Technology to support carers of people with dementia: local and global opportunities

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The global impact of dementia

Around the world, there will be 9.0 million new cases of dementia in 2015, one every 3 seconds.

46.8 million people worldwide are living with dementia in 2015. This number will almost double every 20 years.

68% in 2050

Much of the increase will take place in low and middle income countries (LMICs): in 2015, 56% of all people with dementia live in LMICs, rising to 69% in 2030 and 86% in 2050.

If global dementia care were a country, it would be the 18th largest economy in the world, exceeding the market values of companies such as Apple and Google.

The map shows the estimated number of people living with dementia in each world region in 2015.

We must now involve more countries and regions in the global action on dementia.

The total estimated worldwide cost of dementia in 2015 is US$ 818 billion. By 2018, dementia will become a trillion dollar disease, rising to US$ 2 trillion by 2030.

Alzheimer's Disease International
The global voice on dementia

The World Alzheimer Report 2016 was independently researched by King's College London and supported by Biogen.
2011 National Health and Aging Trends Study and National Study of Caregiving in USA

- >98% provided ADL and IADL assistance
- >70% health systems logistics
- >50% health management
- The more assistance provided the higher carer’s burden

• Riffin et al 2017
What help do we need?
Where do we go for help?
New technology = new ways to help
Lifelong participation through digital technology

Mason et al 2017, CSIRO
Accessing the internet, by age, 12 months to June (2011 and 2015)

Methods

• **Pilot beta-testing of a smartphone app**
  – assess feasibility, acceptability, impact

• **Usage monitoring & troubleshooting**
  – conducted throughout pilot testing

• **Questionnaires**
  – before & after trial period of usage

• **Focus groups**
  – gather feedback & ideas for further development
Service Navigation and Networking for people with Dementia in Rural Communities (SENDER)
Search for services

Near me now

- Bendigo Community Health Services
- Bendigo Health Care Group
- Centrelink
- Heathcote Primary Health
- McIvor Medical Centre
- Haven Home Safe
- Heathcote Health

Advanced search

Service type:
- All
- Health Professionals
- Counselling
- Social support and activities
- Transport
- Home help
- Personal care
- Respite & Accommodation
- Carer services
- Physical activity
Service information

Direct access to find a service, call, email, or write a review

Links to related pages

Contact details

Rural Northwest Health Community Health

Description:
This service provides access to a range of allied health professionals, including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, podiatry and dietitian. Nursing support including a continence nurse and district nursing services are available. The service also provides day program groups.

Address: 18 Dimboola Rd
Phone: 53961238
Email: reception@rnh.net.au
Website: http://www.rnh.net.au/your-health/community-health-districts/
Navigate to services
press the arrow button that is like the "enter" key on a computer and it will automatically send the message

Thank you for persisting Lynne. You are doing exactly the right thing! You are having a go and playing with the app functions to work it out 😄

hello clare, here. am slowly getting the hang of getting along with the tablet. at the moment it is a matter of trial and error, thanks for pointing md in the right direction. i think the app will be just great for us to use once we become familiar with it in toto. where do i find caps? byel WD Heck I FOUND IT!

I'm so pleased to see you having a go 😊. In my experience, trial and error is quite a good way to learn to use technology. It's just about trying it out and see what happens!

As you found, capitals are made by pressing the up arrow at the bottom left hand side of the keyboard.
Findings

• Users thought the app had great potential
• Older people needed help and support in learning how to use a smartphone app.
• They lacked confidence in using a smartphone and they were concerned about the costs of using smartphones
• Users made suggestions for improving the app
Conclusion

• Smartphone technology could be very useful for supporting and assisting older people
• Older people need ongoing & personalised assistance in learning how to use new technology
• In developing new technology, it is vital to gain the perspectives and ideas of older users so that the product will be useful and used by the people it is intended for
The Team and Acknowledgement

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