An Evaluation of Doctor’s Experiences With The palliAGEDgp Smartphone App

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@pallcarepharm
“Framework of palliative care”

Would you be surprised if this patient died in the next 6 to 12 months?
Methods

19 item survey:
1. GP demographics;
   - Gender, postcode, specialty
2. Usage of healthcare related smartphone apps
   - WiFi access, number of apps, enablers, barriers, why
3. Experience with the palliAGEDgp app.
   - Which parts used, satisfaction

- 1 December 2016 – 6 March 2017
- Distributed through over 50 organisations
Results

- 48/67 responses included
- 30/48 female
Results

- Australian Capital Territory: 17%
- New South Wales: 13%
- Northern Territory: 4%
- Queensland: 25%
- South Australia: 10%
- Tasmania: 2%
- Victoria: 8%
- Western Australia: 2%
- Unknown: 19%
## Results

### Usage of healthcare related smartphone Apps within the work context

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Metro</th>
<th>Regional</th>
<th>Unknown</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Smartphone platforms, no. (%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Android</td>
<td>15 %</td>
<td>6 %</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iPhone</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
<td>29 %</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Platform</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2 %</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complimentary Internet access in the workplace, number (%)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>25 %</td>
<td>21 %</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>25 %</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsure</td>
<td>2 %</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median No. of Apps, median (IQR)</td>
<td>3 (1 to 30)</td>
<td>3 (1 to 20)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IQR= interquartile range
## Results

### About the palliAGEDgp smartphone application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Neither agree or disagree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The palliAGEDgp app guides my support of palliative care</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The palliAGEDgp app is easy to use and uncomplicated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The palliative care framework used to structure the information within the application is useful</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results

Most common reason for using the palliAGEDapp

- Planning for the terminal phase of life: 81%
- Case conferencing: 13%
- Advance Care Planning: 6%
Discussion

• Most use health related apps to support patient care in their practice
• Feedback on palliAGEDgp app is favourable
  – Focus on terminal phase prescribing
  – Lower emphasis on ACP

• Responsive design
Discussion

• Limitations
  – Low response rate and selection bias
• Strength
  – Regional Australia

• Further development of app to improve navigation and utility
• Targeting GP training organisations, when marketing the app
Conclusions

• End of life care is complex – need for strategies designed to improve technological advances are critical

Recommendation

“National organisations develop a strategy to facilitate access to clinical guidance through smartphone platforms”
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