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Novartis, Qualcomm partner for Breezhaler inhaler device

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Novartis announced a collaboration with Qualcomm through its subsidiary, Qualcomm Life in digital innovation with the Breezhaler inhaler device to treat COPD. Under this collaboration, Qualcomm Life will provide the technology solution for the connectivity of the next generation of the Breezhaler inhaler, a device used for Novartis' portfolio of COPD treatments of Onbrez Breezhaler, Seebri Breezhaler, and Ultibro Breezhaler, the leading LABA/LAMA treatment.

This next generation of the Breezhaler inhaler will enable patients to have access to their own data on the use of their inhaler in near real time. The small, disposable and low power module contained within the inhaler device can detect and report usage, the time that the inhaler is used, as well as additional relevant information for patients and physicians. The module then wirelessly sends the data to the patient's smartphone and a Novartis COPD mobile application, which sends the data to the cloud, allowing patients and potentially their healthcare providers to monitor their COPD. The connected device will be ready for use by patients, with no assembly required.

"Novartis supports patients being empowered to make it easier for them to manage their chronic conditions," said Mr David Epstein, head Novartis Pharmaceuticals. He added, "By enabling near real time data capture from the patient and the connected Breezhaler device, patients can monitor their own adherence to the medication they take which is vital to their health outcomes."

Novartis aims to be the first company in respiratory medicine to offer a completely integrated, connected delivery device to provide a seamless, easy to use and simple experience for patients.

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