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## TELEHEALTH IN HOME HEALTH CARE

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The telehealth in home health study aimed to determine patient's satisfaction with technology in home health care as the population continues to age in the presence of chronic disease. Understanding patient's perceptions regarding technologies in home care allows the practitioner to further understand one's health belief and facilitate cues to changes in health behaviors towards management of chronic disease. The results of this study provide strength for the use of telehealth in home care and potentially contribute to the demand for reimbursement of telehealth.

Patient satisfaction was examined in older adult patient's with heart failure in home health care. Eighty-six participants ranging in ages 59-99 with a mean age of 80.7 (sd = 8.9), voluntarily completed a questionnaire (HCSSI-R) of fifteen items. A comparison was made between telehealth, home health services and usual home health care. An Analysis of Covariance (ANCOVA), frequency distributions and descriptive statistics were completed to answer the research question. A statistically significant difference was found indicating that the telehealth, home health group was more satisfied. When controlling for the demographic information about age, gender, prior home health services and living alone status, there was no significant impact on the patient satisfaction score.

It has been proven that telehealth in home care is cost-effective and produces favorable clinical outcomes in the management of chronic disease (Dansky, Vasey & Bowles, 2008; Hoban, Fedor, Reeder & Chernick, 2013). This study concludes that telehealth in home health care provides for a highly satisfied home health client managing chronic disease.

### Biography

Lori Metzger holds a PhD in human development and a master's degree in nursing with certification as an adult nurse practitioner. She is an assistant professor at the department of nursing teaching across undergraduate and graduate programs for Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania. Additionally, she is co-founder and co-director of the center for healthy aging. Prior to teaching, she has spent 15 years practicing in home health and hospice caring for older adult's population. During this time, she has come to appreciate the unique qualities of older adults and the new face of aging.

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