

Technology in Healthcare

January 2022

Senior Management Services

Technology and healthcare have had a great merge in the past two years as tele-health became more normal than ever. We can chat with our healthcare providers over a portal, see our results, and schedule appointments. Virtual visits with our physicians are happening over video conferencing, and we are responsible even more for our own healthcare information and disseminating that to our various providers.

If that does not sound overwhelming to you, then you are in the minority! Our seniors are overwhelmed by the technology of ten years ago, let alone all that is changing each day in the present. Here are some ideas to help them navigate this new technology and what may be available to them as a support. We can all agree that the safest place for our loved one to be is in their home or community, especially during a pandemic, so we need to assist them in accessing these technologies that can keep them protected and receiving the care they need.

As the linked article states, "seniors will be turning to technology more than ever to enhance their healthcare in the coming year." One on-trend technology that will be used is the hospital-at-home model. This allows seniors to be monitored at home by their health care professionals and means less trips to the hospital. This is very helpful for senior facilities as the staff can access the resident's physicians more readily and provide the care needed in less time.

The article also mentions that some companies are employing "technology concierge services" to assist older adults and their caregivers. Lastly, the article discusses all the wearable technology that can help seniors have a more active role in their healthcare. This is new territory for a lot of older adults, as they have grown up being a passive participant in their healthcare. As a caregiver, you can encourage them to speak up and advocate for themselves.

As we press into 2022, we wish you all a very healthy new year, and success as you continue to support the older adults in your life.

For additional information about Eldercare, please contact Quest EAP at 1-800-364-6352.