

Infrastructuring home blood pressure monitoring.

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Care Infrastructure

- Self-monitoring as a collective or communicative endeavour (eg Fiore-Gartland & Neff, 2015 Lonborg & Frandsen, 2015; Ruckenstein, 2015; Sharon & Zanbergen, 2015).
- Domestication of clinical technologies and medicines - eg Oudshoorn (2012), Hodgetts et al (2010)
- Infrastructures of care (Danholt and Lanstrup, 2012; Langstrup 2013)
- The work of self-management – articulation, surveillance, emotional, informational (Cheraghi-Sohi et al, 2015)

Procuring and providing devices

I haven't got a blood pressure machine at the moment, my daughter has just been using it ... she loves her job, she loves teaching but she finds it's quite stressful sometimes, she's on the pill so she obviously has her checks and her blood pressure has been a bit high but she's also been feeling as though it might be going up a bit and she's been going blotchy and her head has been banging and stuff. So I've said it's probably nothing but just to keep monitoring it and just get an idea... she said I don't know whether I should be on the tablets. I said oh it's not for me to say but it's very early days now so just keep an eye on it

Staging

It went from the top, I've got a nest of tables ...
So when I was doing it like obsessively it was
on the top and then when I got a bit fed up, it
went underneath so I couldn't see it. And
then I moved it from there into the drawer, so
at that point it was, then it wasn't seen and it
was forgotten... it did like sort of go from **out
there in your face, to out of sight, and then in
the cupboard out of mind...**

Problematic visibility

I sort of wanted to make the condition disappear, not have it be a sort of daily thing. Because it does make you feel like someone who is ill when you have to use it, having medical lying round in your bedroom when you're sort of twenty something you kind of think well, so I sort of ditched it and put it back in the suitcase.

Taking readings together

Betty: We just saw that, it had come on offer in the chemist and so he says “We’ll get one and we’ll keep it if we need to use it,” and that’s what we did...[Talking about keeping records] I’m almost sure, I’m almost certain I kept some kind of a thing down We’d just do it at the kitchen table, that’s all... if one did it then the other one did it yeah...

Kate: Did one of you kind of take a lead really?

Betty: Yeah probably me because my eyes are slightly better and I could read all the things so that’s probably yeah

Attending to infrastructures in self-monitoring

- Care infrastructure – range of people, things, space
- Work of actors beyond clinicians and tracking communities – mediation and shared practices.
- Material ordering of home – emplacement, visibility and invisibility.
- Application to other self-monitoring devices and practices?