

## **BROADCAST-OSF Digital Hospital patients in Rockford area say it's the best medicine**

*New program allows hospital-level care in the patient's home*

**Anchor Lede:** OSF HealthCare is expanding a program from Peoria, Illinois to its Rockford hospital that allows certain patients to receive hospital-level care in their own home. OSF OnCall Digital Health leaders say the care is safe and patients love it.

**VO or Radio Package                   :40                   STANDARD OC**

OSF HealthCare launched the first hospital-at-home program in Illinois in 2022 and it has served 400 patients with a combination of in-home care, video visits and remote patient monitoring that offers a 24/7 connection. Seventy-eight-year-old Robert Thornton of Belvidere had COVID and pneumonia, on top of his COPD when he wound up in the hospital, only to be sent home as the first OSF OnCall digital hospital patient in the Rockford area ...

### **SOT-Robert Thornton (First digital hospital patient in Rockford area)**

**"I couldn't ask for more polite, well educated, concerned people to come into my house and make sure that I had what I needed to get well. It was a wonderful experience." (:18)**

**TAG:** For the at-home hospital care, patients must be 18 or older, have a qualifying condition and be stable, have Medicare, Medicaid or insurance that will cover the care, and they need to live within 30 minutes of OSF HealthCare Saint Anthony's Medical Center.

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**VO #2** Patients love being at home with their pets, family, and their own bed and providers such as nurse and supervisor Courtney Dahnert are enjoying a return to what they see as more personalized care.

### **SOT-Courtney Dahnert (PRONOUNCED DAN-urt) Nurse & program supervisor**

**"It takes us back to being able to provide that really good care; getting to know someone even though we're only caring for them for two or three days and making their health relevant to them. And it gives us time to breathe. So it's an amazing opportunity for both the patient and the provider." (:18)**

**TAG:** OSF HealthCare began the program in 2022 in Peoria and it has served 400 patients who have a qualifying condition, Medicare, Medicaid or an insurer which will cover the service, and who live within 30 minutes of the hospital.

