



Can mobile apps help prevent cardiovascular disease across the lifespan?

Professor Lis Neubeck School of Health and Social Care Edinburgh Napier University



Background

- Cardiovascular disease remains the biggest killer globally
- 50% of all CVD hospitalisations are repeat events
- Attendance at cardiac rehab lowers cardiovascular risk factors, improves quality of life and decreases morbidity and mortality
- Cardiac rehab is typically time-limited, facility-based and conducted in groups
- Use of mobile apps may be a solution to increase access to effective prevention
- Explosion of low-cost health-related apps that are not based on evidence



What models?

- Telehealth, home-based and programs delivered in general practice all effective
- Many services now delivering flexible models
- Mobile interventions could provide additional options for those who do not access facility-based CR



eHealth, mHealth, telehealth, Internet, mobile apps...

- eHealth- use of emerging communication and information technologies, especially Internet, to improve health and health care
- mHealth- use of mobile computing and technologies for health services and information







Quality of apps

• Overall health apps are of low quality





Healthcare apps- IMS review

- Assessed 16,275 apps
- 2/3 aimed at consumers
- Remainder are for health care professionals
- Almost half of apps are misclassified
- Evaluated type and quality of information, data tracking, communication processes and quantity of device capabilities
- On a scoring system of 0-100, average score was 40



Negative messages in mobile apps

- 107 apps promoting smoking available
 - Downloaded by >6 million users
 - Contain information about smoking
 - Share images of favourite brands
 - Advocate smoking
- Food industry developed advergames
 - Product being promoted is a reward or goal for character in a game





BinDhim et al, Tob Control 2014; Dietz, Health Aff 2013





Primordial prevention

- Establishment of healthy living patterns to prevent the emergence of risk factors
- Behavioural, cultural, environmental, economic, or social actions to minimize the potential for developing CVD risk factors
- Examples
 - targeted tobacco control programmes for non-smokers at times when they might adopt smoking behaviour, such as in childhood or adolescence
 - targeted dietary intervention in school-age children to increase fruit and vegetable consumption at home



Primary prevention

- Primary prevention specifically targets known CVD risk factors, such as smoking, excess weight or obesity, or hypertension
- Many apps, but few evidence based
- Apps for diet, fitness trackers, quit smoking...



Secondary prevention

- Limited evidence that apps effectively reduce multiple CVD risk factors
- Many apps available
- Choose reliable source, e.g. Heart Foundation
- Many pharmaceutical companies developing apps
- Takes 18 weeks to develop typical app



App use in children

- 75% children aged >8 years have access to either smartphones or tablets at home
- Although a socioeconomic gap exist for device access and ownership, it is rapidly diminishing
- 80% of high-income parents download apps for their children, whereas only 31% of low-income parents do



App use in adolescents

- Almost 80% of teenagers having their own mobile phone, half of which are smartphones
- At least half of the teenagers with a smartphone access the Internet
- predominantly via this device rather than any other
- Teenagers use apps for social media or gaming
- In a survey of 7,000 teenagers in the USA, social media apps were the most popular
- Using the principles of social connectivity might benefit young people's access to CVD prevention





Apps and older adults

- Age itself is not a barrier to app usage
- Apps have been successfully used in the older population to improve physical activity and cognitive function.
- At least 75% of smartphone users aged >65 years have downloaded an app to their device





Apps and older adults

- Challenges of complicated data-usage plans
- Apps that have not been developed for those with declining vision, reduce the likelihood of apps being downloaded and used by older adults
- Some smartphones might even be too small for older users to hold, and challenges are associated with small buttons
- Prefer to refer to a user manual





Digital divide

- 28% of the world's population currently own and use a smartphone
- 25% increase since 2013
- The rapid development in affordable technology has led to predictions that >50% of people globally will own a smartphone by 2018
- People in low socioeconomic groups retain older technologies, eg mobile telephones that can only send and receive text messages, and which do not have apps



Timeline to app development



Mobile phone apps for secondary prevention

Blasco et al.	ACS patients with 1+ cardiovascular risk factor (Spain)	Combination: Telephone, internet, risk factor monitoring by cardiologist, individualised SMS feedback
Chow et al. (TEXT ME)	Patients >18 years with CHD (Australia)	Text messages, based on American Heart Foundation guidelines, regular semi-personalised messages, individualied risk factor modification
Johnston et al. (SUPPORT)	MI patients prescribed Ticagrelor (Sweden)	Combination: Smartphone app, self-managed, risk factor monitoring, automated feedback SMS
Karhula et al.	Patients >18 years with CHD or diabetes (Finland)	Combination: Internet, health coaching, mobile phone coaching to risk factor targets, self-management
Maddison et al. (HEART)	Patients >18 years diagnosed with IHD within past 3-24 months (New Zealand)	Combination: Internet, web-based exercise intervention, self- managed, behaviour change, internet behavior monitoring, SMS encouragement
Pfaeffli Dale et al. (Text4Heart)	CHD patients with home internet access (New Zealand)	Combination: text messaging, based on CR, patient education, risk factor management, daily messages, Internet support
Varnfield et al. (CAP- CR)	Post-MI patients referred to CR (Australia)	Combination: smartphone, mentor-managed, motivational/education messages, weekly phone consultation, web monitoring with weekly consultation

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Care Assessment Platform

- RCT (n=120)
- Intervention included daily text messages, multimedia education topics, relaxation audio files, and a light-to-moderate physical activity programme
- Control was usual CR
- Participants using the smartphone app had significantly higher adherence and completion than usual CR group
- Both the intervention group and usual CR significantly improved their 6-min walking test distance (by 60 m and 47 m, respectively)
- Improved depression scores measured using the Depression and Anxiety Stress Scale
- The intervention group lost a small, but significant, amount of weight, but the difference between the groups at follow-up was not significant



TEXT 4 HEART

- RCT (n=123)
- Patients in the intervention group received a personalized 24-week mHealth program, framed in social cognitive theory, sent by fully automated daily short message service (SMS) text messages and a supporting website
- Control was standard cardiac rehab
- A significant treatment effect in favour of the intervention was observed using a self-reported composite health behaviour score at 3 months (P=.03), but not at 6 months (P=.13)
- The intervention group reported significantly greater medication adherence score (P=.004)
- The majority of intervention participants reported reading all their text messages (85%)
- The number of visits to the website per person ranged from zero to 100 (median 3) over the 6-month intervention period



TEXT ME

- RCT (n=710)
- Patients in the intervention group (n = 352) received 4 text messages per week for 6 months in addition to usual care
- Text messages provided advice, motivational reminders, and support to change lifestyle behaviours
- Control was usual care
- At 6 months risk factor were significantly improved in intervention group
 - LDL-C \downarrow 5 mg/dL (*P* = .04)
 - Systolic blood pressure \downarrow 7.6 mm Hg (*P* < .001)
 - BMI \downarrow 1.3 (*P* < .001)
 - Physical activity \uparrow 345 METS (P < .00)
 - Smoking 26% vs 44% (P < .001)
- The majority reported the text-message program to be useful (91%), easy to understand (97%), and appropriate in frequency (86%)







Conclusion

- Mobile apps can add to the suite of available options for prevention of cardiovascular disease
- Text messaging has been successful in promoting behaviour change in cardiac patients
- The technology is evolving rapidly and understanding principles is likely to be more important than awareness of every advance in technology





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SMART CR

Simon McBride Chief Technology Officer

Australian Cardiovascular Health and Rehabilitation Association Annual Scientific Meeting 2017

- Scientifically validated model of care
 - Clinical outcomes equivalent to clinic-based care
 - Improvements in uptake, adherence &
- completion
 Clinician led complement to existing care
 Increases convenience and choice for patients

CARDIH

SMART CR: Patient App



CARDIĤAB

SMART CR: Patient App

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			Lifesty and ad	le changes are e hieve when you	easier to commit to have goals to	Videos			If you are pres continue taking	cribed statins, y g them for the re	rou will need to est of your life.
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\Box	Message History								triglyceride lev cholesterol (HI	els, and increas DL) will decreas	ing your good e your risk of
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						∂ The Heart I	Foundation	>	Exercising, los	ng weight, a he	althy diet and

CARDIĤAB

SMART CR: Clinician Portal: Dashboard

000/	Simon@cardihab						
$\leftarrow \Rightarrow \ C$	C https://portal.cardihab.com/dcr/						
	Patient Management Reports						
	CARDIĤAB	New Patient All Sit	tes 🔹	Any Program Type	▪ Search Patients	- 60	Clinician Demo -
	Status	Patient	Diagnosia	s/Episode/Procedure	Program	Weekly Status	ž.
	0	Lucas, Cheryl (Mrs) Born 12-Mar-1956 (61 y URN ST67690	NSTEMI ys) Date Discharg	02-Jun-2017 e 30-May-2017	Home Start 08-Jul-2017 (Wk 5 of 6)	Review Adherence Reviews	04-Aug-2017
	NEW	Adams, Ashley (Mr) Born 04-Jan-1966 (51 y URN AB78787	ys) Date Discharg	Stable) 24-Jul-2017 e 28-Jul-2017	Home Start Not Started	Adherence Reviews	
	•	James, Steve (Mr) Born 26-Oct-1945 (71 y URN SD528393	Angiogra /s) Date	am 13-Jun-2017	Home Start 03-Jul-2017 (Wk 6 of 6)	Review Adherence Reviews	06-Aug-2017
	0	James, Joe (Mr) Born 04-Mar-1965 (52)	Angina (ys) Date	Stable) 17-Jun-2017	Start 23-Jul-2017	Review Adherence Reviews	05-Aug-2017



SMART CR: Clinician Portal: Weekly Review



CARDIĤAB

Smart CR Roadmap

- Long term recovery
 - Phase 1,2,3/maintenance
 - +12 month
- Updated messaging
 - Longer term
 - Evidence-based
- Medication adherence

- Survey capability
 - Auto follow up (3/6/12 months)
 PROMs
- Support for wearablesFitbit, Garmin, etc
- IntegrationsMyHealthRecord

SMART CR Implementation

Pre-implementation

- Educational webinars, demonstrations, site visits.
- Assistance with business case development
 - Clinical evidence
 - Economic evidence
- Implementation
 - Staff training
 - Staff help desk
 - Software maintenance

• Other specialist information (e.g. questions from IT team)

- Software updates
- Roadmap influence
- Backups, recovery
- Uptime, security

CARDIHAB

Next Steps

Visit our booth

- Demos of app and portal
- Brochures
- Register for a follow up call or webinar



Health Technologies Workshop

Time	Topic	Speaker
3.15	Introduction	Chairs: Sandy Hamilton and Robyn Gallagher
3.15	Introduction to health technology for cardiac patients and related evidence	Lis Neubeck
3.35-3.55	Australian health technologies for cardiac patients which incorporate health professional advice and/or support	Chair: Sandy Hamilton
3:35-3:40	Cardihab	Simon McBride
3:40-3:45	Telemonitoring Enhanced Care for Heart Failure	Nicole Chen/Andrew Maiorana
3.45-3.50	Avatar-based technology	Robyn Clark
3:50-3:55	Total cardiac care	Cate Ferry
3:55-4:05	 Cardiac specific apps publicly available My Cardiac Coach (AHA) My Heart My Life (NHFA) MyHeartMate (Figtree, Neubeck, Gallagher et al.,) 	Robyn Gallaher
4.05-4.15	Panel Question and Answer	Chairs: Robyn and Sandy

CHF TELEMONITORING

VITELMED – MANAGEMYHEALTH – MD ANALYZE

S. H. CHEN A. MAIORANA



Government of Western Australia Department of Health









Building a Healthy Community, in Partnership





- Rapid weight gain reflects fluid retention
- Only 40% patients monitor weight¹

1. Jaarsma T, et al. Comparison of self-care behaviors of heart failure patients in 15 countries worldwide. Patient education and counseling. 2013; 92(1):114. OI:10.1016/j.pec.2013.02.017.



FROM HOME

System Overview

CHF Nurse



MEPACS

Call Centre

Scales

Table

Process flow diagram for CHF Telemonitoring system

MEPACS call or

Questionnaire



Weight scales



Sends weight data to ManageMyHealth







Chronic Heart Failure d2.00.07(46)	Welcome Mr Richard Kennedy		■ Video	♠ Home
Please answer the following que	estions.			
Feeling unwell?		YES	N	0
More short of breath than norm	al?	YES	N	0
Short of breath while lying flat?		YES	N	0
Had any light-headedness?		YES	N	0
Ankles more swollen?		YES	N	0
			SU	BMIT



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Objectives

1.to *develop* an avatar-based education application for teaching heart attack symptom recognition and management who are at risk of a heart attack

2.to *evaluate the acceptability* of the avatar-based education application among a group of ACS patients





Action Research

- Content development
- Storyboard/App development
- Expert panel review
- Consumer group reviewed





Content development



(Heart Foundation, 2015)





45





Preliminary evaluation

Table 1: Changes in ACS response index scores (n=10)

		Pre-intervention	Post-intervention	
	Domains	Percent correct Mean±SD	Percent correct Mean±SD	Percent change
•	Knowledge	62.4 ±13.4	78.1±9.3	15.7
•	Attitude	77.0 ±5.4	97±6.3	19.5
•	Belief	73.2 ±6.1	98.9±1.7	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
•	Symptom recognition	72.5±5.6	96.7±8.1	↑24.2
•	Help-seeking	83.8 ±11.9	97.5±7.9	13.8
•	Expectation	79.4±5.2	100	1 1 2 0.6
•	Action	65.0 ± 10.9	97.5±4.0	↑ 32.5



App's satisfaction

- Easy
- Helped participants' understanding of heart attack symptoms and
- recognising and responding to those symptoms
- Increased confidence
- Liked Cora (the Avatar)
- Content is clear and concise
- Learnt something they were not taught before





mHealth to improve completion rates in a hospital-based cardiac rehabilitation program

Cate Ferry Heart Foundation NSW

The problem being addressed

Whilst home-based alternatives have successfully increased the proportion of patients who attend/complete a cardiac rehabilitation program (CRP) following a cardiac event, comparatively little attention has been devoted to reducing patient dropout rates in hospital-based CRP.

The design and purpose

- A pilot study was conducted in 2015/16 at the Prince of Wales Hospital (POWH) NSW in collaboration with the Heart Foundation NSW to determine if a smartphonebased adjunct to standard care could maintain patient engagement between CRP sessions increase the completion rate of a hospital based CRP.
- 66 participants who attended a CRP at POWH, were randomized so that half received 3 devices embedded with near-field communication, a smartphone (preinstalled with an app) designed specifically for cardiac rehabilitation, portable blood pressure monitor, and weight scale whilst completing the CRP.

Design (continued)

The Graduate School of Biomedical Engineering at the University of New South Wales designed a smartphone app 'Smartphone Technology and Heart Rehabilitation' (STAHR) in conjunction with the Austrian Institute of Technology.

The app monitored the patient's activity level, blood pressure and weight.

Android smartphone (Samsung Galaxy SIII (SG3) preinstalled with STAHR sought to maintain engagement with patients between CRP sessions (every Monday and Thursday) via an automated feedback engine that delivered messages to the participants periodically.



Peripheral devices. Once a weight or BP measurement has been completed, the smartphone can retrieve the readings using the Near- Field – Communication (tap the phone against the device) This information is then transmitted to the Kiola server.





Three screenshots from the STAHR app showing the activity timeline throughout the day (left), daily summary (centre) and weekly summary of activity (right).

Current status

- The pilot RCT confirmed the application improved the completion rates of a 12 session cardiac rehabilitation program (88% vs. 67%; p = 0.038).
- The app provides robust monitoring of patient activity, weight and blood pressure.

Mobile apps for cardiac patients

Robyn Gallagher

Table 2 Importance of CVD appleatures during unreferrent me stages					
App features	Im	portance at dif	ferent stages	s o <mark>f life*</mark>	
	Childhood	Adolescence	Adulthood	Late adulthood	
Gaming principles	+++	+++	+++	++	
Rewards	+++	++++	+++	+	
Credible information	-	+	+++	+++	
Credible referrer	 :	+	+++	+++	
Personalization	+	++	+++	++	
Self-monitoring or tracking	_	+	++	++	
Contact with health-care professionals	-	+	++	++	
Social comparison and support	+	+++	++	+	
Simplicity	+++	++	++	++++	
Privacy	-	+	<mark>++</mark> +	++++	
Concise information	-	+	++	+++	
Simple data download	-	++	++	+++	

Table 2 | Importance of CV/D cap factures during different life stages

*Importance was rated on the basis of frequency in the literature, evidence from the literature, and consensus of a multidisciplinary team of expert clinician researchers. Abbreviations: –, feature is not relevant to the target audience; +, feature of low importance to target audience; ++, feature of moderate importance to target audience; CVD, cardiovascular disease.

Neubeck, L. *et al.* (2015) The mobile revolution—using smartphone apps to prevent cardiovascular disease *Nat. Rev. Cardiol.* doi:10.1038/nrcardio.2015.34

My Cardiac Coach - American Heart Association



PURPOSE

- Provide trustworthy information from experts
- Interactive lessons to help you learn what you need to know
- Progress-trackers for monitoring blood pressure and weight
- Tools for logging physical activity and managing medications
- Connections to other survivors through our Support Network

•∞∞∞ T-Mobile 	4:47 pm	7 ∦ 33% ≻
My Lessons		
My Goals		
My Health Da	ta	
My Medicines		
Support Netv	vork	
Sponsors		
Help		
Ċ) LOG OUT	



My Cardiac Coach

0

My Health Data

+

6.6 mg/dL

Cholesterol

160.6 lbs

Weight

THIS WEEK'S LESSON

回

Lesson 3 43%

Completed

Features

•••• Telstra 😤 9:46 am 7 \$ 83% LESSON 4 [11/36] AA 120/75 Blood Pressure Physical activities that involve stretching and strengthening keep muscles in good working order. Always consult with your doctor before engaging in resistance training. MEDICATIONS None VITAMIN Start with low weight and you can easily MORE INFO perform 10 times with minimal effort. It's very important to practice good form and 1 in 18 hours remember to breathe when lifting weights. PREVIOUS NEXT PREVIOUS

9:45 am	1 🕴 83% 📖)
LESSON 3	2/14] AA
	9:45 am LESSON 3 [

Let's get started by watching a video about the power of your medicines.

Dr. Clyde Yancy, former American Heart Association president, stresses the importance of understanding and taking your medications:



NEXT

Credible information	
Personalisation	\bigstar
Self-monitoring	\bigstar
Privacy	\bigstar
Reminders - tasks	\bigstar
Simplicity	×
Health literacy match	×
Rewards	×
Game principles	×
Social comparison/support	×

My Heart My Life National Heart Foundation



PURPOSE

- record and manage medicines
- manage health stats including blood pressure and cholesterol
- learn the heart attack warning signs and what to do
- find healthier recipes



My Heart My Life

••••• Telstra
 • 9:42 am
 • 84% ■
 • 84%
 • •••• Telstra
 • •••• Telstra
 • •••• 9:42 am

If you experience the warning signs of a heart attack for 10 minutes, if they are severe or get progressively worse, call Triple Zero (000) immediately and ask for an ambulance.

Tap on the symptoms to learn more about the warning signs of a heart attack.



Features	
Credible information	\bigstar
Self-monitoring	*
Privacy	\bigstar
Reminders - tasks	\bigstar
Simplicity	\bigstar
Health literacy match	×
Personalisation	×
Rewards	×
Game principles	×
Social comparison/support	×

MyHeartMate Figtree, Gallagher, Neubeck et al.,



PURPOSE

- Increase critical health behaviours through setting and achieving and competing with others for short and long term goals for medication prescriptions, exercise, diet, smoking and stress management recommendations
- Track key behaviours (weight, exercise, cholesterol)





MyHeartMate



Sł	HOP HOME	E PI	ROFILE	
n	СОММ	JNITY	-1	
	Community Le	eaders		
	Christine	14409		
	wendyanne	9096		
	jan	7929		
8	helenparker	7657		
	LOU	6952		
	Friend Leade	ers	7 🛴	
	jan	7929		
	helenparker	7657		
	lisneubeck	2591		
	Rachel	433		
4	kyles	229		2
		Add Friends		



Features	
Self-monitoring	\bigstar
Privacy	\bigstar
Reminders - tasks	\bigstar
Simplicity	\bigstar
Health literacy match	\bigstar
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Rewards	\bigstar
Game principles	\bigstar
Credible information	×
Social comparison/support	×

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