

NEWS RELEASE

Digital advances in Scotland celebrated at Holyrood Connect ICT Awards

Edinburgh Napier University intensive care initiative, criticalcarerecovery.com, wins Digital Health & Care Award, sponsored by InterSystems

EDINBURGH, XX June 2019 – Outstanding examples of public sector technology projects in Scotland have been recognised in the 2019 Holyrood Connect ICT Awards.

The Connect Digital Health & Care Award, sponsored by InterSystems, was awarded to Edinburgh Napier University, for the development of criticalcarerecovery.com into an e-health resource to support recovery among intensive care patients across Scotland and the United Kingdom.

More than 15,000 people are admitted to an intensive care unit in Scotland each year, and the e-health innovation was specifically designed to help support patients with long-term physical and psychological issues after discharge home. The website has been viewed by more than 20,000 people since going live.

Dr Pam Ramsay, who also won the InterSystems sponsored Digital Impact Award, in February 2019, said: “This is the second award that criticalcarerecovery.com has won in recent months and we are just as thrilled. Improving health and social care support for our patients and their families is at the heart of what we are trying to achieve, so this award is particularly welcome to help to spread awareness of an important resource that can make a difference to people’s lives.

“We know that 25% of patients end up back in hospital within three months of getting home after an ICU stay. Shockingly, that figure rises to 40% within six months, so there’s a real need to support these patients during their recovery and avoid unnecessary readmissions to hospital. Digital interventions have been shown to reduce readmission rates and healthcare costs in other patient groups, and we’d hope to demonstrate similar benefits.”

For the future, plans are now being considered to develop criticalcarerecovery.com. For example, a secure NHS approved online video consultation platform could be embedded into the website.

Shortlisted entrants for the Connect Digital Health & Care Award included NHS Lanarkshire for its project to enhance post diagnostic dementia support through the use of technology. And NHS National Services Scotland was recognised as a finalist for its digital blood pressure monitoring service.

Charles King, InterSystems lead in Scotland, said: “All winners and finalists deserve a huge congratulations for their work. As someone who works with NHS boards across Scotland every day, I am fortunate to see the positive impact on care when dedicated health and care professionals are able to make the most of technology. Celebrating innovation in this space is enormously important to

scaling the success of these amazing projects and making them more widely available. We are very pleased to support Holyrood with this award.”

- ### -

About Holyrood Connect ICT Awards

Holyrood, in close collaboration with a number of stakeholders, has run the awards since their conception in 2013. Full details can be found at <https://connectawards.holyrood.com/>

About InterSystems

InterSystems is the engine behind the world’s most important applications. In healthcare, finance, government, and other sectors where lives and livelihoods are at stake, InterSystems is the power behind what matters™. Founded in 1978, InterSystems is a privately held company headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts (USA), with offices worldwide, and its software products are used daily by millions of people in more than 80 countries. For more information, visit InterSystems.co.uk