



Eastern
Health

NEWS RELEASE

Eastern Health Partners in Trial to Help Patients with Congestive Heart Failure

April 15, 2021 – St. John's, NL: Eastern Health announced today that it has begun its first innovation trial through the Living Lab with JVPLabs. This trial is examining the efficacy of enabling the monitoring of patients with congestive heart failure in their own homes.

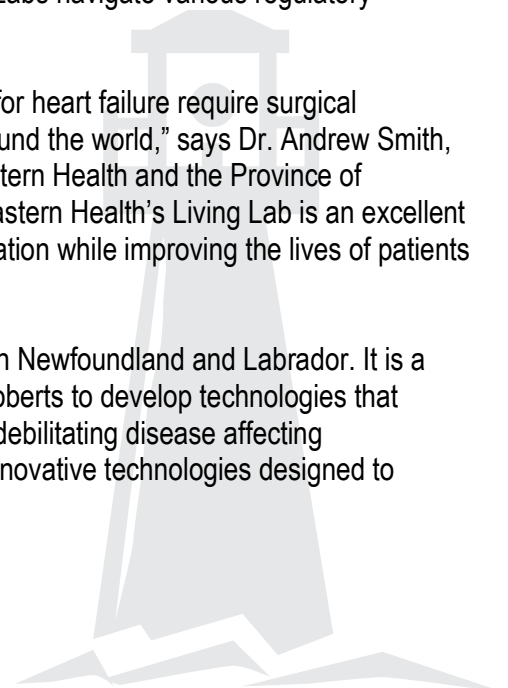
JVPLabs has developed the JVPHome, an innovative remote monitoring solution enabling patients to monitor their heart failure from their home. The JVPHome can predict when a patient with heart failure is at high risk of becoming ill, enabling their physician to adjust medications in order to keep the patient feeling well at home and out of hospital. The importance of home monitoring technologies has increased as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“When Eastern Health launched the Living Lab concept in February 2020, we wanted to ensure we provided an environment that encourages innovative solutions for the benefits of our patients,” said David Diamond, President and CEO for Eastern Health. “We know that patients can recover better when they are home and so we are pleased that this partnership is evaluating technologies to support positive outcomes. Eastern Health values partnerships and seeks to provide opportunities for innovative companies to conduct important and vital research in medical device development and validation.”

Eastern Health's Healthcare Innovation Team facilitates emerging high-impact innovative solutions driving systemic change in health care and supports internal and external innovation plans and projects that help drive systemic change in health care. The team is working with JVPLabs to conduct an in-clinic pilot study assessing the accuracy and precision of remote assessments of jugular venous pressure. The team has supported the development of robust trial protocol and have helped JVPLabs navigate various regulatory approvals.

“Currently available technologies proven effective for remote monitoring for heart failure require surgical implantation within the heart, and as a result, have seen slow uptake around the world,” says Dr. Andrew Smith, CEO of JVPLabs. “JVPLabs is extremely pleased to be working with Eastern Health and the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador to develop a world-class medical device. Eastern Health's Living Lab is an excellent example of leveraging the province's size to achieve economic diversification while improving the lives of patients within the province. There is strength to being small!”

JVPLabs is one of the first medical device companies to be established in Newfoundland and Labrador. It is a medical device company founded by Dr. Andrew Smith and Dr. Jason Roberts to develop technologies that improve clinical management of congestive heart failure - a chronic and debilitating disease affecting approximately 600,000 Canadians. JVPLabs is focused on developing innovative technologies designed to enhance care for patients with congestive heart failure.



The goals of Eastern Health's Innovation Strategy are to improve health-care services and programs through the application of innovative solutions; maximize health systems efficiencies and minimize associated costs by leveraging the innovation ecosystem to build partnerships and generate revenue; and generate economic development in the province and increase employment. For more information, please visit the [Research and Innovation](#) section of Eastern Health's website.

- 30-

About Eastern Health

Eastern Health is the largest, integrated health authority in Newfoundland and Labrador employing approximately 13,000 dedicated employees, over 600 medical staff, and is supported by approximately 2,000 volunteers, including members of numerous auxiliaries and fundraising foundations. With an annual budget of approximately \$1.6 billion, the authority offers the full continuum of health and community services including public health, long-term care, community services, hospital care and unique provincial programs and services. Serving a population of over 300,000, Eastern Health's geographic boundaries extend west from St. John's to Port Blandford including all communities on the Avalon, Burin and Bonavista Peninsulas.