

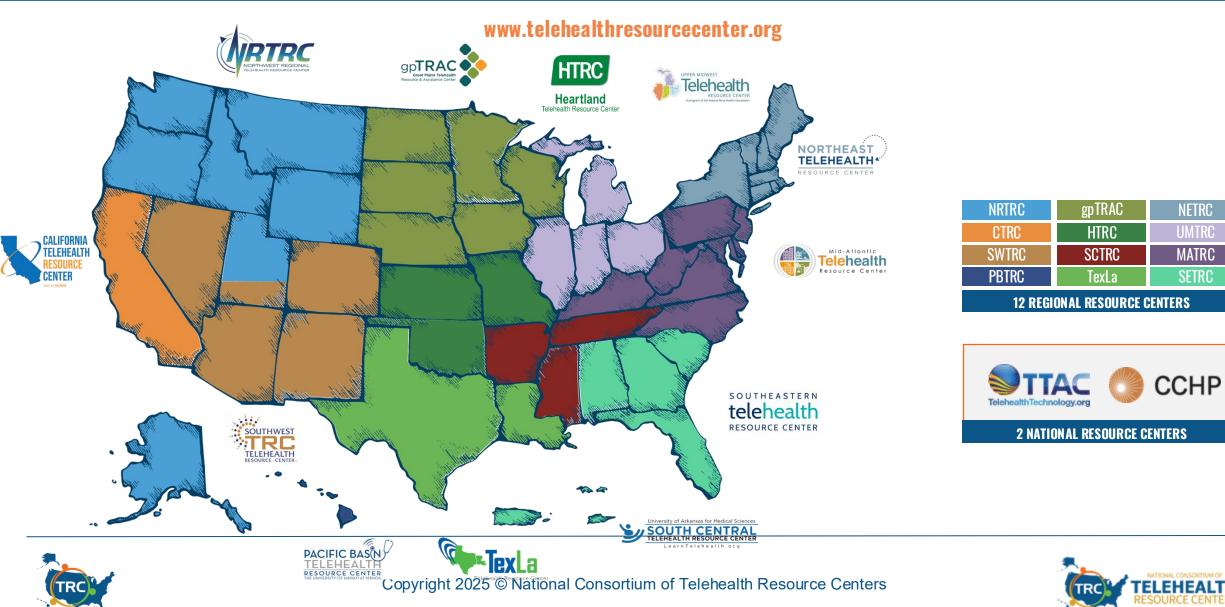
NATIONAL CONSORTIUM OF TELEHEALTH RESOURCE CENTERS

The Future of Telemedicine and Digital Health to Catalyze Care Delivery

June 12, 2025



HRSA Funded Telehealth Resource Centers



Webinar Tips and Notes

- Your phone &/or computer microphone has been muted.
- If we do not reach your question, please contact your regional TRC. There may be delays in response time: <u>https://telehealthresourcecenter.org/contact-us/</u>
- Please fill out the post-webinar survey.
- Closed Captioning is available.
- Please submit your questions using the Q&A function.
- The webinar is being recorded.
- Recordings will be posted to our YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/c/nctrc





Future of Telemedicine and Digital Health to Catalyze Care Delivery

Joseph Finkelstein, MD, PhD, FAMIA, FACMI

Arizona Telemedicine Program

DISCLOSURE

- NIH / National Library of Medicine (NLM)
- New York Center of Advanced Technology
- NIH / National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI)
- American Lung Association
- Alpha-1 Foundation
- AHRQ
- NIH / National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- CMS / Delmarva Foundation
- NIH / National Institute of Aging (NIA)
- Department of Defense
- HRSA

FACTORS AFFECTING FUTURE OF TELEMEDICINE AND DIGITAL HEALTH









State of Health and Disease in the United States

Fusion of telemedicine and digital health Big data analytics and Al

STATE OF HEALTH AND DISEASE

- Chronic diseases are the leading causes of death and disability, costing \$4.5
 trillion in annual health care expenditures.
- The US lags behind peer countries in average life expectancy (78.4 years compared with 82.5 years).
- More than 40% of adults and 20% of children are classified as obese, placing them at risk for heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and certain types of cancer.
- Nonmedical risk factors such as poor nutrition, physical inactivity, and alcohol and tobacco use contribute to high rates of chronic diseases.

HEALTH AND DISEASE IN AZ

10.6%

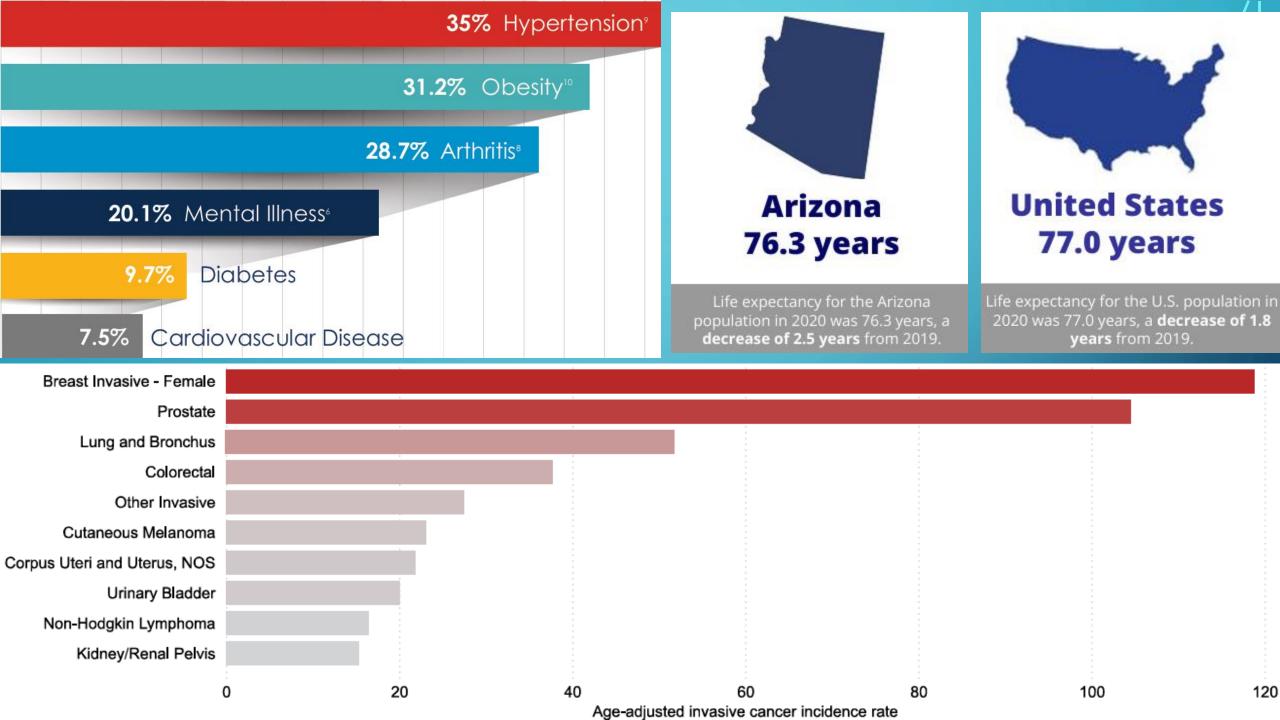
Uninsured



6.8% of adults in Arizona (368,000) reported an unmet need for mental health treatment, compared to 6.2% nationally **10.6%** of Arizona's population is uninsured, compared to **9.2%** nationally



9.2% of Arizonians reported needing to see a doctor but couldn't because of cost, compared to
9.7% nationally



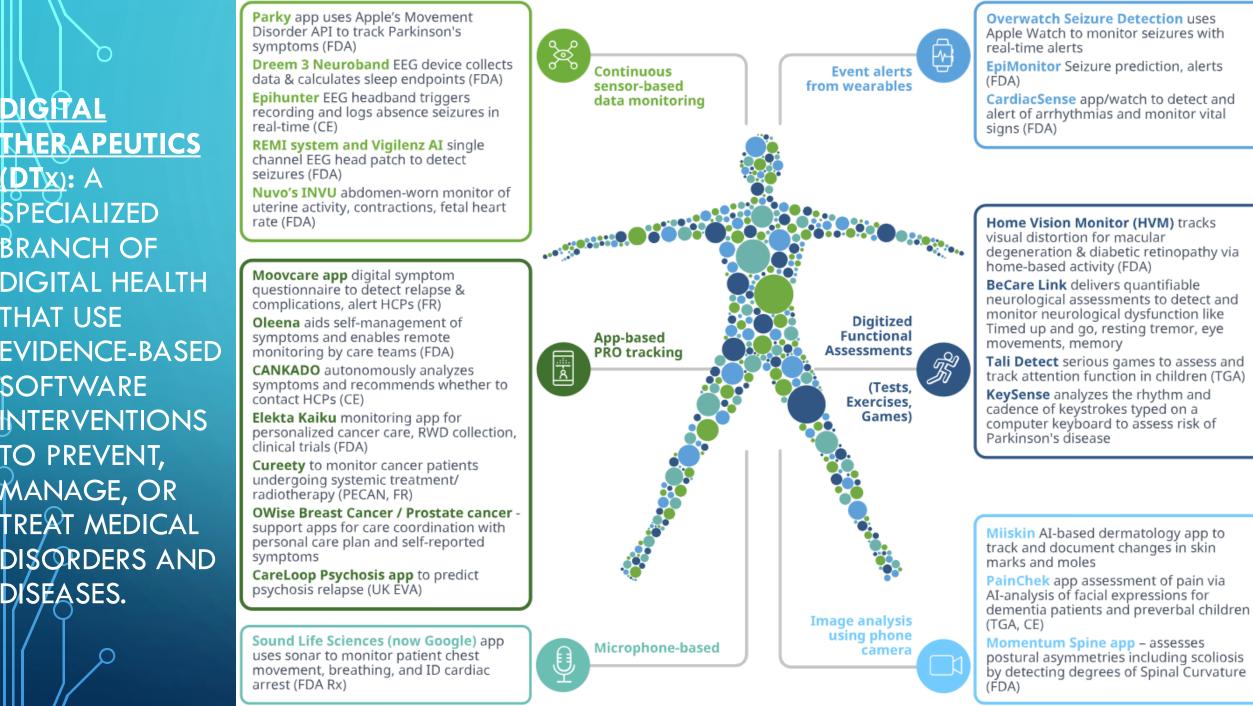
FUSION OF TELEMEDICINE, DIGITAL HEALTH & AI

MARCH 31, 2025 IN THE NEWS SOURCE: ATA AND ATA ACTION

ata

ATA ACTION ACQUIRES DIGITAL THERAPEUTICS ALLIANCE, LAUNCHES NEW ADVANCING DIGITAL HEALTH COALITION

WASHINGTON, DC, MARCH 31, 2025 – <u>ATA Action</u>, the advocacy arm of the <u>American Telemedicine Association</u> (ATA), today announced it has acquired the <u>Digital Therapeutics Alliance</u> (DTA). DTA is the leading international organization focused on expanding access to digital therapeutics (DTx). The combined organization creates a strong platform for policy and advocacy, focused on advancing innovative technologies that are transforming patient care. The Boards of Directors of the ATA, ATA Action and DTA unanimously approved this transaction.



BRANCH OF DIGITAL HEALTH THAT USE **EVIDENCE-BASED** SOFTWARE INTERVENTIONS TO PREVENT, MANAGE, OR TREAT MEDICAL DISORDERS AND DISEASES.

DIGITAL

(**DT**x): A

SPECIALIZED

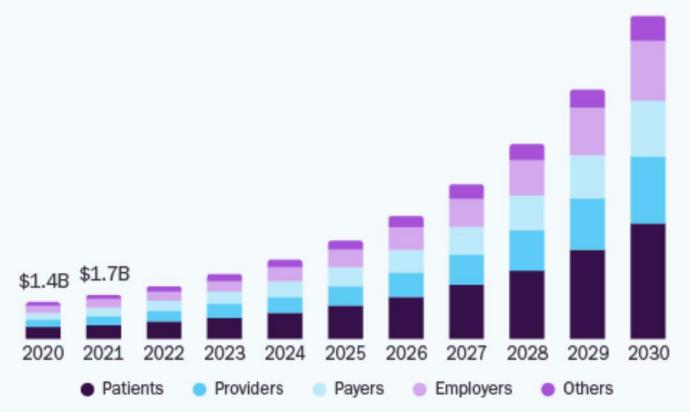
DTx **MARKET**

The global DTx Market size

- **\$4.20** billion in 2022.
- Estimated to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 26.1% from 2022 to 2030.
- The revenue forecast in 2030
 - \$32.51 billion

North America Digital Therapeutics Market

size, by end-use, 2020 - 2030 (USD Billion)



Unlike general wellness apps, digital therapeutics undergo rigorous clinical trials to prove their efficacy and safety, often receiving regulatory approval much like traditional medical treatments.

Roles and Capabilities of DTx Solutions

Collection of preventative care measures:

• For individuals at high risk of chronic or severe illnesses, such as providing weight management and exercise guidance for diabetes patients.

Sources of health information:

• For guiding diagnostic and treatment decisions, such as daily reports submitted by patients with depression.

Solo or combined treatments:

• Or those combined with conventional therapy, such as digital smoking cessation programs.

Monitoring and recording symptoms:

• Approaches for continuously enhancing treatment plans and health conditions, such as managing blood pressure in individuals with hypertension..

Prescription Drug Use-Related Software (PDURS)

PDURS	Non-PDURS Software	PDURS Promotional Software	PDURS FDA-Required Labeling	Drug-Software Combination
Description of Software	 Various intended uses or patient support functions Can be used with general classes of drugs 	 Disseminated with Rx drug No added clinical effect to the drug or potential for harm 	 Disseminated with Rx drug Provides meaningful clinical benefit to Rx drug Software is included on drug labeling (in clinical studies section) 	 FDA approved as part of a drug - led combination product The software is essential to the intended use of the drug Software is included on labeling (in the drug/device description)
Sponsor	Software or drug manufacturer	Drug manufacturer	Drug manufacturer	Drug manufacturer
Regulatory Considerations	 No drug labeling considerations Software subject to CDRH regulatory framework for SaMD 	 Software output subject to promotional labeling requirements for Rx drugs Software subject to CDRH regulatory framework for SaMD 	 Software output subject to CDER/CBER FDA-required labeling regulations for prescription drugs CDRH is consulted for review 	 Drug-led combination product reviewed by CDER/CBER CDRH is consulted for review
Regulatory Submission	 510(k) or De Novo may be required if medical device 	Submit screen shots to OPDP prior to dissemination of software	NDA or BLA Supplement	New NDA or BLA
Clinical Evidence	 Clinical evidence may be required by CDRH if medical device 	Clinical evidence may be required by CDRH if medical device	Adequate and well-controlled study required by CDER/CBER	 Phase 3 RCT generally required by CDER/CBER
Examples	 Unbranded companion apps Insulin dosing calculator software Digital therapeutics for MDD in patients on anti-depressants and OUD on buprenorphine 	 Branded companion apps Disease self-management Medication/injection support 	 Dose optimization Side effect management Behavioral support Flare prediction 	 No combos with "pure software" Many drug-device combos with device-connected software (e.g., infusion pumps, autoinjectors)

DA Regulations on DTx, AI, and CDS Non-device CDS

Clinical Decision Support Software

Guidance for Industry and Food and Drug Administration Staff

Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning (AI/ML)-Based Software as a Medical Device (SaMD) Action Plan

January 2021

FDA U.S. FOOD & DRUG

https://www.fda.gov /medicaldevices/digitalhealth-centerexcellence/guidances -digital-healthcontent



- not intended to acquire, process, or analyze a medical image or a signal from an in vitro diagnostic device or a pattern or signal from a signal acquisition system
- is intended for the purpose of displaying, analyzing, or printing medical information about a patient or other medical information
- function is intended for the purpose of supporting or providing recommendations to a healthcare professional about prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of a disease or condition
- is intended for the purpose of enabling the healthcare professional to independently review the basis for such recommendations

AI USE CASES: DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT PLANS

Diagnosis

- to assist in the diagnosis of patients by providing
- crecommendations based on symptoms and medical history
- To analyze images, such as X-rays, CT scans, diagnostic test results, etc.
- Patients can upload the images to a secure server, and the AI system will provide recommendations to the physician.

Treatment Plans

- To develop personalized treatment plans for patients based on their individual needs and medical history
- Can take into account the patient's preferences, such as type of treatment, location, etc
 - To identify which treatments are most effective for each patient





AI USE CASES: TELEMONITORING & PATIENT ENGAGEMENT

Telemonitoring

- To monitor patients remotely, checking their vital signs and providing early detection of potential health problems
- To identify which patients are at risk of certain conditions and need further monitoring
- To use a combination of self-reported and device-generate data
 Patient Engagement
- To improve patient engagement by providing reminders for appointments, medication adherence, and follow-up care
 Al chatbots can provide answers to common questions and help to schedule appointments.



AI USE CASES: DISEASE MANAGEMENT & TRAINING

Chronic Disease Management

- To support the management of chronic diseases such as diabetes,
- hypertension, and heart disease



- To provide personalized care plans and reminders, track progress, and offer feedback to patients
- To predict patient outcomes, such as the likelihood of developing complications, and to identify early warning signs.
 Medical training
- To customize clinician training through personalized online courses
- To focus on individual improvement areas
- To generate synthetic content
- To simulate real-world scenarios
- To integrate AR/VR into training



AI-ASSISTED TELEMEDICINE SESSION

Al chatbot helps gather patient information and book virtual meetings.



Appointment Scheduling

Al chatbot helps pre-populate check-in forms and questionnaires.



Virtual Check-in

Al chatbot conducts pre-assessment by analyzing symptoms.

Al computer vision helps analyze medical images like X-rays, CT scans, or MRIs.



Virtual Consultation

Al decision support system delivers insights and data-baked recommendations. Al chatbot handles patient checkout and prescription refill.

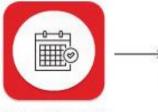


Check-Out and Payment

GEN AI CAN SAVE TIME AND MONEY

ON-SITE MEDICAL CONSULTATION

2 hours (120 min)



Appointment Scheduling 10 min

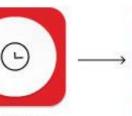
Travel to Clinic 45 min

10 min

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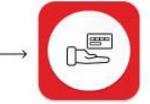
10 min



Waiting Room Time 15 min



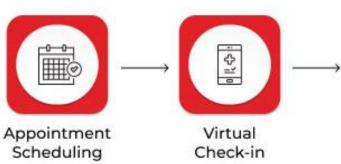
Physical Check-up 30 min



Check-Out and Payment 10 min

TELEMEDICINE SESSION

(55 min)



5 min



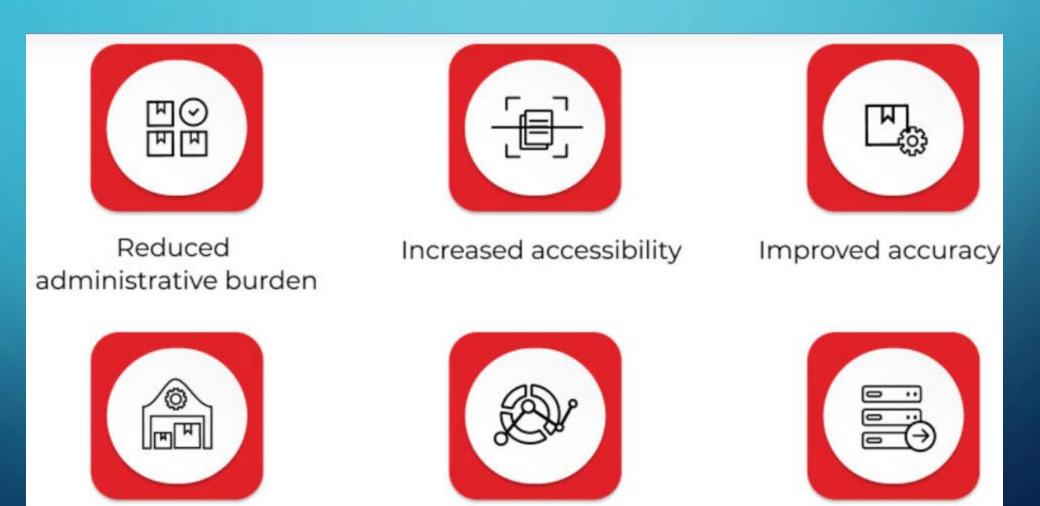
Virtual Consultation 30 min



Payment 10 min



BENEFITS OF AI IN TELEMEDICINE AND DIGITAL HEALTH



Automated monitoring

Predictive analysis

Reduced costs

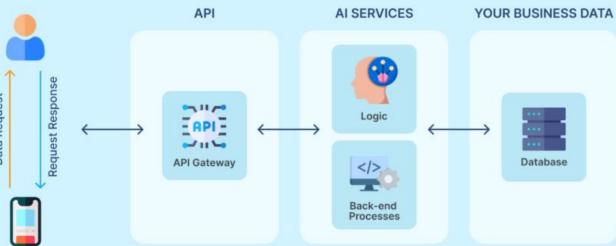


Augmented or Autonomous mode
Al explainability
Al governance
Data security, compliance & regulation





EXAMPLES OF TELEMEDICINE AI APPLICATIONS

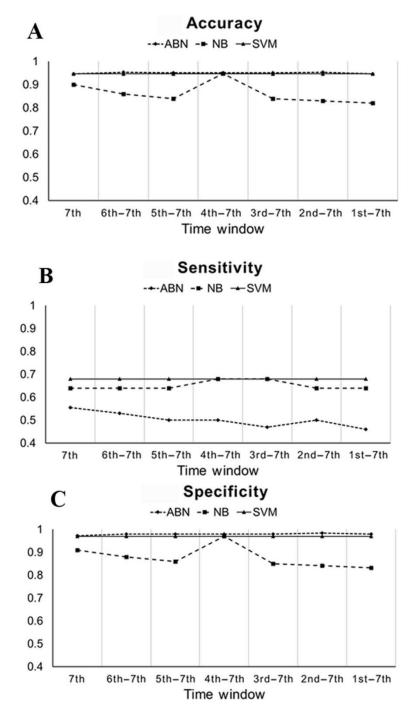


- Patient level
- Provider Level
- System Level

PREDICTION OF ASTHMA EXACERBATION USING TELEMONITORING DATA

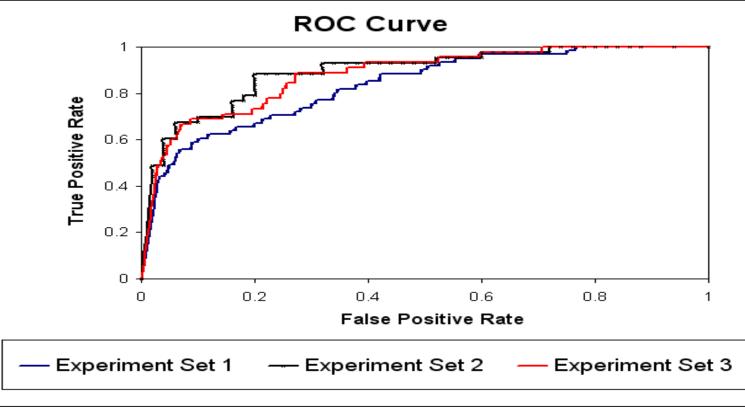


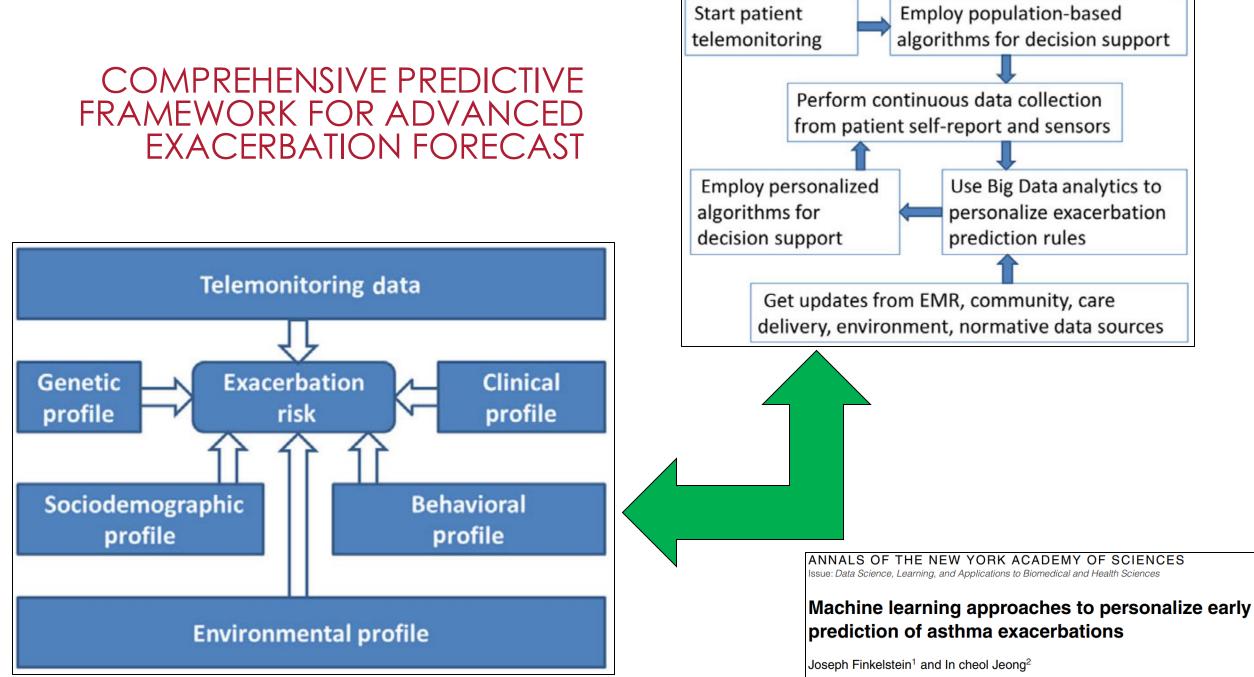
	Ν	Diary Question
$ \setminus \bigcirc$	1	Wheeze
	2	Cough
$\backslash \Diamond$	3	Sputum production
	4	Chest tightness
	5	Shortness of breath
€ 2023.09	6	Limitation of physical activity
314 Device connected Expected PEF Value 970 Jan TH AN THE AN PH AN	7	Over-all use of quick-relief inhaler
800	8	Exposure to your asthma triggers
	9	Over-all estimate of your asthma today
0 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	10	Do you have a cold?
30 Min Min Min Min Min Min Min 0 WELL WORSE CatTLCAL 2023/09/04 PM MILL 400 L/min L EVI	11	How many puffs of quick-relief inhaler did you take during last 24 hours?
V YES NO Note	12	How many puffs of preventive medicine did you take during last 24 hours?
	13	Did asthma bother your sleep?
Sonmol	14	How many times did asthma wake you up last night?
	15	How many puffs of quick-relief inhaler did you take during last night?
/ φ	16	How many times did you use quick-relief inhaler during last 24 hours?
	17	How many tablets of prednisone did you take during last 24 hours?
$\left(\right) \right) $	18	How many times did you use nebulizer during last 24 hours?
	19	When did you use quick-relief inhaler last time?
Finkelstein, 2007, 2013, 2017	20	How many puffs of the second controller medicine did you take during last 24 hours?



TIME WINDOWS IN THE PREDICTION MODEL

				Тур	e of classifier	•			
	AdaptiveNaïve BayesianSupport Vector MagestanBayesian NetworkClassifier			·			Vector Mac	hine	
Dataset	1	2		1	2		1	2	
Accuracy	0.949	1.000	1.000	0.823	0.807	0.772	0.952	0.817	0.803
Sensitivity	0.672	1.000	1.000	0.639	0.797	0.800	0.455	0.860	0.844
Specificity	0.968	1.000	1.000	0.835	0.820	0.771	0.982	0.780	0.802





¹Department of Biomedical Informatics, Columbia University, New York, New York. ²Chronic Disease Informatics Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland

Leveraging Convolutional Neural Networks for Predicting Symptom Escalation in Chemotherapy Patients







IMPORTANCE OF SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT: ESSENTIAL FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN CANCER CARE.

COMMON SYMPTOMS: PAIN, FATIGUE, NAUSEA, ETC., SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACT TREATMENT ADHERENCE AND PATIENT COMFORT. ROLE OF ML: MACHINE LEARNING ENABLES EARLY PREDICTION, AIDING IN TIMELY INTERVENTIONS FOR SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT.

PERFORMANCE METRICS OF THE CNN MODEL FOR VARYING INTERVAL LENGTHS (N) FROM 3 TO 7 DAYS

n	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1 Score	AUC
3	0.79	0.85	0.79	0.82	0.84
4	0.78	0.85	0.79	0.82	0.83
5	0.75	0.83	0.78	0.80	0.79
6	0.77	0.84	0.82	0.83	0.81
7	0.75	0.84	0.78	0.81	0.79
				Bioengineering 20	024;11(11):1172.

Deep Learning algorithms for the automated prediction of cycling exercise exertion levels



10	Maximal (Like my hardest race)
9	Really, Really, Hard
8	Really Hard
7	Very Hard
6	Hard
5	Challenging
4	Moderate
3	Easy
2	Really Easy
1	Rest

Features:

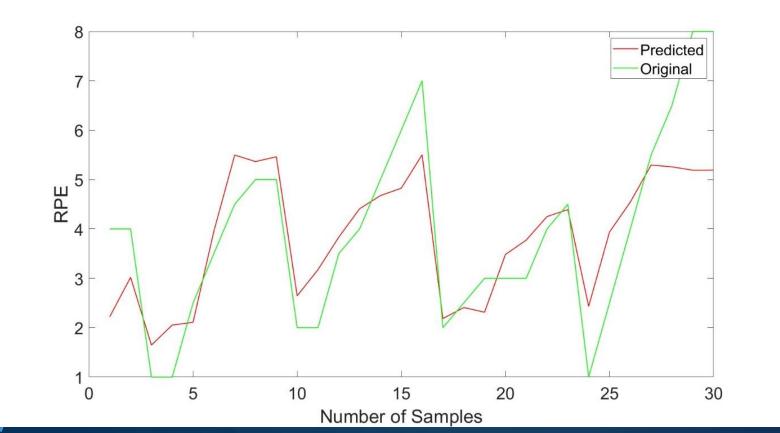
- iBikE: RPM
- Wearables: ECG, Pulse rate, and blood oxygen saturation

Response:

- high exertion (RPE >= 3.5)
- low exertion (RPE < 3.5)

Class	Precision	Recall	F1 Score
Class I			
(RPE < 3.5)	0.83	0.9	0.87
Class II			
(RPE >= 3.5)	0.94	0.89	0.92

LSTM OF CLASSIFICATION MODEL



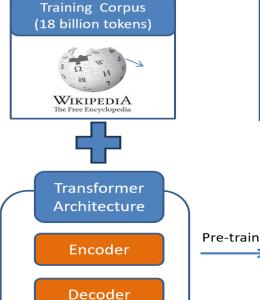
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LSTM REGRESSION MODEL

Diagnostics 2024;15(1):52.

USE OF LARGE LANGUAGE MODELS TO IDENTIFY DISEASE

	Body		Preci			
	System	Description	sion	Recall	F1	Accuracy
	CIR	Disease of the circulatory system	0.83	0.95	0.88	0.86
	INF	Certain infectious and parasitic diseases	0.88	0.87	0.88	0.88
	NEO	Neoplasms	0.93	0.79	0.85	0.87
	RSP	Diseases of the respiratory system	0.83	0.84	0.84	0.83
1	NVS	Diseases of the nervous system	0.84	0.81	0.82	0.83
	DIG	Diseases of the digestive system	0.83	0.78	0.8	0.81
	GEN	Diseases of the genitourinary system	0.9	0.71	0.8	0.81





BERT

origin

Pre-train

ClinicalBERT

Finkelstein, 2024

Using Machine Learning to Identify No-Show Telemedicine Encounters

Patient profiles from "No-Show" and "Present" encounters							
	No	o-Show		Present			
	Enco	ounters		Enco	Encounters		
	Ν	percent		count	percent		
Previous no show							
				24599			
0 times	4171	81.4%		9	97.6%		
1-2 times	605	11.8%		5142	2.0%		
3 or more times	348	6.8%		1028	0.4%		
Race							
Asian	269	5.2%		15126	6.0%		
Black	1077	21.0%		31392	12.4%		
Others	2253	44.0%		87517	34.7%		
				11813			
White	1525	29.8%		4	46.8%		
Borough							
Bronx	658	12.8%		18916	7.5%		
Brooklyn	757	14.8%		42537	16.9%		
Manhattan	2155	42.1%		87279	34.6%		
Others	923	18.0%		75508	29.9%		
Queens	631	12.3%		27929	11.1%		

Patient profiles from telehealth encounters before and during pandemic

		Pri	or	Durin	ıg
Count		17	727	135,6	604
Age		40	.70	49	.46
Comorbid	ities	0	.50	1.	.24
Sex	Prio	r	Du	ring	
Female	65.	.4%	6	60.7%	
Male	34.	.6%	3	89.4%	
Race					
Asian	6.	9%		5.8%	
Black	6.	7%	1	1.2%	
Others	30.	.4%	3	86.6%	
White	56.	.1%	, 4	16.4%	
"No-Show"	predi	ctio	n ac	curacy	I
Model	AU		1	Accur	acy
SVM	0.	70			0.75

0.68

0.68

RF

XGB

0.81

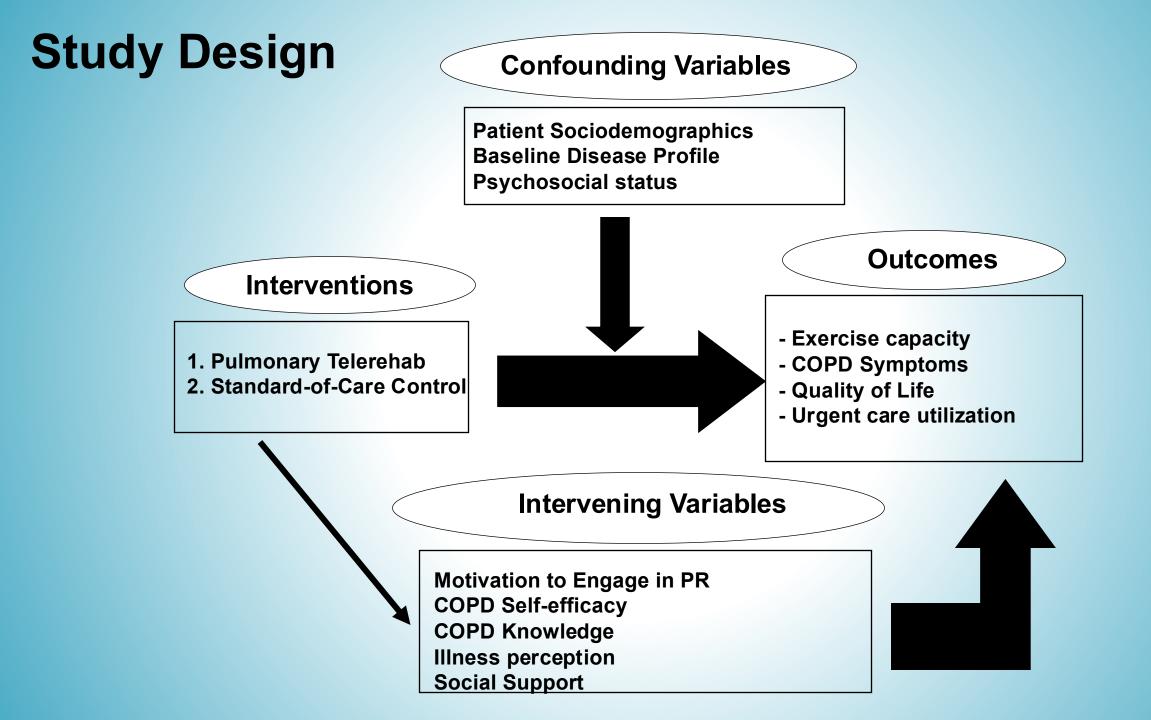
0.74

RCT: Impact of Pulmonary Telerehabilitation After Acute COPD Exacerbation

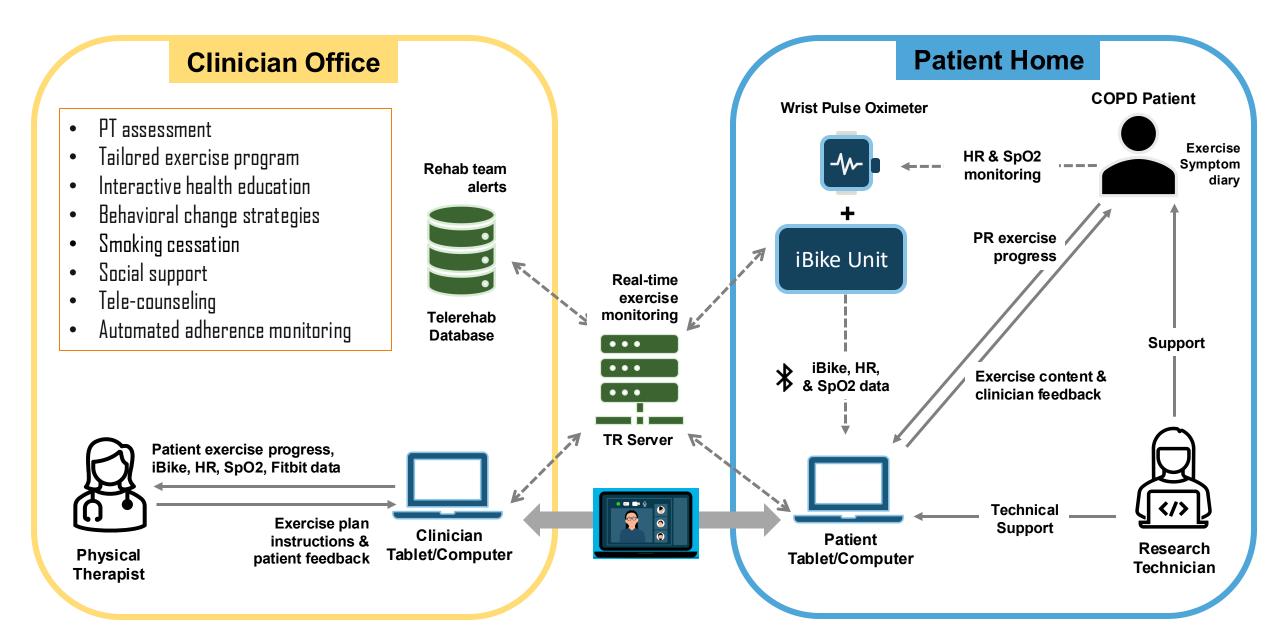
N=120	Interv	ention	Control		
Variable	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Age	69.3	14.1	70.8	10.2	
Time at school	14.8	3.7	12.8	3.6	

R61HL143317, R33HL143317

N = 120		Intervention	Control
Va	riable	Percent	Percent
<u>Gender</u>	Female	56	56
	Male	44	44
<u>Race</u>	AA	27	38
	Asian	5	3
	White	68	59
<u>Hispanic</u>	0=No	79	62
	$1 = Y_{es}$	21	38



Pulmonary Telerehabilitation



INDIVIDUALIZED EXERCISE PRESCRIPTION

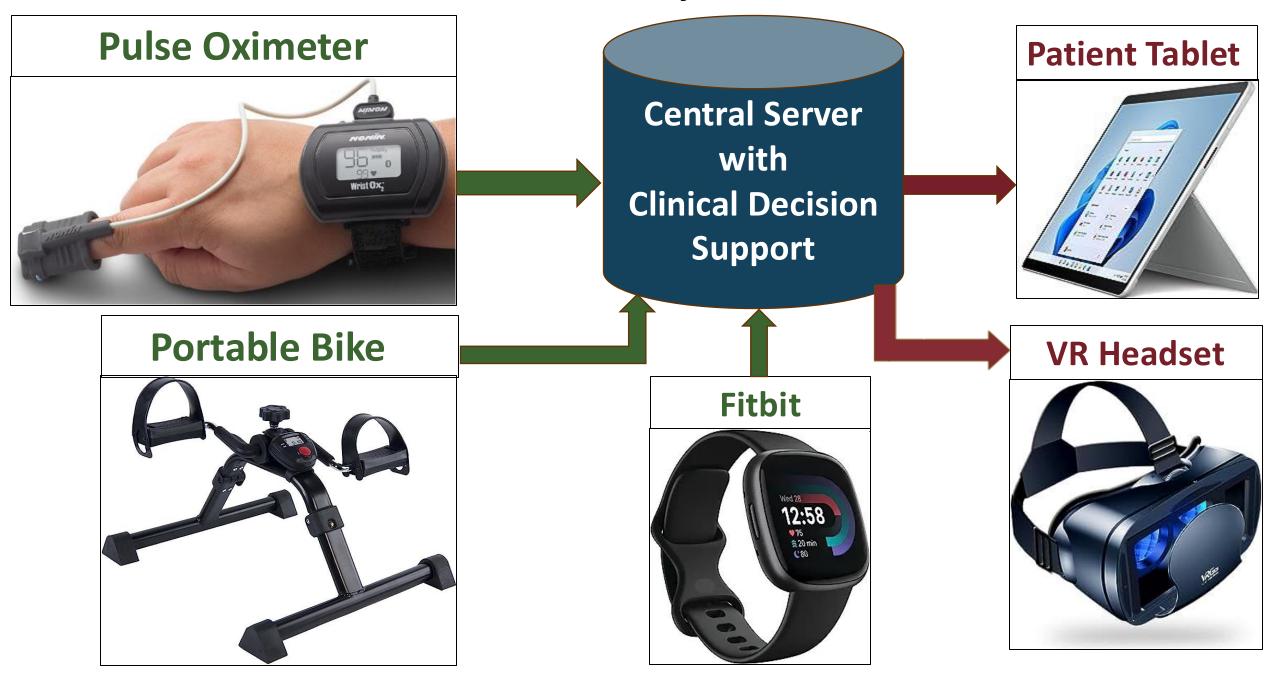
Current Exercise Plan:

Exercise	Duration(Sec) Reps	Sets	Weight	s Personalized Instruction	Del/Edit
Arm bike	300	1	1		do not go over a heart rate of 115 or a speed of //	Del Edit
Breathing with trunk flexion and extension	10	3	3	0.00	3-4 reps in the morning, afternoon and evening 🏑	Del Edit
Deep breathing	10	3	3	0.00	3-4 reps in the morning, afternoon and evening	Del Edit
stand to sit	10	3	3	0.00	3-4 reps in the morning, afternoon and evening	Del Edit

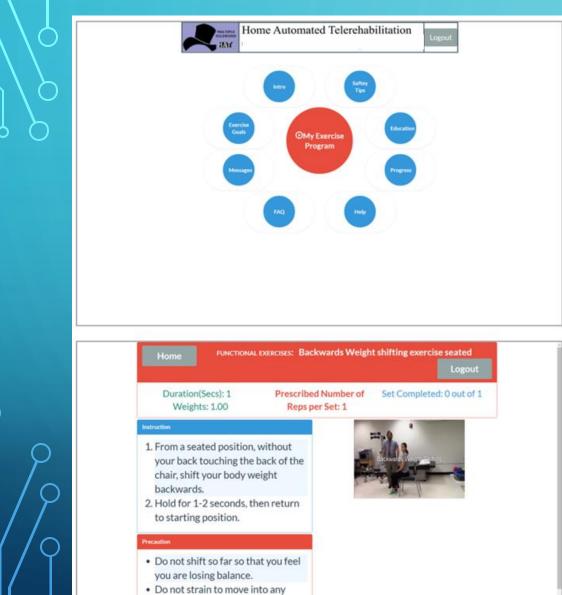
Use the Table Below to Create a New Exercise Plan:

Exercise	Duration(Sec)	Reps	Sets	Weights	Personalized Instruction	Add
COPD_BREATHING						
Active cycle of breathing (ACB)						
Deep breathing						
Diaphragmatic breathing						
Huffing						
Lateral costal expansion						
Purse lipped breathing						
Segmental breathing						

Home-Based Pulmonary Telerehabilitation Unit

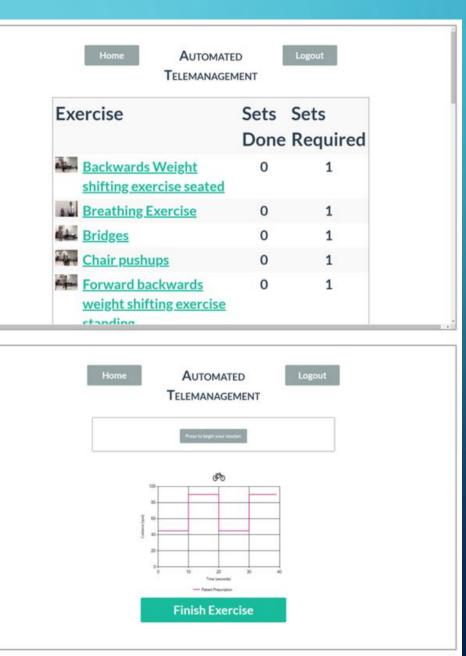


USER INTERFACE



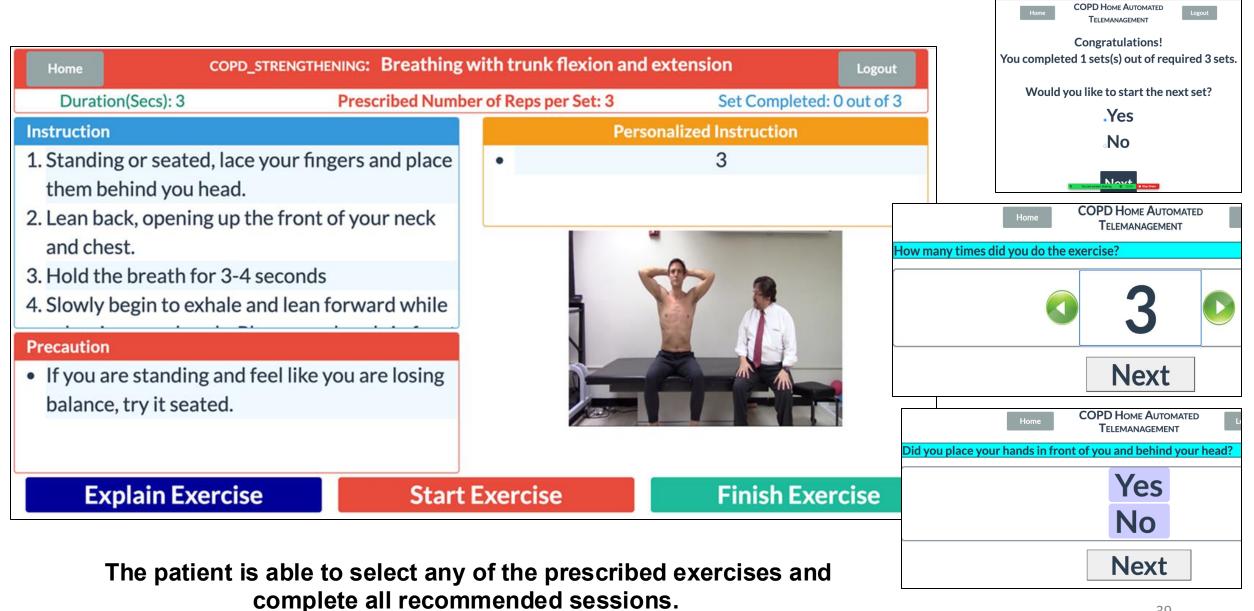
direction, but move as far as you

comfortably can.

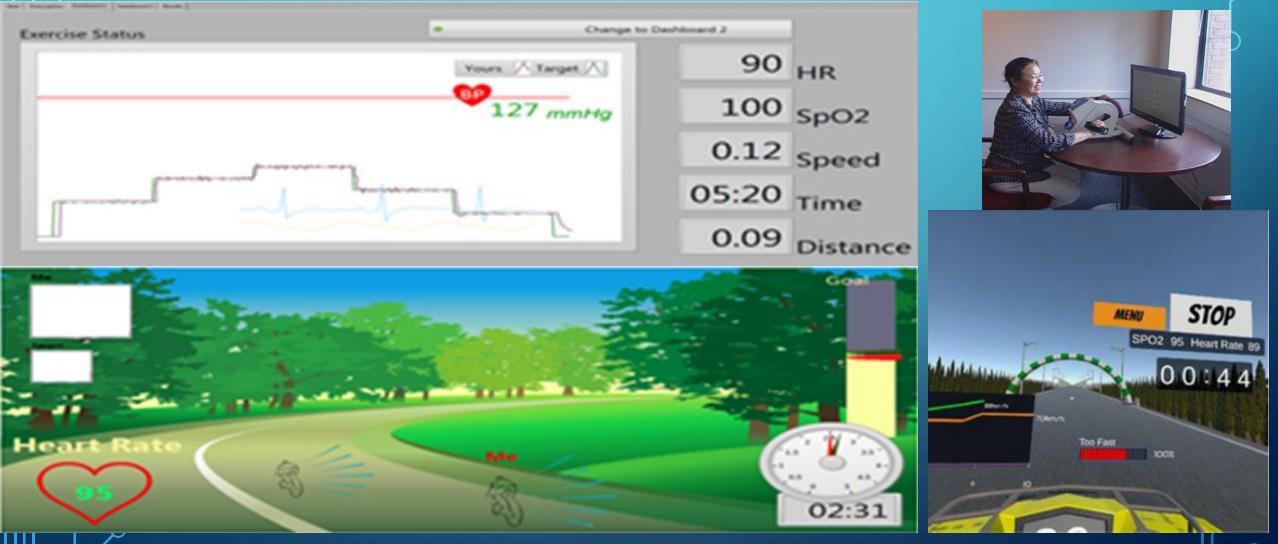


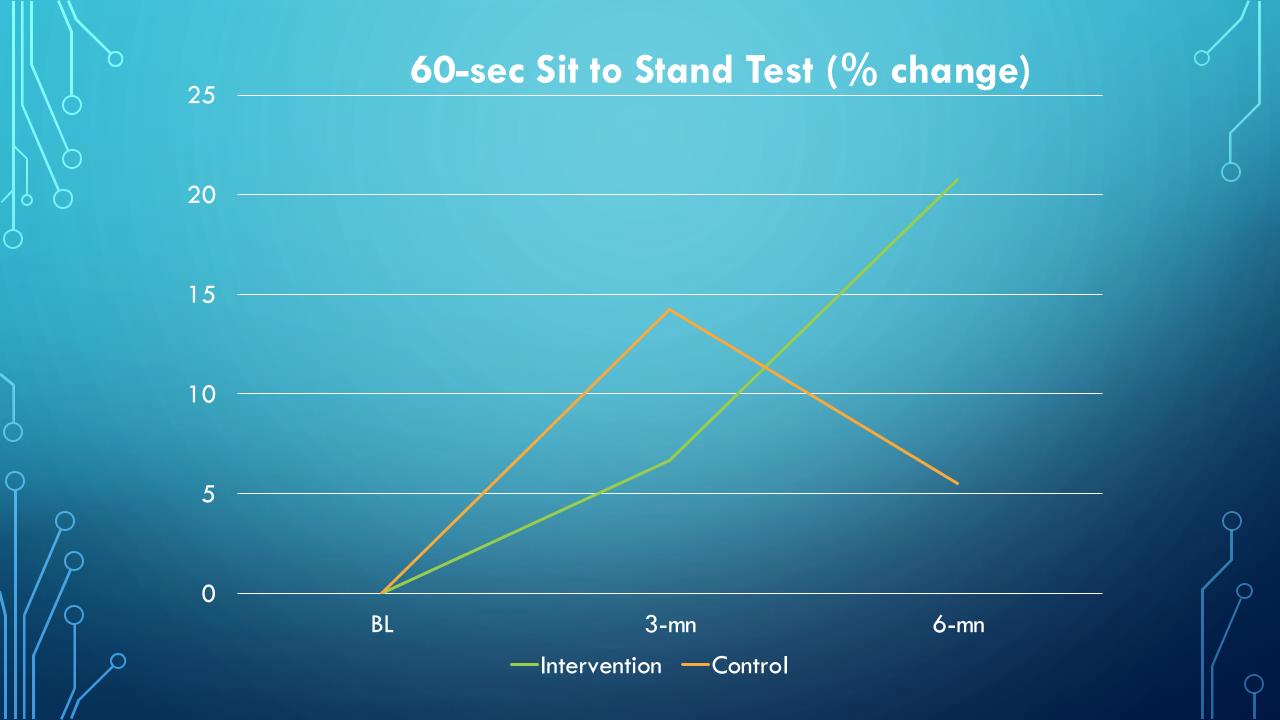
38

Exercises – Explanation, Start, and Finish Options

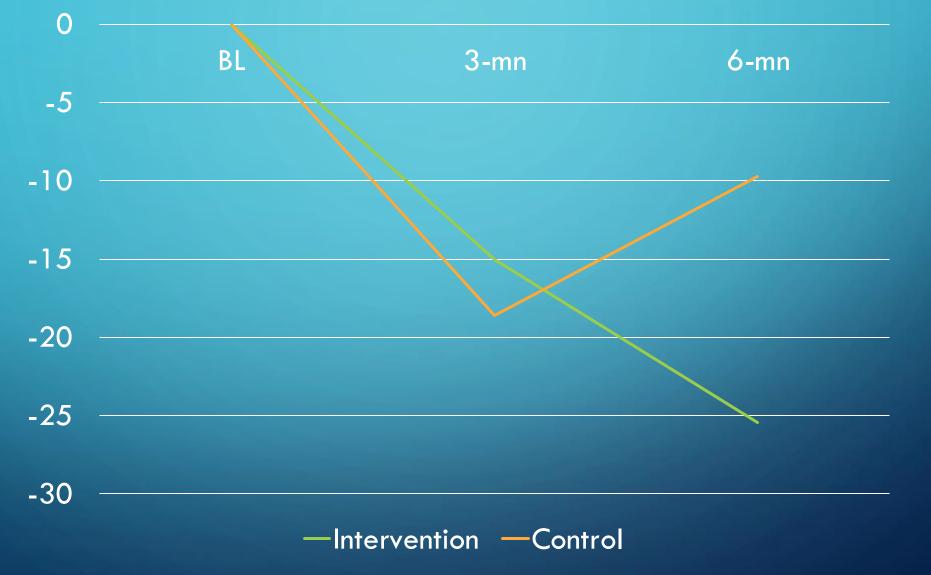


© EXERGAMING TO SUPPORT HOME-BASED REHABILITATION



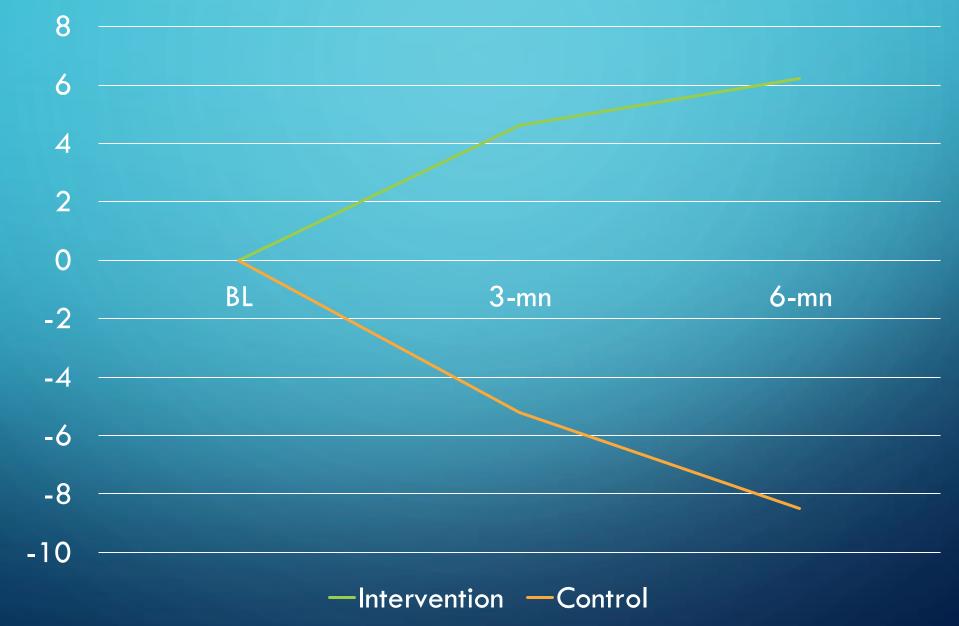


Dyspnea-12 (% change)

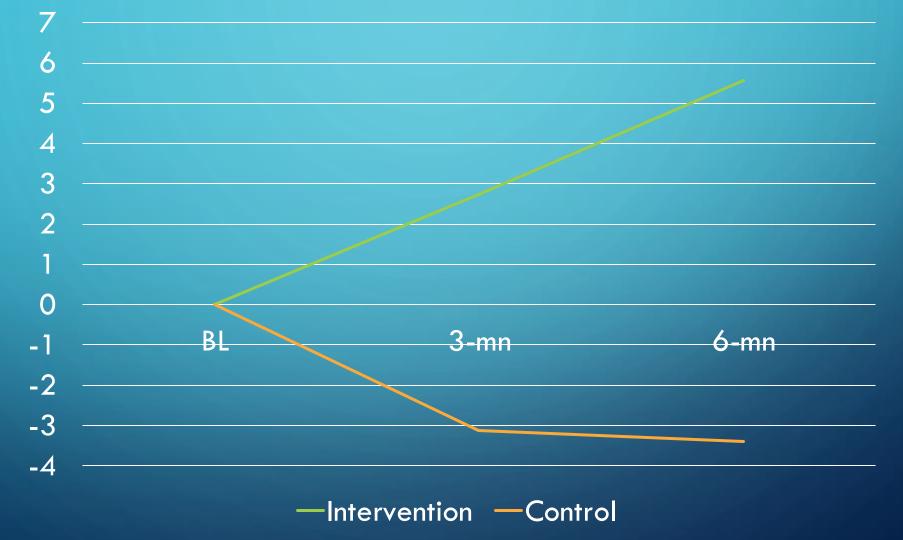


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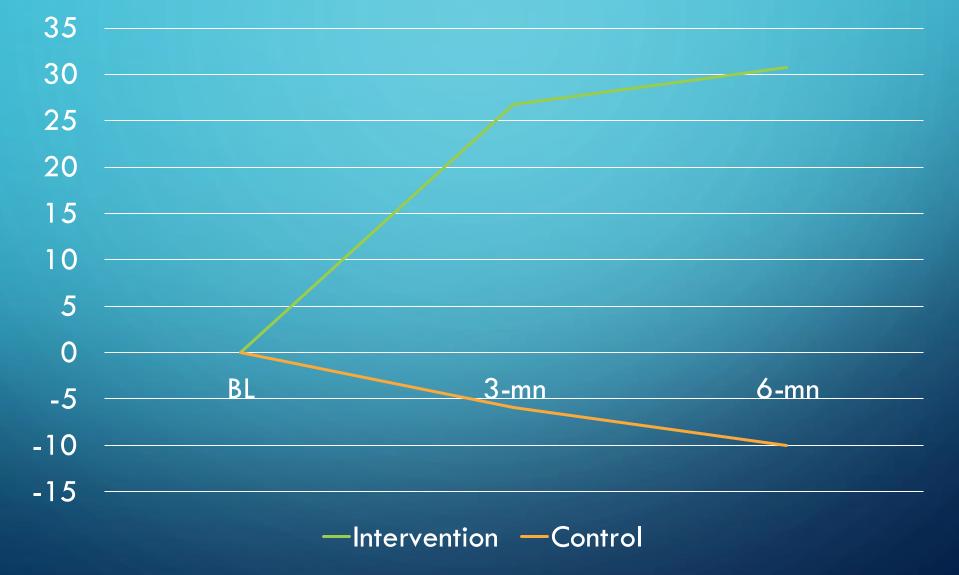
COPD Self-Efficacy (% change)

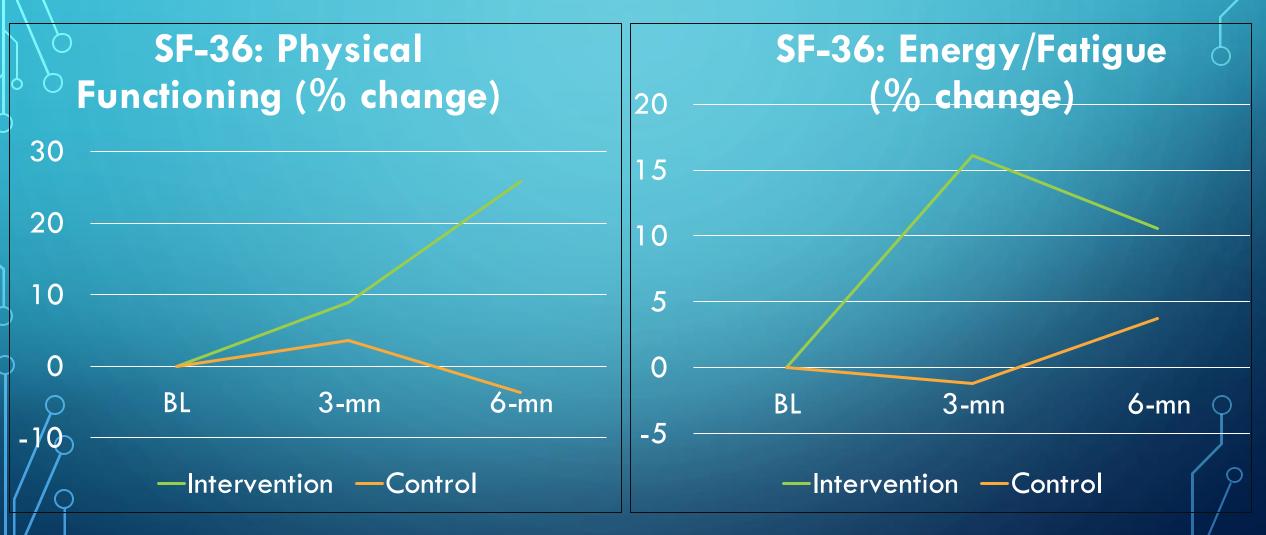


Behavioral Regulation in Exercise: BREQ-3 (% change)



UCOPD: Pulmonary Rehab Satisfaction (% change)





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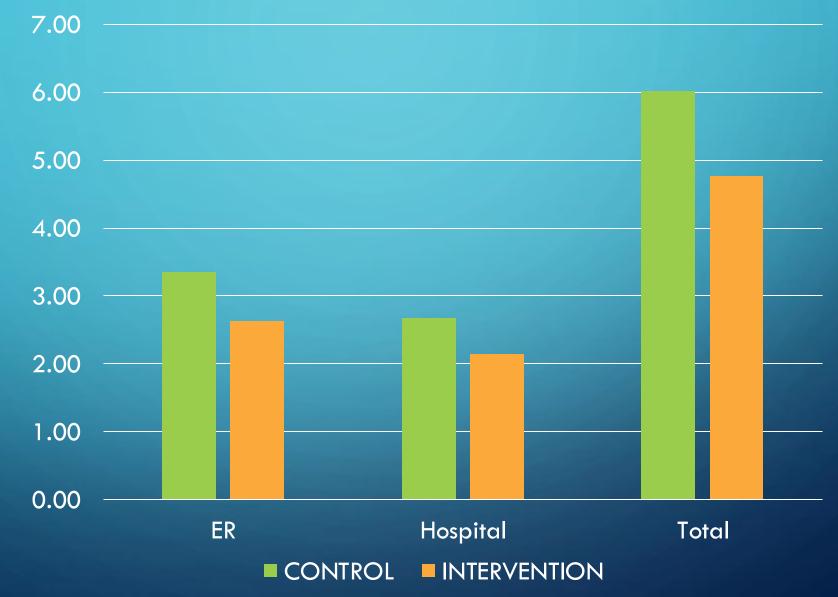
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Annual Urgent Care Utilization

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PATIENT VOICES

 "Doing the exercises with visuals helps me to focus on my breathing and how to do the exercises and helps me function a little better."

 "I think it is good because it gives me more structure about what to do, not just picking up a piece of paper and reading it. It gives me purpose"

• "The major benefit is that you feel that there is someone there helping you. I felt that there was a person there helping me."

TELEHEALTH: LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

Opportunities

- Address Barriers in Rural Health Care
- Reverse America's Chronic Disease Crisis
- Reduce Expensive and Unnecessary Trips to the ER
- Make Specialty Care Faster and More Efficient
- Provide Access to the Best Clinical Care

Trends

- Hybrid Care Models
- Al Integration
- Expanded Specialized Services (mental health/stigma, surgery, ophthalmology, rehabilitation, etc)
- Wearable Technologies, RPM, IoT
- LLM Chatbots

Areas of Research Innovation

<u>Al Integration</u>

- Predictive Analytics
- Large Language Models
- NLP-based Chatbots

• Digital Twins

Wearables & Sensors

- Contactless monitors
- Body Area Networks (BAN)

• Internet of Things

• EHR Integration

Decentralized Clinical

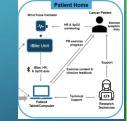


Virtual/Augmented Reality

- Education
- Counseling
- Rehabilitation
- Simulation

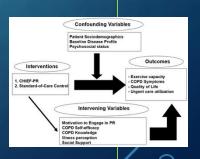
Care Delivery Models

- Testing
- Implementation
- Pragmatic Clinical Trials
- Dissemination



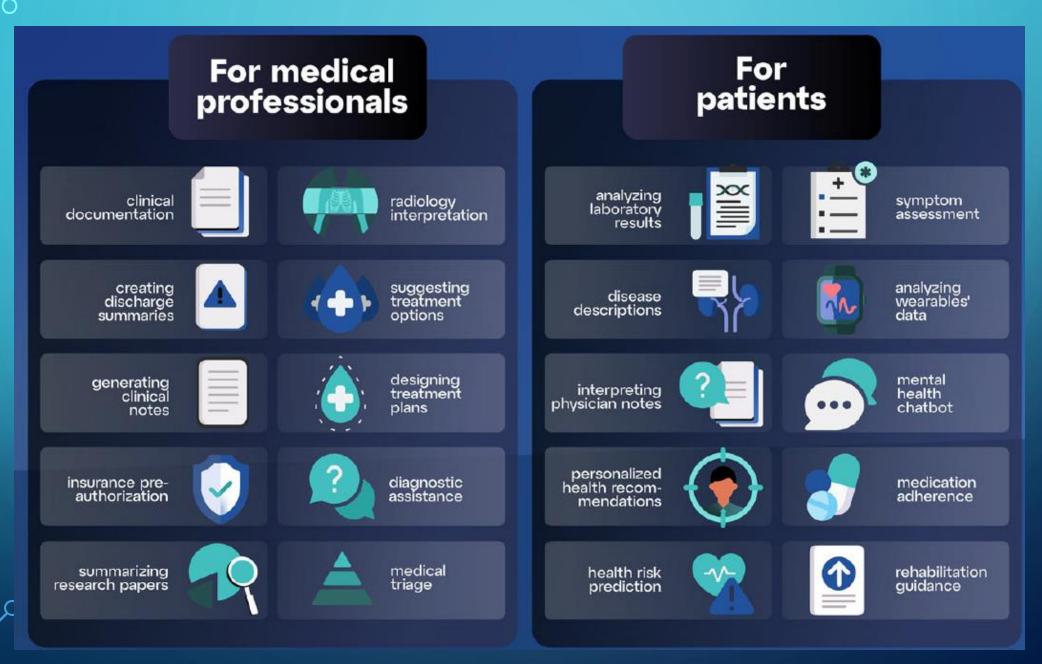
• Enrollment

• Consenting



- Survey administration
- Vital sign/test collection

FUTURE AI-ENHANCED TELEMEDICINE AND DIGITAL HEALTH



Q

TIME TO ADOPT NEW CLINICAL INTERVENTION?

The first observation that citrus cures scurvy in the British Navy occurred in 1601, with the first randomized controlled trial of citrus to treat scurvy conducted in 1747

Yet the British Navy did not adopt routine use of citrus to prevent scurvy until 1795, and the British Merchant marine in 1865

Average adoption time in current literature is about 17 years





THANK YOU!

JFinkelstein1@arizona.edu

Our Next Webinar

The NCTRC Webinar Series

Occurs 3rd Thursday of every month.

Hosting TRC: Northeast Telehealth Resource Center (NETRC) Telehealth Topic: Leveraging Telehealth in Pediatric Obesity Care: A Multidisciplinary Model with Big Impact Date: July 23, 2025 Times: 11 AM – 12 PM (PT)



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