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**PARTNERS CONNECTED HEALTH LAUNCHES 2017 CONNECTED HEALTH  
INNOVATION CHALLENGE TO ACCELERATE DEVELOPMENT OF DISRUPTIVE SOLUTIONS  
TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF PATIENTS**

MAY 3, 2017, BOSTON -- [Partners Connected Health](#) today launched the 2017 [Partners Connected Health Innovation Challenge](#) (CHIC) following a successful pilot last year. The Challenge was created to accelerate the development of disruptive, patient-centric and connected health solutions, from Partners' employees and clinical faculty, to radically improve the lives of patients.

"Advances in technology continue to disrupt the healthcare ecosystem. By supporting technology innovation, we can continue to advance care and clinical outcomes for our patients," said Gregg Meyer, MD, Chief Clinical Officer, Partners HealthCare. "CHIC helps to identify the most innovative and promising ideas from within the Partners network, and provides the expertise from our Connected Health Innovation team, to create cutting-edge solutions to address our biggest healthcare challenges."

Applications will be accepted from throughout the Partners HealthCare network, comprised of 66,000 employees and over 10,000 clinicians. External applicants with at least one team member affiliated with Partners are welcome to apply. Challenges run in approximately four month cycles throughout the year, with the next phase starting Spring 2017. Proposals are evaluated based on innovation, applicability and potential to disrupt the status quo of healthcare delivery. The review committee seeks novel ideas that may include a device, mobile-based application or other technology-enabled approach to care delivery.

"CHIC represents a significant investment and support for our employees, to develop ideas to revolutionize healthcare delivery within our system," added Kamal Jethwani, MD, MPH, Senior Director, Connected Health Innovation, Partners HealthCare. "By providing mentorship, support and talent from our Innovation team, we will help our colleagues realize their ideas in record time and apply their expertise to making these ideas work at scale."

Selected teams will participate in a two-day workshop with Partners Connected Health Innovation leaders, and receive tools and guidance on user-centered design, to help further develop their ideas. Four teams will pitch their ideas to a panel of key decision makers from the Partners system, as well as industry experts.

One winner out of the four teams will receive a range of user-centered design, development and analytic services from Partners Connected Health, valued at up to \$200,000, to help bring their ideas into early stage prototype. The winners will also be invited to showcase their work at the [2017 Connected Health Conference](#), October 25-27 in Boston, co-hosted by the Personal Connected Health Alliance and Partners Connected Health.

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"As a key collaborator within the Partners network, we are helping to create an environment of innovation. CHIC provides the right ingredients, resources and expertise to inspire and support our colleagues to bring their early-stage ideas to life," added Joseph C. Kvedar, MD, Vice President, Connected Health, Partners HealthCare. "Partners HealthCare innovators will gain visibility to industry leaders and decision makers, access valuable resources and have the opportunity to showcase their ideas at the Connected Health Conference, a global stage for advancing connected health."

### **2016 Pilot CHIC Winner**

A team from Massachusetts General Hospital, led by Alden Doerner Rinaldi, MD, was the 2016 CHIC winner for their idea, Embodie, a virtual care concierge that extends a care team's capacity to deliver high-touch, high-value care for people living with serious illness. The second place team, a collaboration between Brigham and Women's Hospital and the MIT Media Lab, was recognized for a simple to use, rapid, low cost technology to screen and diagnose Peripheral Artery Disease.

The Partners Connected Health Innovation team includes user-centered design experts, software developers, clinical researchers and data analysts who work to deliver breakthrough research and person-centric innovation to companies, organizations and healthcare providers focused on helping people live healthier lives.

For more information about the Connected Health Innovation Challenge, please visit the [CHIC website](#).

### **Partners Connected Health**

[Partners Connected Health](#), at Partners HealthCare, is leveraging information technology – mobile phones, tablets, wearables, sensors and remote health monitoring tools – to deliver quality patient care outside of traditional medical settings. Partners Connected Health programs are also helping providers and patients better manage chronic conditions, maintain health and wellness and improve adherence, engagement and clinical outcomes. The Connected Health team creates and deploys mobile technologies in a number of patient populations and care settings, and is conducting innovative research studies to test the effectiveness of mobile health technologies in various clinical applications, including medication adherence, care coordination, chronic disease management, prevention and wellness.

### **Partners HealthCare**

[Partners HealthCare](#), an integrated health system founded by Brigham and Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital, includes two academic medical centers, community and specialty hospitals, a managed care organization, community health centers, a physician network, home health and long-term care services, and other health care entities. Partners HealthCare is committed to patient care, research, teaching, and service to the community. Partners is one of the nation's leading biomedical research organizations and a principal teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School.

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