New Tech Connects Veterans to More Health Care Options

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Thu, 06/28/2018 - 21:43

The Veterans Health Administration is developing new ways to connect veterans to health care options using new technologies and when doing so, the focus is on solutions that are great and user friendly, says one official in charge of many of these efforts.

"We need really good products for them to be adopted," says Kathleen Frisbee, executive director of Connected Health aligned under VHA's Office of Connected Care. "They have to work well, they have to be easy to use and there has to be
support for the end user — we know that."

VHA's strategy is to focus on products that providers will see value in because a key driver in patient adoption of technology is having a provider who encourages use, Frisbee says.

"There's a huge demand for our Annie text messaging application and the reason is . . . providers see value in that product," she says, referring to app that promotes self-care for veterans enrolled in VA health care. "They see it's going to increase the patient's ability to care for themselves and increase the connection of them team."

Watch the full interview above.

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