSTIN, Minn. — Mayo Clinic is committed to reducing health care expenses and improving access to medical services through a new telemedicine pilot project called Mayo Clinic Health Connection, now available at Mayo Clinic Health System in Austin. The Mayo Clinic Health Connection trials a telehealth delivery system to meet patient's needs through the HealthSpot® platform, which combines robust cloud-based software and a private walk-in kiosk that offer solutions to care for patients in their place of work. The system will be piloted with Mayo Clinic Health System employees in Albert Lea and Austin before potentially being deployed to other local employers.

The Mayo Clinic Health Connection allows patients to connect with Mayo Clinic and Mayo Clinic Health System providers through a private, walk-in kiosk that provides high-definition videoconferencing and interactive, digital medical devices. The kiosk enables highly trained Mayo Clinic and Mayo Clinic Health System physicians, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants, to see and treat patients face-to-face in a variety of nontraditional health care settings.

“Mayo Clinic is committed to reducing health care expenses for employees and employers by improving access to medical services through convenient and more affordable care through Mayo Clinic Health Connection,” says Matt Bernard, M.D., Southeast Minnesota region Primary Care Service Line chair. “We are excited to offer innovative health care technology locally and to leverage resources across our system to better serve our patients. You’ll avoid waiting and time away from work, and still get the continuity of care you need from people you trust. This should decrease absenteeism, lower costs and increase wellness, a win-win for employers and employees when fully deployed.”

Patients can conveniently walk up to the kiosk without scheduling an appointment and be treated for minor, common health conditions, such as cold, earaches, sore throat, sinus infections, upper respiratory infections, rashes and skin conditions, and eye conditions. “Mayo Clinic Health Connection provides convenient care from experts for common conditions, while saving the patient time and money. It’s the best of both worlds,” adds Dr. Bernard. “Together with HealthSpot’s secure telehealth platform, we will give patients a convenient way to access care where they spend most of their day and the visit information is integrated to the patient’s medical record.”

Mayo Clinic Health Connection is designed to meet the increased demand for access to health services locally. “HealthSpot’s innovative technology will help control costs for employers and employees,” said Steve Cashman, HealthSpot founder and CEO. “The HealthSpot station will connect people to Mayo Clinic in a new and convenient way.”

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ATTENTION ALL MEDIA: All media will be invited to attend a media open house (not open to the public) to demo Mayo Clinic Health Connection and to speak to local officials about this new technology on **Thursday, Oct. 9, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please R.S.V.P. to Tami Yokiell at yokiell.tami@mayo.edu to confirm your attendance by Tuesday, Oct. 7.**

About Mayo Clinic

Recognizing 150 years of serving humanity in 2014, Mayo Clinic is a nonprofit worldwide leader in medical care, research and education for people from all walks of life. For more information, visit 150years.mayoclinic.org, mayoclinic.org or newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org.

About Mayo Clinic Health System

Mayo Clinic Health System consists of Mayo-owned clinics, hospitals and other health care facilities that serve the health care needs of people in more than 70 communities in Georgia, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The community-based providers, paired with the resources and expertise of Mayo Clinic, enable patients in the region to receive the highest-quality health care close to home.

About HealthSpot®

HealthSpot® is healthcare, reimagined. A pioneer in connected care, HealthSpot has built a comprehensive healthcare delivery platform that combines cloud-based software with the award-winning HealthSpot station, digital medical devices and mobile applications. HealthSpot’s platform radically transforms today’s healthcare system by enabling the delivery of quality, affordable medical care through a diverse professional care network for patients in efficient, convenient locations like pharmacies, hospitals, clinics, employer and community sites, universities and the home. For more information on HealthSpot, go to www.healthspot.net.