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Caring for Patients with COVID at Home: Ascension Medical Group Wisconsin Launches Dedicated Home Monitoring Program

Milwaukee, WI – Ascension Medical Group (AMG) Wisconsin launched the Ascension Home Monitoring Program to compassionately care for patients with COVID-19 outside of the hospital or clinic setting. The program connects at-risk patients with known or suspected COVID-19 and pre-existing conditions like heart disease, high blood pressure, chronic respiratory disease or diabetes to 24/7 At Home Monitoring.

Patients can be enrolled from either the emergency department or an Ascension Medical Group Wisconsin clinic. Once enrolled, a patient is given a home monitoring kit, which includes an oxygen monitor, and is asked to self-report symptoms for 16 days. The monitor sends users text message notifications three times a day prompting patients to report their symptoms. A clinical team monitors the responses 24/7 and escalates calls to AMG Wisconsin clinicians when changes in their conditions require immediate attention.

“Ascension At Home Monitoring is an excellent resource for patients and clinicians. It gives our patients and their providers comfort knowing that they are going to be monitored as they are discharged,” said Dr. Beth Griffin, Emergency Medical Director, Ascension All Saints Hospital. “Patients have felt safely cared for from the comfort of their own homes and appreciate the direct communication with their clinicians.”

Ascension At Home Monitoring is offered at Ascension Wisconsin clinics and emergency departments in southeast Wisconsin. From April 21 to June 3, 2020, more than 260 patients have participated in the program. Ninety percent of participants said they would recommend the program to others and all participants felt safe.

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About Ascension Wisconsin

In Wisconsin, Ascension operates 24 hospital campuses, more than 100 related healthcare facilities and employs more than 1,300 primary and specialty care clinicians from Racine to Eagle River. Serving Wisconsin since 1848, Ascension is a faith-based healthcare organization committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Ascension is one of the leading non-profit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., operating 2,600 sites of care – including 150 hospitals and more than 50 senior living facilities – in 20 states and the District of Columbia. Visit www.ascension.org.