Speakers Club P



SPEAKERS CLUB NEWSLETTER I JULY 2020

InHealth Technologies® Donates Face Masks to Protect Healthcare Workers and Patients

In keeping with our long-standing commitment to supporting our healthcare partners and communities, InHealth Technologies is donating 10,000 disposable face masks to four hospitals across the United States to provide personal protection for those on the frontlines of the COVID-19 crisis.

The recipients are the VA Northern California Healthcare System (Mather, California) and the otolaryngology departments of the University of Michigan Medical Center (Ann Arbor, Michigan), the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine (Miami, Florida), and Lenox Hill Hospital (New York, New York). Produced via 3D printing technology, the masks provide three layers of protection against pathogens, dust, and fogging. To ensure comfort and fit, they are constructed with an adjustable nose bar and heat-sealed elastic ear loops.

We at InHealth Technologies are honored to give back to our healthcare partners and to help safeguard the patients they serve during these unprecedented times.



The Lenox Hill Hospital team continues to serve on the frontline providing care to patients and working to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the community by utilizing the donated face masks by InHealth Technologies.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING HOLIDAY:

Monday, September 7.....Labor Day

InHealth Technologies will be closed in observance of Labor Day. Orders and shipments will resume on the next business day following the holiday.



InHealth Technologies® Patient Consultant Team Expands Its Services

The InHealth Technologies patient consultant team, made up of individuals who have been through the experience of total laryngectomy surgery and recovery, collaborates with InHealth Technologies staff to support both patients and healthcare professionals, primarily speech-language pathologists, and help our company address the evolving needs of the laryngectomee community.

Although the patient consultant team has been active for many years, it is now expanding, and a patient consultant is working with staff in each of InHealth's four U.S. territories. Now each U.S. region has the benefit of a dedicated territory manager, an SLP clinical specialist, a customer service representative, and a patient consultant.

Speaking from their own experience, patient consultants regularly make pre- and post-operative care visits and help laryngectomees develop skills related to voice restoration. They also provide updates on and speak at laryngectomee support groups or events in their area. Healthcare professionals may want to refer patients to a patient consultant or get a patient consultant's perspective on InHealth products.

Patient consultants complete their local hospital's patient visitor training program and have also been trained on InHealth voice restoration products. They are passionate about lending a hand and an empathetic ear to others who have been on the same journey they have.

The patient consultant team can now be reached at a new email address: patient.support@InHealth.com. The message should include the sender's name, where they live, and where they practice (if a healthcare professional) or receive care (if a patient). One of the team members will get back to the person wanting information within one business day.

Meet the Patient Consultant Team:



BILL MURIN

is relatively new to the InHealth patient consultant team but has been supporting patients as a certified patient volunteer at the James Comprehensive Cancer Center at Ohio State University for over three years. Bill lives in Parkersburg, West Virginia, and works with David DiToro and Morgan Greve, MA, CCC-SLP, in the Northeast.

"I want to be a source of knowledge for patients and staff, answering questions about the needs of total laryngectomy patients."

— Bill



KATHRYN MCPEAKE

has recently become an InHealth patient consultant, but you may recognize her from the cover of the 2020 InHealth catalog. She lives in San Diego, California, and works with Keith Rhodes and Eliza Peoples, MS, CCC-SLP, in the West.

Regardless of life's surprises, I have adapted and found my new normal; I would love to share that with others.

— Kathryn

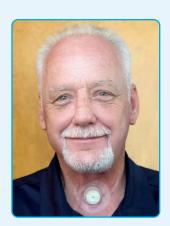


JANICE HAYES

has been a patient consultant with InHealth Technologies since January 2014. She lives in Atlanta, Georgia, and works with Gary Abbott and Jennifer Starkweather, MA, CCC-SLP, in the Southeast.

In have tried many options, but In Health Technologies products work for me. 11

— Janice



MARK LANFERSIECK

had his total laryngectomy surgery in 2012 and joined InHealth as a patient consultant in 2019. He has a passion for giving back to the laryngectomee community. He lives in St. Louis, Missouri, and works with Jin Kim and Elizabeth Lucarelli, MS, CCC-SLP, in the Midwest.

MEET BILL MURIN: TOTAL LARYNGECTOMEE AND PATIENT CONSULTANT

Bill Murin of Parkersburg, West Virginia, has been a caretaker for a long time. He took care of his wife and mother, both of whom had cancer, and now he is taking care of his fellow laryngectomees as a patient consultant with InHealth Technologies in the Northeast.

A former Marine and veteran of Desert Storm, Bill is now retired from his work with a funeral home and cemetery, for which he still does consulting and outreach. He and his wife of 15 years have five children, two grandchildren, two dogs, and a cat between them. A big passion of his is fishing throughout the United States, but he is also a fan of cooking, gardening, auctions, and gem mining.



Bill lands the big one.

Bill was diagnosed with Stage IV HPV-positive hypopharyngeal cancer and had a total laryngectomy in March 2015, followed by post-op chemoradiation, at the James Comprehensive Cancer Center at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. He opted to communicate using tracheoesophageal speech.

When Bill finished his treatment, he became a patient volunteer at the James Comprehensive Cancer Center, educating and supporting total laryngectomees and their families as well as speaking to support groups and medical professionals. He has been doing that ever since and has become an InHealth patient consultant, too. He also works with the American Cancer Society and advocates at the state legislative level for cancer and long-term-care patients.



Talking with a staff member from InHealth, Bill shed some light on why he does what he does.

InHealth: Why did you decide to become a patient consultant?

Bill: When I was going through surgery and treatment for my cancer, the doctors, the nurses, and the entire staff were terrific. But the one thing I missed and wanted the most was someone who had been where I was, someone who could truly understand the fear, anger, and depression that I was going through and answer the questions that my medical team couldn't. That's when I decided to become that person for others, to show them the light at the end of the tunnel, so to speak. It means everything to me to talk to patients and families about what goes on and what is to come, and talking to staff is just as important. That is my way of giving back, and I am happy to do so. I only wish I could do more. In time, I will.

InHealth: In your role as a patient consultant, what brings you the most fulfillment?

Bill: Everything I do brings me fulfillment, but the best of it is when I get to talk with new patients and families. When I first meet them, I see a look of despair and fright, but over the course of the conversation, I see a change to hope and calm. What's worthwhile is knowing that when I leave, they are in a better place.

InHealth: What has been the nicest compliment that you have received?

Bill: Doing this, I've had many wonderful compliments – family members coming up to me and thanking me for sharing and letting them see that it's worth the fight. Picking one is very difficult. However, the one that sticks out the most to me is the very first patient and family I talked with. We spent several hours together, just talking and sharing. About six months later at a support group I attend, he walked in with his family. The smile on his face was absolutely the best compliment I have ever received.

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InHealth: If you could share a message with a large group of laryngectomees, what would the message be?

Bill: The message is simple. What we went through, or are going through, is life changing, not life ending. We can still do everything we did before; we just have to approach it in a different way. This experience is what we make of it. I look at this as a second chance at life. What we deal with on a daily basis doesn't have to define us or rule our everyday life. Enjoy what you have. And take each day as it comes. The good will outweigh the bad in time.



Blom-Singer® Stoma Protectors BE 6200, BE 6210, and BE 6215 are being replaced with ADDvox® Stoma Filters BE 6222-R2 and BE 6223-R2, with microporous adhesive. Available in skin tone and off white, in packets of 60.



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