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### **New Healthcare Technology in the Home**

The Whole System Demonstrator (WSD) trial is already having a profound effect on the lives of Newham residents, with long-term health conditions, who have adopted the technology in their homes.

The WSD Trial is a two-year Department of Health-funded research project aimed at finding out if combining health and social care with new technology, can help those with long-term health conditions stay well and live independently.

TeleHealth technology, with the support of health professionals, enables a user to monitor their vital signs readings daily, via a set-top box tuned into their TV. TeleCare technology uses a combination of alarms, sensors and other response equipment around the home to raise a call for help in emergency situations such as a fall, fire or flood.

Mrs Sheila Fleming, who has TeleCare technology in her home, recently attended a Carers Conference and commented on how grateful she and her husband William, a severe Arthritis and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) sufferer, are for the support of TeleCare:

“This is changing our lives,” she said. “I could not be here (at the conference) if my husband did not have TeleCare. I now feel confident about leaving him at home alone.”

William says, “I feel fine at home because there is actually someone there, in our area, looking out for us.”

TeleHealth user and Diabetes sufferer, 57-year-old, Ernest Girard, said: “It’s like TeleHealth is teaching you to know yourself. It’s planting knowledge into a person’s mind, and an awareness of their health.”

To find out more about the WSD trial visit [www.NewhamWSDTrial.org](http://www.NewhamWSDTrial.org)

For further information, case studies or to arrange an interview please contact:

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