

Harris County, Texas launches emocha's miDOT for medication adherence

video "Directly Observed Therapy" smartphone and web system deployed for Tuberculosis patients

Baltimore, MD | March 6, 2015 – emocha Mobile Health launched its video-based directly observed therapy application, miDOT, in Harris County, Texas. miDOT will be used to bridge the distance between healthcare workers and the tuberculosis (TB) patients that are dispersed across the nearly 1,800 square miles surrounding Houston, which has one of the nation's highest Tuberculosis rates. The roll-out began in early February after emocha won a competitive bidding process based on a head-to-head pilot with competing technologies.

"We are very excited to work with the Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services Department", says emocha CEO Sebastian Seiguer. "The team of clinicians and innovators at HCPHES are excellent partners for such a large-scale initiative".

Traditional DOT requires a healthcare worker to actually observe a patient taking their medication, in person, every day for six months or longer. This is resource-intensive, costly to the system, and burdensome for the patient. Patients use emocha's HIPAA-compliant smartphone application, miDOT, as a substitute for in-person DOT. They record themselves taking their medication at their own convenience, avoiding long daily drives to the clinic or home visits from healthcare workers. miDOT captures symptoms and securely submits the video to the emocha server, where a clinician can then observe and confirm medication adherence using the emocha web interface. miDOT improves the quality of care by empowering patients and reducing the inefficiencies of in-person DOT.

Dr. Umair A. Shah, Executive Director, HCPHES, says, "We are excited to be the first public health agency to deploy operationally the miDOT technology for treatment of tuberculosis in a large patient population. Time efficiencies, cost savings, and improved medication regimen compliance are all benefits we look forward to from this new technology."

emocha is a mobile health platform for remote patient management. It designs and engineers systems that connect medical experts to patients. A diverse suite of smartphone applications, and a clinician-facing web interface, provides real-time data visualization and analytics. emocha has been implemented in more than ten countries across four continents.

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