## AN INTERVENTIONAL INFORMATICS APPROACH TO DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF POPULATION-BASED HEALTH AND WEB TECHNOLOGIES

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#### A Dissertation

presented to

the Faculty of the Graduate School at the University of Missouri-Columbia

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Ву

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To my darling Noah, for your unending support of my educational pursuit. I wish for your dreams to be big, your heart to be full, and your journey to be gratifying.

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Interventional informatics is the use of health information. technology (HIT) that drives evidence-based and evidence-generating practices to inform an improved health delivery system. Current HIT lacks movement towards data-driven infrastructures designed to promote information gathering, sharing, and new knowledge discovery in several areas. This thesis undertakes three specific areas where gaps exist. First, in undertaking quality improvement initiatives aligned with fidelity to program models, a web-based practice exchange was designed, built, tested and launched. Second, a systematic review of eHealth technology instruments for outcomes and evaluation components geared towards patient outcomes was conducted, uncovering gaps in the availability of psychometrically sound measures to evaluate eHealth technologies. Third, a study was conducted to establish a baseline of satisfaction and usability among medical care providers with the current advance care planning process (ACP) and documentation within the electronic medical record (EMR). This study discovered barriers to use of the EMR to retrieve ACP documents and prioritization areas for improvements to begin.

#### **CHAPTER 1 – INTRODUCTION**

Interventional informatics is an emerging specialty within health informatics. Interventional informatics is "an approach in the use of health information technology in a manner that improves clinical decision-making, care delivery processes and/or population health strategies while simultaneously enabling systematic evidence generation through routine practice" [1]. This approach enables health information professionals to apply data-driven innovations focused on generating unique evidence-gathering approaches, which contribute to the coordination and delivery of health care and the management and insight of population health.

This thesis contains a culmination of research within the field of health informatics aimed at producing innovations and knowledge. This aim is achieved through research geared towards understanding the opportunities, barriers, application, innovation, and outcomes of health information technology (HIT) and health informatics research.

First, the "Building and Launching an Online Quality

Improvement Information Exchange for Home Visiting Programs in

Missouri" chapter was published in the *Online Journal of Public Health*Informatics [2]. This manuscript describes the characteristics,

development, build, and launch of a quality improvement practice exchange virtual environment for use by home visiting agencies in Missouri and present results of three usability pilot tests and the site launch.

Second, chapter three entitled "Psychometric Properties of Patient-Facing eHealth Evaluation Measures: Systematic Review and Analysis" is a systematic literature review and analysis published in the *Journal of Medical Internet Research* [3]. This manuscript reviews eHealth technology instruments for outcomes and evaluation components geared towards patient outcomes. The objective of this systematic review aimed to (1) identify existing instruments for eHealth research and implementation evaluation from the patient's point of view, (2) characterize measurement components, and (3) assess psychometrics. Through this review, we identified 23 articles for inclusion in the review, none of which included a complete psychometric evaluation. This review highlights important gaps in the availability of psychometrically sound measures to evaluate eHealth technologies.

Third, the "State of Advance Care Planning and Provider Usability of Electronic End-of-Life Documents" chapter describes (1) a brief

history of advance care planning (ACP) in the United States (U.S.), (2) the current state of ACP in the U.S., (3) presents results of a health provider survey that identified barriers to utilization of end-of-life care preference documents stored in the electronic medical record (EMR), and (4) presents results of a health provider survey that identified prioritization areas where improvements to the EMR technology, clinical workflow and process, and the delivery of education to both providers and patients should be made. The provider survey found that the current HIT lacks movement towards an infrastructure of capturing patient preferences that can potentially translate to medical decision-making in end-of-life care. This chapter presents gaps in the body of medical and bioethics research, which include the adoption of a public good aimed at defining users' unique preferences and wishes at multiple points in time, and through life stages, which would inform the medical care workflow. This adherence to patient choice and increased effectiveness from informative documentation support the innovation of providing individualized healthcare, specifically at and near the end of life. The chapter highlights areas where research has the potential to directly impact public health with the delivery of an innovative approach to the reinvention of the ACP activity.

In summary, the main contribution of this research to the field of health informatics is garnered from its willingness to examine traditional pathways for knowledge discovery and when applied, innovative technologies to better understand user-adoption, utility, usability and feasibility of these technologies and the outcomes of exposure to the technologies.

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# CHAPTER 2 – BUILDING AND LAUNCHING AN ONLINE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT INFORMATION EXCHANGE FOR HOME VISITING PROGRAMS IN MISSOURI

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#### **Abstract**

BACKGROUND: Continuous quality improvement initiatives

(CQII) in home visiting programs have traditionally occurred within a
local implementing agency (LIA), parent organization, or funding
provision. In Missouri, certain LIAs participate in the Missouri Maternal,
Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program (MIECHV). Their

CQII activities and the coordination of CQI efforts across agencies are
limited to quarterly meetings to discuss barriers to service delivery and
newsletters. Their designed CQI process does not include evaluation of

program fidelity or assessment nor supports to assist with identifying and prioritizing areas where improvement is needed. Therefore, much of LIA CQII are often lost to the benefit of external agencies facing similar challenges. OBJECTIVES: We developed a virtual environment, the *Missouri MIECHV Gateway*, for CQII activities. The *Gateway* promotes and supports quality improvement for LIAs while aligning stakeholders from seven home visiting LIAs. Development of the Gateway environment aims to complement the existing MIECHV CQI framework by: 1) adding CQI elements that are missing or ineffective, 2) adding elements for CQI identification and program evaluation, and 3) offering LIAs a network to share CQI experiences and collaborate at a distance. This web-based environment allows LIA personnel to identify program activities in need of quality improvement, and guides the planning, implementation, and evaluation of CQII. In addition, the Gateway standardizes quality improvement training, collates overlapping resources, and supports knowledge translation, thus aimed to improve capacity for measurable change in organizational initiatives. RESULTS: Briefly, prior to deployment to 58 users, usability pilot testing of the site occurred in three stages, to three defined groups. Pilot testing results were overall positive, desirable, and vital

to improving the site prior to the full-launch. The majority of reviewers stated they would access and use the learning materials (87%), use the site for completing CQII (80%), and reported that the site will benefit their work teams in addressing agency challenges (66%). The majority of reviewers also approved of the developed fidelity assessment: as, easy to use (79%), having a clear purpose (86%), providing value in self- identification of CQII (75%), and recommendations were appropriate (79%). The System Usability Scale (SUS) score increased (10%) between pilot groups 2 and 3, with a mean SUS score of 71.6, above the U.S. average of 68. The site launched to 60 invited users; the majority (67%) adopted and used the site. Site stability was remarkable (6 total minutes of downtime). The site averaged 29 page views per day. DISCUSSION: This article describes the characteristics, development, build, and launch of this quality improvement practice exchange virtual environment and present results of three usability pilot tests and the site launch. This interactive web-based portal provides the infrastructure to virtually connect and engage LIAs in CQI and stimulate sharing of ideas and best practices.

**Keywords:** continuous quality improvement, online, public health, home visiting programs, training, information exchange, capacity building.

#### **Introduction & Implications for Policy and Practice**

Early childhood home visiting programs date back to the 1880s and deliver a vital public service of providing and connecting families with health, educational, and economic resources to support optimal development [1]. The home visitor service delivery model provides intervention and mediation techniques to families with young children [1]. Presently, seven local implementing agencies (LIA) in Missouri are participating in the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MoDHSS) Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program (MIECHV). The LIAs coordinate continuous quality improvement initiatives (CQII) as part of a MoDHSS contract deliverable and, potentially, as required by their accrediting model. LIAs adhere to a designed continuous quality improvement (CQI) process focused on broad programmatic strategies. The MIECHV program evaluation found the direction and coordination of CQI efforts across agencies were limited to quarterly meetings and newsletters. The evaluation also found a lack of past or present documented CQII.

In addition, the MIECHV CQI process did not include: an evaluation of program fidelity, an identification and prioritization of problems with program implementation, the development and execution of corrective action plans to address shortfalls, and an avenue to disseminate CQI experiences. Without dissemination of CQI experiences, CQII are often lost to the benefit of external agencies facing similar challenges. Overall, the program evaluation suggested the need to provide more structured CQI supports to enable LIAs to self-administer and direct their improvement activities, independently from the broader MoDHSS-driven MIECHV CQII activities. In addition, the evaluation suggested the need to enhance participating LIAs' communication networks to foster connecting, sharing, collaborating, and learning across LIAs. In response to these program challenges, we developed a quality improvement information exchange web-based environment, the Missouri MIECHV Gateway. The Gateway aims to enhance CQII by providing an infrastructure to self-assess local program activities in need of quality improvement, and to guide the planning, implementation and evaluation of CQII. In addition, the Gateway virtually connects and engages LIAs in CQII by serving as a portal to share CQII, identify best practices, generate new learning, and

network across agencies to virtually align stakeholders from the seven home visiting LIAs. This web-based environment aims to support current LIA CQII activities, while at the same time, adding missing elements that will strengthen it. We describe the characteristics, development, build, and launch of this quality improvement practice exchange virtual environment and present results of three usability pilot tests and the site launch.

#### Materials and Methods

#### Concept

Quality improvement consists of systematic and continuous actions that lead to measurable improvement in services for targeted groups [2]. A simple web search of "quality improvement education" returns over 114 million results. The abundant search results demonstrate CQI web-based resources both exist and are publically shared. However the quality, applicability, and validity of these web-based resources must be evaluated on an individual basis. Sifting through those results requires a time commitment many public health agencies cannot afford and is likely overwhelming to the average user seeking basic CQI knowledge.

A search of existing literature and web resources uncovered an additional gap in the implementation of online quality improvement sites. The literature, however limited, provided insight on characteristics of other project sites. CQI resources, historically used in business and industry environments (e.g., Juran 1951; Ishikawa 1985; Deming 1986), were translated to learning materials and tools applicable for the home visiting LIAs. A National Association of County and City Health Officials project reported the most valuable web-based resources as: public health related CQI resources, training, tools, networking, and one-on-one consultation [3]. In a web-based site designed for home visiting programs in Ohio and Kentucky, the integration of user access to quality indicator performance reports increased user downloads by 297%, and a centralized data reporting system improved the program's ability to meet performance indicators and standardize treatment across multiple sites [4].

To enhance CQII and promote sharing across LIAs, we designed and built a web-based portal to provide LIAs the infrastructure to self-assess local program activities in need of quality improvement, and to guide the planning, implementation and evaluation of CQII. In addition, the *Missouri MIECHV Gateway* virtually connects and engages

LIAs in CQII by serving as a portal for LIAs to undertake and share CQII, identify best practices, generate new learning, and network across agencies. Knowledge from the literature, paired with expert consultation, substantiated both the usefulness and uniqueness of building and developing the *Missouri MIECHV Gateway*, a proof-of-concept website which represents a passage into a quality improvement network.

#### **Platform**

Planning, designing, building, and developing a website is a significant undertaking. Weekly planning sessions occurred for several months before an online environment existed. The website was developed and hosted in the Amazon Web Service (AWS) cloud environment on a standard Windows 2012 platform. AWS was chosen for several reasons: 1) initial low-volume use of a single virtual server in AWS is free for development, allowing for economical and fast initial set-up; 2) as with most cloud hosting services, AWS allows for rapid expansion of capacity in response to use demand; given the novelty of the site and uncertainty as to the ultimate volume of traffic it will generate over the long term, this flexibility is key to meeting future needs; 3) AWS is the largest and most popular cloud hosting system in

the U.S., so should be familiar to the widest range of future developers and maintainers who might be involved in the project; and 4) the cloud nature of AWS makes it easy to transfer ownership and administrative duties as necessary throughout the indefinite life of the project. The website itself is built within the WordPress CMS platform for several reasons: 1) WordPress is free, open source software; 2) WordPress offers a large library of plugin extensions and one of the largest third-party developer communities in the industry, making it functionally extensible; 3) WordPress is one of the most widely deployed CMS platforms in the world, so should be familiar to the widest range of future developers and maintainers who might be involved in the project, and; 4) WordPress has modest and easily accessible language and database middleware requirements (in our case, PHP and MySQL, respectively), allowing the server operating system to acclimate to most specifications and the site to be highly portable. Once the site was established on the server, a secure HTTP over SSL domain name was registered.

### Information Exchange Infrastructure and Development

Krug's (2014) book *Don't Make Me Think, Revisited* has provided valuable insight on website design and usability. Krug encourages adopting expected conventions for web pages including where things are located on a page, how things work, how things look and how primary, secondary, and tertiary menus should be added and arranged [5].

We designed and built the site infrastructure with five main content pages: Home; CQI Process; Discussions; Education & Training; and Resources. The Home page includes the following secondary pages: About; Getting Started; Feedback; and Technical Support.

Under CQI Process, the secondary pages of CQI Process Overview, Current CQI Project Tracker, Stage 1: Plan, Stage 2: Do, Stage 3: Study, and Stage 4: Act pages are located. The Discussion Forum, Groups, and Members secondary pages are housed under the Discussions primary menu. Events, Glossary, MIECHV, CQI Storyboard Library, Gateway Webinars, and Training are located under Education and Training. The Resources primary menu includes the secondary menu External Resources and Organization Directory pages.

#### Site Features

To exclusively limit site access to LIA and MoDHSS staff, a plugin was enabled to require a username and password to log into the site.

This encourages idea sharing and collaboration between the LIAs, without input from the general public. Gateway Administrators established initial accounts with a system-generated strong password.

Once users enter the site, they are directed to set a unique password which meets or exceeds strong password standards.

User profile management affords users an identity beyond their username and promotes social networking. A registered user can upload a profile photo, a cover photo, and update information on their public profile such as their job role, professional interests, and other demographic information viewable by all registered users.

To draw users into and around the site, a plan for user engagement was established. This plan incorporated the use of gamification methods. Gamification is the application of incentives typically found in gaming applications to a non-gaming environment. The first gamification method incorporated was the integration of a badge system. When a user completes defined activities within the

site, a medal shaped icon, referred to as a badge, is awarded to the user and displayed on the user's profile indefinitely (Figure 1).

Figure 1, Badges



The second incorporated gamification method was the inclusion of a user activity point system. Users who complete activities across the site (e.g., daily login, joining a group, participating in a discussion forum, uploading a storyboard, downloading a tutorial, etc.) receive points based on a defined point system ranging from 1-5 points per activity. There is no maximum number of points a user can accumulate, and users can never lose points. A user's point sum is highlighted on their profile page and in the running footer of the website in a ranked order.

The *Home* page content includes a quick link meta slider with scrolling images and text of site pages, *Getting Started* links, a weekly poll, a weekly quote, and a listing of upcoming events. Of note, the weekly poll is designed as a simple yes/no or multiple choice question to inform site development, site satisfaction, and user engagement. Site features under the *Home* menu are organized in an expected

arrangement for the average web user. A user guide and *Frequently*Asked Questions page exist, along with web forms designed for both submitting feedback and seeking technical assistance.

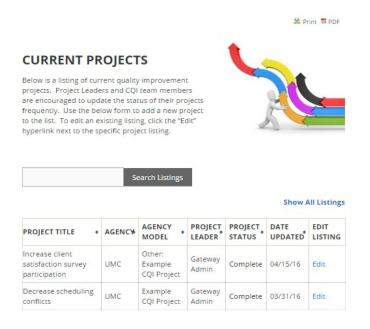
The CQI Process tab houses the process designed to enable LIA users to complete a self-assessment, design and implement a local quality improvement project, evaluate the project, and finalize the project in the format of a CQI storyboard. W. Edwards Deming's Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycle was integrated as the preferred model to drive continuous small-scale CQI improvements [6]. The storyboard captures all stages of the Plan-Do-Study-Act (Stages 1-4) CQI project, shares lessons learned, and future directions. These storyboards are stored in a searchable directory under the Education and Training tab. Within each stage of the CQI process, guided questions and training tutorials are available to the user. Specifically, within Stage 1: Planning, users begin the CQI process by completing a program fidelity and CQI assessment, a structured survey where the user self-reports the extent to which theoretical model program activities are implemented within their LIA and to the MIECHV program implementation. This assessment provides fidelity score, recommendation, and a document suggestions areas for related

potential quality improvement activities. A point system is assigned to user responses as 'always implemented' (4 points), 'sometimes implemented' [3], 'seldom implemented' [2], 'never implemented' [1], and 'unable to evaluate' (0). These points are summed and divided by the number of questions, excluding those in which 'unable to evaluate' is selected. Scores are then paired with the scoring key; 75% and above are considered as operating with a high level of fidelity to the model activities. User assessments within this scoring bracket are encouraged to continue ongoing review of program assessment and quality improvement work, as needed, to maintain fidelity. Scores within 30-74% strongly recommend the user begins quality improvement projects to improve fidelity, and scores within the 1-29% range recommend users take immediate action in the form of program assessment and quality improvement work to reach a higher level of fidelity. This assessment also captures additional information including the problems with implementation, barriers to implementation, and history of CQI review. Following completion of the assessment, users are guided back to Stage 1 where they begin a CQI project and navigate through to Stage 4. Finally, the CQI Process tab hosts the Current CQI Project Tracker page, which includes an interactive table

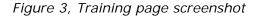
listing of current CQI projects in process (Figure 2). Users add their projects to the public table, update the project status as they progress, and search for current CQI projects of interest.

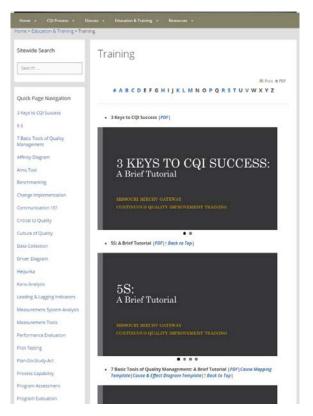
The *Discussions* tab houses three pages, *Discussion Forum*, *Groups*, and *Members*. BuddyPress, a popular social network software plugin that integrates open discussion forums, group forums (private and public), and member connections. Within the discussion and group forums, users post and respond to threaded discussions with the ability to upload documents and insert URL hyperlinks. The Discussions sub-page sidebars include activity streams to easily guide users to active discussions and group forums.

Figure 2, Current CQI Project Tracker screenshot



The Education and Training menu tab includes the following subpages: Events, Glossary, MIECHV, CQI Storyboard Library, Gateway Webinars, and Training. Events includes a menu of offerings, from conferences to awareness weeks with each event tagged to applicable categories. These tags are populated in a word cloud-type format that appears in the footer of all site pages. Any tagged category can be clicked by the user which filters the full site for content with the selected tag, affording a quick and accurate search. The Glossary page includes a comprehensive and alphabetical listing of key CQI terms, definitions, resources, and site training tutorials of frequently used CQI terminology and concepts, designed as a quick reference for user retrieval. The MIECHV page includes program specific documents such as CQI meeting minutes, CQI newsletters, forms, and reports. The CQI Storyboard Library, as previously discussed under the CQI Process menu, includes a search-enabled directory of completed CQI project storyboards. The *Gateway Webinars* page houses recorded webinar videos, their accompanying slide decks, and announcements for upcoming webinars. Lastly, the *Training* page hosts meta slider tutorials on common CQI tools and methodologies (Figure 3).





The Resources primary menu includes the secondary menu External Resources and Organization Directory pages. External Resources consists of a listing of CQI literature and articles, CQI resources from external sites, and resources surrounding specific MIECHV home visiting program constructs. To support the exchange of resources among LIAs, the Organization Directory page hosts a searchable directory of client resources. Users may add agency listings to the directory, edit existing listings, and/or search for listings by one

or more of the following criteria: agency name, county, state, service type, and population served.

The ability to receive and respond to technical inquiries is vital to the success of the site. Along with a technical support web-based form, live chat has been integrated to encourage feedback and inquiry from users. Users may select the live chat-expanding box (located on all site pages) to connect with a Gateway Administrator. Messages received during off-peak hours receive an auto-reply, followed up with a response the next business day.

The site has been developed using a theme optimized for use with mobile devices, tablets, and desktops. Site pages can be saved in PDF format and are printer friendly. The site menu header and footer are both static across all pages while the sidebars vary by page to optimize content navigation. Finally, site functionality is continually reviewed, modified, and upgraded as needed to maintain a stable platform.

#### User Engagement & Social Media

Employee engagement is defined as the extent to which employees are committed to a cause or to a person in their organization, how hard they work, and how long they stay as a result

of that commitment [7]. Employees hold the key to organizational success in today's competitive marketplace. However, this competitive edge will not be gained until employees are properly engaged. Engagement begins from the time of recruitment and continues throughout the time that the employee commits to the organization. The issue today is not just employing and retaining talented people, but in maintaining their attention at each stage of their work lives by engaging them [7]. We are now turning our sights to technology, social media specifically, for the purpose of engaging employees, and specifically LIA personnel with the web-based portal.

Social media sites like Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and web 2.0 applications like RSS newsfeeds and blogs have all been utilized with various degrees of success in an effort to increase engagement among employees. Even though social media undoubtedly has the potential to elicit employee engagement, the organizational culture and leadership buy-in are major factors that determine if social media would be implemented for the purposes of employee engagement [8]. Social media has the potential for being distracting as well as addictive.

Organizations may be able to control employees' excessive use of social media by the use of management tactics [9]. Thus, it is key to

reaching an optimal balance between utilizing social media as a tool for employee engagement and letting it distract employees to the end that organizational productivity diminishes.

A sparse amount of published literature is available on the subject of engaging employees using social media. Where literature abounds, they have emanated from case studies. These case studies focus on how certain organizations utilized social media for employee engagement. However, this is not readily generalizable as culture and leadership differ from organization to organization. In adopting the capabilities of social media for employee engagement, a number of assumptions are usually made. One major assumption is that employees are all social media savvy; the lack of capability could hinder its use. Conversely, excessive use of social media has the potential to take away from organizational productivity. When balanced, social media, if well aligned with organizational culture, has the potential to add to employee engagement.

The *MIECHV Gateway* site established social media accounts on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter and added quick access buttons on the *Gateway*. To limit the audience strictly to *Gateway* users, the Facebook and LinkedIn pages required requesting membership to the

group while the Twitter page was available for viewing/following by the general public. Feed management was optimized through the use of the network management site, Hootsuite. CQI-focused articles and latest news were fed to all three sites and *Gateway* webinar and sitespecific announcements were fed to the Facebook and LinkedIn pages.

# Monitoring

Plugin software capabilities have been adopted and integrated to monitor site activity (site visits, discussion posts, points, badges, document downloads/uploads, etc.) and capture analytics on site use. A data analytics reporting dashboard has been created to document these analytics, on a monthly and quarterly basis, and provide insight on social marketing and engagement activity needs.

To communicate and standardize software specifications across site administrators, a back-end user manual was created. This manual receives regular review and updates to document all technical specifications, theme consistencies, plugin integration, and a comprehensive listing of activities and timelines to perform site maintenance and updates.

# Pilot Testing

To optimally understand the human-computer interaction with the site, user testing is widely recognized as the most reliable method [10]. Prior to site deployment to the LIAs, pilot user testing is necessary to assess the usability of the website and provide an opportunity to make identified changes prior to full-scale deployment. To garner both expert and stakeholder feedback, pilot testing occurred in three stages, to three defined groups. The three pilot testing groups consisted of: 1) faculty and staff from the university department; 2) administrators within the state department of health; and 3) supervisors and data managers within the local implementing agencies.

## Results

# Pilot Testing Results

Pilot testing of group 1 occurred December 2015-January 2016, group 2 occurred February-March 2016, and group 3 April 2016. To conduct the pilot testing, group reviewers were provided access to the website, the online survey, and instructions of the review purpose and process. The survey for group 1 consisted of 13 questions, the survey from groups 2 and 3 consisted of 19 questions. Three case-based

scenarios were developed, describing educational and professional work experiences of potential users. The survey instructs reviewers to read each case-based scenario and identify site content pages most useful to the potential user. Based on responses, the survey prompts users for narrative responses of their site experience and content suggestions. Additional survey questions evaluate how frequently reviewers would visit specific site pages, the amount of content on each page, and potential site impact on coordination, collaboration, and learning of CQI education and initiatives (Table 1).

Table 1, Pilot Usability Testing Results

Survey Question	N	Point Value (Minimum attainable points: 0; Maximum: 60)	Mean Score (Scale 0-4; 0 Strongly Disagree 4 Strongly Agree)
This site improves coordination of quality improvement education and	15	46	3.06
This site encourages collaboration of quality improvement education and initiatives.	15	49	3.27
This site fosters the learning of quality improvement education and initiatives.	15	48	3.20

Last, reviewers within pilot testing groups 2 and 3 were asked to evaluate their overall site experience and respond to 10 statements to

measure site effectiveness, efficiency, and satisfaction as defined within a modified version of the *System Usability Scale* (SUS) [11] (Table 2). The University of Missouri Institutional Review Board has reviewed these three pilot testing studies.

Table 2, Modified System Usability Scale Survey

Question Number	Question
1	I would use this CQI project process frequently.
2	I found this CQI project process unnecessarily complex.
3	I thought this CQI project process was easy to use.
4	I think that I would need the support of a technical person to be able to use this CQI project process.
5	I found the various functions (features) in this CQI project process were well integrated.
6	I thought there was too much inconsistency (ex. information, navigation) in this CQI project process.
7	I would imagine that most people would learn to use this CQI project process very quickly.
8	I found this CQI project process very cumbersome to use.
9	I felt very comfortable using this CQI project process.
10	I needed to learn a lot of things before I could begin using this CQI project process.

Results of the three pilot testing groups were overall positive, desirable, and vital to improving the site for full-launch implementation. The majority (87%) of reviewers reported they would access/use the learning materials (e.g. CQI project process, training tutorials, resources, etc.), stated they would use the site for completing quality improvement projects (80%), and reported the site would help their work teams address internal quality improvement challenges (66%).

Reviewers were asked to submit feedback for expansion, modification, or further development of the site content through survey prompts allowing for narrative responses. Reviewers submitted a total of 98 narrative responses, with 19 from pilot group 1 (average 2.7 per user), 50 from pilot group 2 (average of 6.3 per user), and 29 from pilot group 3 (average of 4.1 per user).

Reviewers reported they would "frequently/regularly" (64%) or "occasionally" visit (30%) the primary pages (including *Home Page*, *CQI Storyboard Library*, *Discussion Forum*, *Current CQI Project Tracker*, and *CQI Process* pages). Reviewers reported they would "frequently/regularly" (32%) or "occasionally" (54%) visit learning and resource pages (including *External Resources*, *MIECHV*, *Glossary*,

Organization Directory, Training, Events, and Groups). In evaluating the amount of content on 20 individual site pages, 75% reported the site pages included the right amount of content, 15% reported the certain site pages were in need of improvement, and 10% reported too much content on certain site pages. The majority of reviewers reported feeling "comfortable" or "highly comfortable" in sharing experiences, practices, and/or concerns in the following site areas: open discussion forums (88%); closed groups (100%); private messaging (88%); and feedback submission forms (100%).

The majority of pilot reviewers approved of the "Program Fidelity & CQI Assessment" site assessment tool. Most reported the assessment tool was easy to use (79%), and the purpose of the assessment was clear (86%). Reviewers were able to use the assessment to self-identify areas where quality improvement work would be beneficial (75%). The majority of reviewers stated the assessment recommendations were appropriate (79%). Reviewers identifying the next step in the CQI process after completing the assessment was the lowest rated survey item (72%). The overall satisfaction and usability of the assessment by reviewers calculated as 3.10 out of a maximum of 4 (78%) (Table 3).

Table 3, Program Fidelity & CQI Assessment Evaluation Survey Results

Survey Question	Group 2 N	Group 2 Mean Score	Group 3 N*	Group 3 Mean Score	Total N	Point Value (Minimum attainable points: 0; Maximum: 60)	Mean Score (Scale 0-4; 0 Strongly Disagree 4 Strongly Agree)
The assessment is easy to use.	8	3.13	6	3.17	14	44	3.14
The purpose of the assessment is clearly stated.	8	3.50	6	3.33	14	48	3.43
The assessment allows users to self-identify areas where quality improvement work may be beneficial.	8	2.88	6	3.17	14	42	3.00
The assessment recommendations appear on target.	8	4.13	6	3.17	14	44	3.14
At the conclusion of the assessment, it was clear what my next step in the CQI process was.	8	2.75	6	3.00	14	40	2.86
The assessment is useful in measuring fidelity to a program model.	8	3.00	6	3.00	14	42	3.00

Survey Question	Group 2 N	Group 2 Mean Score	Group 3 N*	Group 3 Mean Score	Total N	Point Value (Minimum attainable points: 0; Maximum: 60)	Mean Score (Scale 0-4; 0 Strongly Disagree 4 Strongly Agree)
Overall usability of the Program Fidelity & CQI Assessment (Measured by individual evaluation of the following six questions: ease of use, clearly stated, recommendations appear on target, allows users to self-identify areas where quality improvement work may be beneficial, clarity of next step, and useful in measuring fidelity to a program model)	8	3.06	6	3.14	14	43	3.10

<sup>\*</sup> Group 3 had seven reviewers complete the survey, one reviewer did not respond to the series of questions presented in Table 3.

Site improvements made between pilots 2 and 3 were found to benefit the overall site usability and increased the site's *SUS* score by 10% (6.9 points). The modified *SUS* score of pilot testing group 2 was 68.4, group 3 was 75.4, and weighted mean score of the two pilot groups calculated as 71.6, ranking above the U.S. average of 68 [12].

# Site Launch & Results

The site launched to 58 users (47 LIAs; 11 MoDHSS). Prior to launch, LIAs and MoDHSS managers provided user registration data to establish unique user accounts with appropriate roles for Gateway users. New users received an automated email with the site web address, unique username, temporary password, instructions to change their password, and general information on utilizing the site. A 10- part live-stream weekly webinar series was offered to users. Webinars were recorded and posted, with the accompanying slide deck, on the *Gateway Webinars* page. A total of 44 participants, across five agencies, joined the live webinars.

Site performance and activity were measured through integrated software capabilities. Site stability and performance were exceptional. Throughout the 12-weeks the site was open to users, the site experienced six minutes of total site downtime. Downtime was planned to update plugins. The integrated software capabilities that monitor site activity (e.g. visits, visitors, posts, downloads, activity points, technical support inquiries, etc.) capture analytics on site use. Site activity metrics were gathered and reported in monthly "MIECHV"

Gateway Site Metrics Dashboard" to MoDHSS administrators (<u>Figure</u> 4).

Figure 4, MIECHV Gateway Site Metrics Dashboard, September 2016



At the conclusion of the contract period (09/30/2016), a total of 60 users (46 LIAs; 14 MoDHSS) were registered with 40 active users (66.7% adoption rate). The site averaged 29 page views per day, awarded 3,178 site activity points, and had 540 document downloads. The *Training* page was most frequently visited by users. In regards to social media engagement, at the end of the contract period, there

were no members or followers (other than Gateway administrators) to any of the three social media sites. Further surveying of LIA users is necessary to determine if users utilize social network sites, access social media sites in the workplace, access internet and internet-accessible devices at both work and home, and share opinions on using social media for business/employment purposes.

# Limitations

The development, build, and launch of this quality improvement practice exchange virtual environment achieved its overarching aim in developing a widely accepted web-based environment to balance CQI training and practice and increase the capacity for organizational change. Still, unavoidable limitations exist. First, significant run-time is essential for adoption and utility of any new technology. The short run (12 weeks) did not allow adequate time for a pilot test where generalizable impact to larger user populations could be assured. Further and lengthier pilots are necessary to gather and analyze key trends over time such as fidelity score measurements, average site utilization by user, PDSA submission rates, participation by agency, benchmark and construct performance improvements, and others. Second, a lack of prior studies on comparable web-based tools pose

challenges in the ability to set baseline measurements of whether the web-based CQI intervention achieved meaningful success. Lastly, from conceptualizing a problem for improvement to measurement of current to future-state change to monitoring and maintaining the change, there is a strong reliance on certifiable and accessible program performance data. Due to data reporting system barriers, external and independent from the site, shared performance data was unable to be integrated as a site resource. However, program reports remained accessible to users via their designated LIA supervisor, yet the convenience benefits of directly accessing data reports from within the site could not be achieved during the time of the study.

# **Discussion & Conclusion**

Advances in web-based collaborative workplace environments offer tremendous potential to improve dissemination of information, access to standardized educational materials, distance collaborations, and overall quality of program delivery and performance. To our knowledge, a virtual environment aimed to create a culture of quality improvement and foster CQII for home visiting program LIAs has not been previously reported. The *Missouri MIECHV Gateway* site hosts key characteristics advocated by experts in CQI, website development, and

environment aimed to complement the existing MIECHV CQI framework. We were successful in meeting these aims by: 1) adding CQI elements that are missing or ineffective, such as standardized training tutorials, webinars, and structured CQI project forms, 2) adding elements for CQI identification and program evaluation, such as the "Program Fidelity and CQI Assessment" and 3) offering LIAs a network to share CQI experiences and collaborate at a distance, through avenues such as the discussion forums and the *CQI Storyboard Library*. We built a stable site that successfully: achieved an above average (71.6) usability score, developed an acceptable (78% overall satisfaction) fidelity self-assessment tool to prioritize CQI activities, and concluded with a site adoption rate of 67% averaging 29 page views per day.

Throughout the process of developing and launching the *Missouri MIECHV Gateway*, many lessons are learned. First, the site design is fluid, and it appears to address required flexibility, creativity, and adaptability [13]. The integration of features within the site is not limited, with the widespread availability of third-party plugins one does not typically require a robust programming background to implement

new features. Second, encouraging open communication, stakeholder buy-in, and ongoing feedback was a necessary activity in garnering shared vision and ownership of the site [14]. Stakeholder feedback remains a vital part of the site design and development. Frequent meetings continued to occur with administrators of the state health department, and with LIAs throughout the contract period.

Additionally, further pilots are necessary to understand how individuals are motivated to use the site. Finally, the systematic approach to CQI of examining performance relative to targets requires the integration of real-time data, dashboards, and reports powered by information technology and informatics frameworks [15,16].

The site adds value to quality improvement beyond this presented scope of work. This value virtually connects users and embeds them within an environment balancing CQI training and practice [17]. Expansion of this site has endless opportunities given the focus on CQI priorities. From the addition of expanded training tutorials to the expanded integration of digital tools to the measurement of fidelity and outcomes from CQII, these features and characteristics aim to improve and enhance the site. More longitudinal assessments will be needed to further measure and evaluate the

Gateway site impact on programs and agencies beyond the built population.

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# CHAPTER 3 – PSYCHOMETRIC PROPERTIES OF PATIENT-FACING EHEALTH EVALUATION MEASURES: SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

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### Abstract

BACKGROUND: Significant resources are being invested into eHealth technology to improve health care. Few resources have focused on evaluating the impact of use on patient outcomes A standardized set of metrics used across health systems and research

will enable aggregation of data to inform improved implementation, clinical practice, and ultimately health outcomes associated with use of patient-facing eHealth technologies. OBJECTIVES: The objective of this project was to conduct a systematic review to (1) identify existing instruments for eHealth research and implementation evaluation from the patient's point of view, (2) characterize measurement components, and (3) assess psychometrics. METHODS: Concepts from existing models and published studies of technology use and adoption were identified and used to inform a search strategy. Search terms were broadly categorized as platforms (eq. email), measurement (eq. survey), function/information use (eq. self-management), health care occupations (eg, nurse), and eHealth/telemedicine (eg, mHealth). A computerized database search was conducted through June 2014. Included articles (1) described development of an instrument, or (2) used an instrument that could be traced back to its original publication, or (3) modified an instrument, and (4) with full text in English language, and (5) focused on the patient perspective on technology, including patient preferences and satisfaction, engagement with technology, usability, competency and fluency with technology, computer literacy, and trust in and acceptance of technology. The

review was limited to instruments that reported at least one psychometric property. Excluded were investigator-developed measures, disease-specific assessments delivered via technology or telephone (eq., a cancer-coping measure delivered via computer survey), and measures focused primarily on clinician use (eg, the electronic health record). RESULTS: The search strategy yielded 47,320 articles. Following elimination of duplicates and non-English language publications (n=14,550) and books (n=27), another 31,647 articles were excluded through review of titles. Following a review of the abstracts of the remaining 1096 articles, 68 were retained for full-text review. Of these, 16 described an instrument and six used an instrument; one instrument was drawn from the GEM database, resulting in 23 articles for inclusion. None included a complete psychometric evaluation. The most frequently assessed property was internal consistency (21/23, 91%). Testing for aspects of validity ranged from 48% (11/23) to 78% (18/23). Approximately half (13/23, 57%) reported how to score the instrument. Only six (26%) assessed the readability of the instrument for end users, although all the measures rely on self-report. DISCUSSION: Although most measures identified in this review were published after the year 2000, rapidly

changing technology makes instrument development challenging.

Platform-agnostic measures need to be developed that focus on concepts important for use of any type of eHealth innovation. At present, there are important gaps in the availability of psychometrically sound measures to evaluate eHealth technologies.

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KEYWORDS: telemedicine; computers; evaluation; use-effectiveness; technology; psychometrics

## Introduction

Patient-facing eHealth is a multidisciplinary field focused on the delivery or enhancement of health information and health services through information and communication technologies [1]. eHealth helps consumers engage and collaborate more fully in their health care [2,3], independent of geographic location and also enhances access to health care services by offering novel channels for communication and information flow that complement existing systems [4]. There are many terms related to eHealth, including consumer health informatics, digital health, virtual care, connected care, and telehealth, to list only a few. For purposes of consistency, we use the term "eHealth."

This paper focuses on patient use of eHealth, which includes personal health records and patient portals accessed via computers or mobile devices, and other telehealth devices designed for use primarily by patients and caregivers, even though some patient-facing technologies (eg, secure patient-provider messaging, mobile apps) are also used by clinicians [5]. Several constructs are important to measure to evaluate patient-facing eHealth technologies. Patientfacing eHealth technologies are used to deliver interventions intended to promote healthy behaviors or effective self-management among consumers. When assessing the efficacy of a behavior-change eHealth intervention, evaluations must address both the intervention and the technology platforms and functions used to deliver the intervention in terms of usability, functionality, and availability of the technology to target users [3]. eHealth may improve the efficiency of and accessibility to clinical and health promotion services for patients. For example, it is anticipated that eHealth may reduce the distance between services and the target user, improving accessibility, or reducing physician or patient workload for a specific task, enhancing efficiency [6-9]. Finally, almost all behavior-change eHealth

interventions aim to improve communication in one form or another [10,11].

Although studies using eHealth technologies may include measures that attempt to quantify the characteristics or effect of eHealth interventions, to date, there are no uniform, widely agreed-on measures. More rigorous measurement is needed to determine the full benefit(s) of an eHealth-delivered intervention to both patients and the health care system [12]. Scientific inquiry in other domains has benefited from the development of such standardized measures. At present, various measure compendiums are available that categorize measures of patient-reported outcomes. The Grid-Enabled Measures (GEM) database, for example, was developed starting in 2010 with the purpose of moving social and behavioral science forward by promoting the use of standardized measures tied to theoretically based constructs and facilitating sharing of data from use of standardized measures [13]. Sponsored by the National Cancer Institute, GEM is an open-source measure compendium that solicits scientific community participation in contributing and selecting measures. Users can add information about constructs, find measures related to constructs, upload new measures, provide feedback on existing measures, and

search for and share harmonized data for meta-analyses. In addition to providing useful information such as associated references and information on validity and reliability, the GEM allows researchers to see how often other researchers have used a measure and the feedback and ratings they have provided.

Similarly, the Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement System (PROMIS) was developed by the National Institutes of Health in an effort to develop, validate, and standardize items that may be used to measure patient-reported outcomes common across medical conditions [14]. PROMIS is collecting and testing items focused on patient-reported outcomes of interest, as opposed to validated instruments. For example, the item banks for physical function, fatigue, and sleep disturbance contain 124, 95, and 27 items, respectively [15]. These item banks are being tested in large populations [16-18].

Both PROMIS and GEM promote use of standardized measures and data analysis across multiple studies and conditions. Although these measures can be an important component of studies focused on use of eHealth technologies, the items and instruments contained in these compendiums do not specifically focus on issues surrounding use

of eHealth technology with and by patients. For example, although GEM or PROMIS may include instruments or items that measure patient satisfaction with communication with a physician, they do not include items specific to physician-patient communication when using telehealth or secure messaging, nor do they specifically address technology usability issues. Recent efforts to summarize measures related specifically to technology use include a compendium of health information technology-related survey tools developed by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The AHRQ compendium includes a wide variety of measures, but the website does not provide detailed information on psychometric properties. Thus, although work is in progress to develop and identify measures that may address eHealth evaluation needs, more work is needed.

Implementation research focuses on structural and organizational characteristics of the environment where an innovation is being or will be used. Within this environment are individuals (patients, providers, administrators) with various characteristics that may hinder or facilitate adoption of the innovation within the particular environment. In this review, we focus on the innovation (ie, the eHealth intervention) and how features of this innovation will impact

implementation. Consistent and well-validated measures will contribute to determining the true benefit of eHealth interventions across studies and over time. Consistently used measures will enable the health care system to collect uniform data on (1) the likelihood of adoption of an eHealth technology; (2) patient, organizational, or health care system barriers and facilitators to adoption; (3) user attitudes toward and/or satisfaction with a technology; (4) the degree to which meaningful user characteristics (eg, health literacy) mediate the relationship between technology use and improved health outcomes (ie, improved self-management of chronic illness, reduced health care utilization), and (5) the return on investment of eHealth technology to assess value.

The objective of this project was to conduct a systematic review to (1) identify existing instruments for eHealth research and implementation evaluation, (2) characterize measurement components, and (3) assess psychometrics. Additionally, this study seeks to highlight current limitations of this body of research.

# Methods

# **Identification of Search Terms**

Through a series of investigator meetings, we identified key concepts from existing models, published studies of technology use and adoption, and sociotechnical perspectives on health information technology implementation and evaluation [19-23]. Using these models and studies, our knowledge of the field, and detailed input from an experienced health sciences librarian, we developed a working list of key concepts to focus our search. These were then categorized into five areas: platforms (eg, email), measurement (eg, survey), function/information use (eg, self-management), health care occupations (eg, nurse), and eHealth/telemedicine (eg, mHealth) (Multimedia Appendix 1). Our focus was to identify instruments that could be used for any of these concepts as well as those that may be relevant to only one or two concepts.

# Search Strategy

We conducted a systematic search of the literature using the selected search terms. Based on guidance from our health sciences librarian, databases used included MEDLINE, Scopus, PsychInfo,

CINAHL, Health and Psychosocial Instruments (HAPI) for articles published through June 2014. Each database was searched using terms included in Multimedia Appendix 1. The search logic followed this format: (A and D and B and C) OR (E and B and C). All terms listed in sets A, B, D, and C were entered and combined using the Boolean operator "and." Likewise, terms in sets B, C, and E were entered and combined using "and." The results from these two searches were then combined using the operator "OR." This logic was used to ensure all possible terms were included and ensured studies included some sort of measurement or evaluations.

Our search strategy also included review of currently funded research projects within the health services research arm of the Veterans Health Administration (VA) system focused on eHealth (n=56), and existing instrument/measure compendiums (GEM, PROMIS, AHRQ). All search results were transferred to a reference management software database (EndNote); duplicates, articles where the text was not in English, and books were eliminated.

## Inclusion Criteria

Our article inclusion criteria were broad to identify the full extent of instruments designed for eHealth research and implementation

evaluation. We focused explicitly on instruments that assessed an eHealth-specific construct from the patient's point of view. Articles were selected if they (1) described development of an instrument, or (2) used an instrument in an evaluation of an eHealth technology that could be traced back to an original publication describing its development, or (3) modified an instrument, and (4) with full text in English language. The review was limited to instruments that reported at least one psychometric property. Excluded were investigatordeveloped measures or sets of questions without psychometric evaluation, disease-specific assessments delivered via technology or telephone (eg, a cancer-coping measure delivered via computer survey), and measures focused primarily on clinician use (eg, the electronic health record). We limited our review to articles that reported at least one established psychometric property (see Table 1 for psychometric evaluation components).

## Data Extraction

Two investigators and a research assistant (BW, JH, AM) independently reviewed 100 article titles followed by an in-depth discussion to establish agreement on inclusion of articles. Next, the review was repeated two times using an additional 100 article titles

each time, until agreement was reached on articles to include for further review. All article titles were then reviewed to exclude ineligible articles. The abstracts of the remaining articles were reviewed by a pair of investigators (BW, CT) following an independent review of 20 articles to establish interrater consistency. The remaining abstracts were then independently reviewed and discrepancies between reviewers were resolved by discussion and consensus. Articles that did not meet criteria were excluded (no instrument, use of an instrument, or instrument modification), and remaining articles were retained for full-text review. Articles were then classified as describing the development and testing of an instrument or as using an instrument. For articles using an instrument, reference lists were reviewed to identify citations for the original instrument development.

A data extraction form with definitions for each item was developed by the study team (Table 1) [24]. To establish interrater reliability in data extraction, coauthors were divided into pairs, and were assigned to independently review two articles using the data extraction tool. These reviews were discussed in depth by the whole study team to reach consensus on the definitions used in Table 1. Following minor revisions of the data extraction form, articles from the

search were then distributed among the six study investigators for final review and data extraction. The first author then reviewed each article and data extraction information to ensure accuracy.

Table 1, Data extraction elements

Element	Definition
Construct	Constructs are not directly observable, but may be applied and defined based on observable behavior; many health measures are designed to capture some aspect of an underlying construct.  In the authors' own words, what the authors of the scale say they are measuring.
Theoretical foundation	Conception of how attributes exist in reality and relate to one another; theoretical framework; can indicate that a conceptual framework (concepts identified in the framework) was used.
Modification of another instrument by others (alternate forms) abbreviated, short forms, different forms targeting the same construct, translations	State if this article is a modification of the format or administration of an instrument already evaluated for psychometric properties.
# items	Number of items included in the measure.
Item types	Structure of the items: e.g., Likert-type, categorical (multiple options), open ended, yes/no, visual analogue scale, other.
Administration time	Estimated amount of time for completion of the measure.
Administration mode	Assessment completed by self-report vs interviewer/researcher administered.
Active vs. Passive assessment/obtrusiveness	Data collection which does not involve direct solicitation from the research subject or other participant; indirect ways to obtain the necessary data often relying on technology captured information such as response time, number of navigation errors, etc.
Item development	Briefly overview how items were developed for the original form of the measure (e.g., expert generation of items, compilation of items from prior measures).
Scoring	Describe how the measure is scored, include a

Element	Definition
	range of possible scores and other descriptive statistics such as significant threshold scores if available.
Readability	Did the developers test the readability of the measure? Were any readability formulas used (e.g., Flesch–Kincaid).
Sensitivity to change	Ability to detect change over time, particularly in response to some intervention; also known as responsiveness; floor and ceiling effects.
Reliability: test-retest	Consistency in scores between 2 administrations of the measure separated by a time period (e.g.,, same subject completes the measure twice).
Reliability: inter-rater	Consistency between 2 independent observers using the measure (for measures that involve observing subjects) % agreement, kappa.
Reliability: internal consistency	Degree to which all items in the scale correlate with each other taking length of measure into account, indicating the items are measuring the same underlying construct. Based on a single administration of the measure; Cronbach's alpha, Kuder-Richardson, split-half reliability.
Validity: content	Typically, from a review of the literature or review by experts.
Validity: criterion, convergent, concurrent, discriminant	Correlation of the scale with other measures to determine independence from other constructs yet some positive correlation to similar constructs and negative correlation to dissimilar constructs.
Validity: construct	Linking the measure to another known attribute. Factor analysis to identify proposed underlying constructs consistent with proposed theoretic content of the measure.
Sample	Patient population used to develop, validate, or test the measure.
Sample studies using the metric/strength of evidence	Studies using the measure including those that did not present psychometric properties of the measure.
Measure website address	If the measure has an associated website, list the website address here and note the date of last update, if available.
Copyright or fees associated with use of the measure	Requires purchase of the measure or the scoring algorithm?

# Results

The search strategy yielded 47,320 articles (PubMed: n=16,968; Scopus: n=24,106; PsychInfo: n=3590; CINAHL: n=2187; HAPI: n=468; GEM: n=1). Following elimination of duplicates and full text not in English language publications (n=14,550) and books (n=27), most articles were excluded through review of titles (n=31,647). Following a review of the abstracts of the remaining 1096 articles, 68 were retained for full-text review.

Of these, 16 described an instrument and six used an instrument; one instrument was drawn from the GEM database, resulting in 23 articles for inclusion in the review (Figure 1). Of these 23 articles, seven were modifications of existing instruments. No additional measures were identified through our VA, PROMIS, or AHRO search. Each article was then reviewed by team members, using the data extraction form (Table 1).

We identified common conceptual threads across the 23 instruments. We reviewed the literature to identify salient concepts and constructs from existing technology use models [19-22, 25]. Multiple constructs were identified and terminology varied across models. For example, the Technology Acceptance Model includes 16

constructs in four categories (behavioral intention, perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and use behavior). Although terminology varied by author and model, categorizations were inferred and grouped. Twelve concepts emerged from this categorization: clinical content, communication, effectiveness, efficiency, frequency/consistency of use, hardware and software, perceived ease of use, policies and procedures, risk and benefits, user preferences, social influence, and usability. Author definitions guided this categorization. The definition of several of these terms are intuitive (eq, effectiveness), but some are not and are briefly defined here. Efficiency includes the concepts of accuracy, costs, learnability, performance expectations, productivity, quality of use, and workflow. Learnability is an aspect of usability and refers to the ease of learning how to use software. Closely related to learnability is performance expectation, where the end user knows what is expected from them to use the software. Hardware and software aspects include availability, human-computer interface (ie, efficient and desirable interaction between a person and the computer), information display, system maintenance and monitoring, and technical quality. Perceived ease of use incorporates anxiety about and attitude toward using a computer,

behavioral intention (the likelihood that an individual will use the computer), computer self-efficacy, engagement, enjoyment, and usefulness.

Figure 1, Flow diagram of search

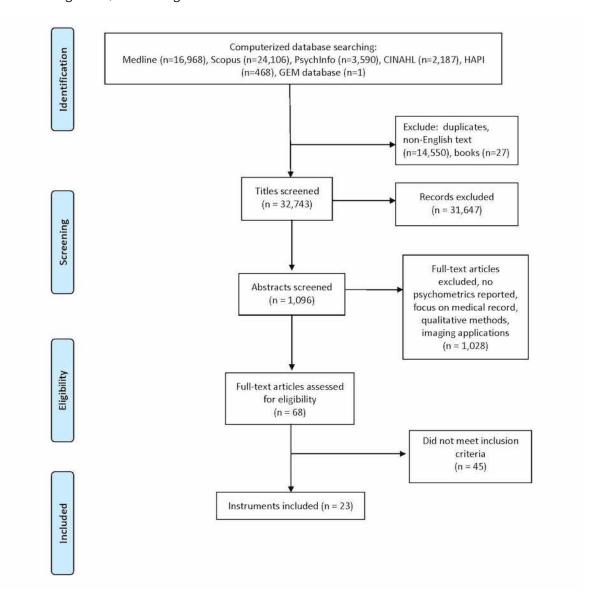


Table 2, Concepts 1 to 6 identified in reviewed instruments (N=23)

Article		Concept and model authors				
	Clinical content [20]	Communication [20,21]	Effectiveness [22]	Efficiency [20-22]	Frequency/consistency of use [21,23]	Hardware and software [19-23]
Atkison, 2007 [29]			Х	Х		
Bakken, 2006 [30]			X	X		X
Brockmeyer, 2013 [31]						X
Brooke, 1996 [32]			X	X		
Bunz, 2004 [33]			X	X	Х	Х
Demiris, 2000 [34]			Х	Х		Х
Finkelstein, 2012 [35]	Х		Х	Х	Х	
Henkemans, 2013 [36]	Х					Х
Hudiberg, 1991-1996 [37-40]			Х	X		Х
Jay & Willis, 1992 [41]			Х			
Lewis, 1993 [42]			Х	Х		Х
Lin, 2011 [43]				X		Х
Martinez-Caro, 2013 [44]	Х				Х	Х
Montague, 2012 [45]	Х		Х	X		X
Norman, 2006 [46]	Х		X	X	Х	X
Pluye, 2014 [47]	Х	Х		X	Х	Х
Schnall, 2011 [48]	Х	Х	X	X		
Tariman, 2011 [49]	Х		X	Х		X
Wang, 2008 [50]	Х		X	X		X
Wehmeyer, 2008 [27]						X
Wolfradt, 2001 [51]		Х				X
Xie, 2013 [28]	X		X	X		X
Yip, 2003 [52]	Х					X

The 23 articles included in this review were mapped to the 12 identified concepts based on whether the instrument encompassed the concept. The most common constructs addressed by this set of measures were effectiveness, efficiency, hardware and software, perceived ease of use, satisfaction, and usability [19-23] (Tables 2 and 3). Interestingly, although eHealth is a communication technology, only three studies specifically address this aspect. Additionally, to identify potential gaps for future consideration, concepts included in the measures, but not identified in the 12 model concepts, were documented in the crosswalk (last column in Table 3). For example, stress, eHealth literacy, perceived necessity, and others emerged as concepts not identified in the review of existing technology use models. eHealth literacy is defined by Norman and Skinner [26] as "the ability to seek, find, understand, and appraise health information from electronic sources and apply the knowledge gained to addressing or solving a health problem." Wehmeyer [27] introduced three concepts: symbolism, esthetics, and perceived necessity. Symbolism reflects the meaning or status associated with the device (eg, having a mobile device may signify group membership or a certain social status). Esthetics refers to the appearance of the device (eg, the

perceived beauty of the device may affect the attachment to the device). Finally, the perceived necessity of the device may affect attachment to the device, creating anxiety when the device is not accessible. Xie et al [28] addressed decision-making autonomy, defined as the level of decision making desired when information about health conditions is electronically available.

No instrument included a complete psychometric evaluation (Multimedia Appendix 2). The most frequently assessed property was internal consistency (21/23, 91%). None of the measures were assessed for sensitivity to change, but several authors indicated the instrument was not designed to assess change. Few measures were assessed for test-retest reliability (4/23, 17%) and only one instrument had been tested for interrater reliability. Testing for aspects of validity ranged from 48% (11/23) of measures tested for criterion, convergent, concurrent, or discriminant validity to 78% (18/23) reporting establishing content validity. Approximately half (13/23, 57%) reported how to score the instrument. Only six (26%) assessed the readability of the instrument for end users, although all measures rely on patient self-report.

Table 3, Concepts 7 to 12 identified in reviewed instruments (N=23)

Article	Concepts and model authors						
	Perceived ease of use [19,21-23]	Policies & procedures [20]	Risk & benefits [23]	Satisfaction/ acceptability/ preferences [23]	Social influence [21]	Usability [23]	Concepts not included in models
Atkison, 2007 [29]	Х					Х	
Bakken, 2006 [30]	X			X		X	
Brockmeyer, 2013 [31]	X		X	X			
Brooke, 1996 [32]				X		Χ	
Bunz, 2004 [33]	X			X		X	
Demiris, 2000 [34]	X		X	X		X	
Finkelstein, 2012 [35]	X			X			
Henkemans, 2013 [36]	X		X	X		X	
Hudiberg, 1991-1996 [37-40]	X		X	X	Х		Stress
Jay & Willis, 1992 [41]	X				Х	Х	
Lewis, 1993 [42]	X		X	X		Χ	
Lin, 2011 [43]	X			X		Х	
Martinez-Caro, 2013 [44]	X		X	X			
Montague, 2012 [45]	X		X	Х		X	
Norman, 2006 [46]	Х			X			eHealth literacy
Pluye, 2014 [47]	X			Х			
Schnall, 2011 [48]	Х		X				
Tariman, 2011 [49]	X			Х			
Wang, 2008 [50]	Х			X		Χ	
Wehmeyer, 2008 [27]	x			х			Symbolism; esthetics; perceived necessity
Wolfradt, 2001 [51]				X			
Xie, 2013 [28]	x			X		X	Decision- making autonomy
Yip, 2003 [52]				Х			

Early instruments (prior to the year 2000) [32,37-42] focused on using a computer, reflecting early consumer adoption of personal computers. These measures are not specifically focused on "health" use. During the decade from 2000 to 2009, measures that focused on use of information technology related to health began to emerge, focusing primarily on telehealth [30,34,52]; other measures focused on eHealth literacy [46] and use of eHealth education [29]. Other concepts for which measures were developed included using the Internet [51], use of computers [33], use of mobile devices [27,50], and the effect of video games on engagement [31], although these measures did not specifically focus on "health." Since 2010, the frequency of "health" themes increased including communication between patients and providers [47,49], patient trust [45], preferences [28], satisfaction [35], and use of technology for care provision [48] or patient self-management [36,48]. One instrument also focused more generally on use of computers [43], and one focused on patient loyalty to online services [44].

## Discussion

# **Principal Findings**

Of the 23 articles reviewed, no instrument included a complete psychometric evaluation. The most frequently assessed property was internal consistency. Testing for aspects of validity ranged from 48% (11/23) to 78% (18/23). Approximately half (13/23, 57%) reported how to score the instrument. Only six (26%) assessed the readability of the instrument for end users, although all the measures rely on self-report.

Common theoretical concepts addressed in the instruments were effectiveness, efficiency, hardware/software, perceived ease of use, and satisfaction. A notable exception is that only three instruments focused on communication. Conversely, we identified some concepts addressed in the instruments that have not been included in current theoretical models, including stress, esthetics, eHealth literacy, comfort, and decision-making autonomy. Current instruments require fuller evaluation of psychometric properties.

Measures that can be applied consistently across technologies and platforms are needed so that distinct platforms that serve the same purpose can be compared. For example, evaluation of an

intervention to treat depression could utilize a standard measure of usability, regardless of whether it was a mobile app or Web-based (eg, "It took many tries before I knew how to use the key features of this technology" and "I found the layout of the features very intuitive"), regardless of the platform used to deliver the intervention (eg, mobile app or online program). Using these types of measures, investigators and others implementing eHealth technologies can compare technologies and use this information when selecting a technology.

Our review expands on the AHRQ compendium, which lists available measures but provides less detail about their other attributes. We also investigated whether the psychometric properties of the measures had been established, which is a critical information need when selecting a measure for research or evaluation. However, although most would agree that instruments with psychometric properties are very helpful, there may also be a role for using self-developed questions that may more clearly and directly get at the target construct or a specific patient behavior. The AHRQ compendium is populated with many such instruments and future researchers should carefully consider the trade-offs of using investigator-developed question sets that may specifically address their question of interest

versus a more validated instrument that may also need to be modified to fit an eHealth evaluation. Furthermore, investigators may want to consider instruments listed in the AHRQ compendium for further development and psychometric evaluation.

Implementation of eHealth technologies can involve substantial investment in terms of costs and effort. Research on eHealth has also increased dramatically over the past several years, yet studies rarely utilize common methods and/or instruments. The results of this project provide critical insights regarding existing eHealth instruments and identify gaps for which new instruments are needed. Use of common and psychometrically sound instruments can inform future studies so that the results from multiple studies can be compared and synthesized.

Although most the instruments identified in this review were published after the year 2000, rapidly changing technology makes instrument development challenging. Platform-agnostic measures need to be developed that focus on concepts important for use of any type of eHealth innovation. Instrument development as a research enterprise is typically undervalued, relative to more direct practice-relevant research. Instrument development can also be a complex and

lengthy process. Thus, funding agencies should consider addressing this gap, given the persistent and expected growth in the deployment of technology to improve care processes and patient outcomes.

## Limitations

We did not conduct a comprehensive search for all published uses of the identified instruments as it was beyond the scope of this study. The grey literature (eg, conference abstracts, dissertations, and unpublished studies) were not included in our review. Furthermore, the review potentially missed some published as well as unpublished measures based on keyword choice and/or elimination of articles through review of title or abstract. Finally, our choice of theoretical models used to analyze the selected articles may impose limitations on our findings.

#### Conclusions

Based on our review, we highlight some of the more useful measures that we believe could be useful in most technology studies. These include the eHealth literacy scale (eHEALS) [46], the Computer-Email-Web Fluency Scale [33], and the System Usability Scale [32]. Additional research is needed to build and further refine measures of literacy such as the eHEALS or Computer-Email-Web Fluency Scale so

that researchers have access to a validated measure of user's comfort with a target technology.

Development of a standard measure of the intuitiveness of the user interface would allow platform-agnostic comparisons between user interfaces (eg, two mobile apps for depression, or comparison of differences between a Web-based and mobile app). Finally, given the explosion of new technologies in the market focused on health behaviors, a standard measure of the relative advantage of a new technology feature when compared to prior methods and/or a standard measure of the degree to which new technology facilitates a target behavior (eg, weight loss, exercise, self-management techniques, or receipt of care) could provide important insights to inform technology adoption strategies.

Advances in eHealth offer tremendous potential to improve access to care, efficiency of care delivery processes, and overall quality. Significant resources are being invested in eHealth technologies, driven in part by meaningful use requirements.

Consumer behavioral health interventions are increasingly being made available via multiple platforms (eg, computer vs mobile versions of interventions proven effective for in-person delivery). Identification of

useful and valid measures to evaluate these interventions has important potential to contribute to improved implementation, clinical practice, and ultimately population health since insights gleaned from standardized measurement can directly inform system improvements and optimal implementation strategies. In addition, having better measures to evaluate implementation of eHealth technologies will help improve consumers' experiences with technologies and assess whether use of these technologies is making a measurable difference in quality of care or the patient experience. More longitudinal research will be needed to develop measures that more comprehensively address the wider frame of concepts important for the meaningful implementation of eHealth technologies.

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## **Abbreviations**

- AHRQ: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- CINAHL: Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature
- **GEM**: Grid-Enabled Measures
- **HAPI**: Health and Psychosocial Instruments
- **PROMIS**: Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement System
- VA: Veterans Health Administration

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# CHAPTER 4 – STATE OF ADVANCE CARE PLANNING AND PROVIDER USABILITY OF ELECTRONIC END-OF-LIFE DOCUMENTS

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## **Abstract**

BACKGROUND: The 1991 Patient Self-Determination Act mandates healthcare organizations inform patients of their right to facilitate their own health care decisions through the creation of an advance directive (AD). With only one-third of Americans having an AD [1] and 65-76% of physicians being unaware of ADs existence in the medical chart [2], information gathering is necessary to explore process improvements and solutions. OBJECTIVES: To establish a baseline of satisfaction and usability, among medical care providers within the University of Missouri Health System, with the current advance care planning (ACP) process and documentation within the electronic medical record (EMR). METHODS: Qualified healthcare

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professionals (n=364) completed an 11-question online structured questionnaire designed to identify providers' retrieval of ACP documents, knowledge of ACP resources, barriers to wider use/recall of documents, and ranking of strategic initiatives priorities. RESULTS: While 64% of survey respondents had assisted patients with creating an advance directive (AD), 77% felt somewhat comfortable or less with assisting patients in creating or modifying their AD. Almost half (45%) were unfamiliar with the current ACP resource book utilized within the health system. A majority (83%) of respondents do not see or access ADs in the EMR and have experienced retrieval barriers. Only 12% reported the EMR location of ADs is easy to locate and access. DISCUSSION: Findings support the need for enhancements to the ACP process. This study identified the top-ranking utilization barriers and prioritization areas to direct future initiatives and innovations.

#### Keywords

Advance directive; electronic health record; information exchange; patient-centered care

# Background

Individual preferences for end-of-life medical care are explored during the advanced care planning (ACP) process and defined within a

document known as an advance directive (AD). ACP informs the creation of a written plan to speak for the patient when they become unable to speak for themselves due to cognitive impairment, delirium, or decision-making in patients who do not retain capacity [3]. Without an AD, individuals often receive extensive life-sustaining treatment that is often burdensome and undesirable, without regard for personal preferences [4]. With one in four adults in the United States (US) having an AD [5], low adoption has been found to impact quality of life, patient values and choice, care coordination, cost of care, and the patient's family and loved ones grieving process [6]. Adherence to patient values and beliefs is valued by patients, loved ones, and health care providers through all episodes of care. However, a fundamental gap in the adoption of and education in ACP leads to undesirable and fragmented care coordination at a critical time point [7].

The Institute of Medicine *Approaching Death* (1997) and *Dying in America* (2014) reports echo ongoing key shortcomings in the dying process in America. These setbacks include the lack of: awareness in completing AD forms, clinician adoption of directives, institutional support, cultural and legal factors, evaluation of long-term effectiveness of ACP, application of shared decision making models,

and integration into the EMR [7,8]. With sustained low adoption rates, consumer participation in the activity of ACP and familial impact is explored. The majority (62%) of U.S. adults have given some or no thought to their wishes for end-of-life medical treatment [1]. One-third (35%) having their wishes either formally or informally written down/discussed and 22% of the population aged 75 and older report no written wishes or discussions had occurred surrounding their end of life preferences [8]. While only 11% of adults having a valid ACD at the time of hospital admission [9]; the majority of adults (76%) were willing to begin the process [9]. Reported barriers specific to AD form adoption and completion include fear and confusion about the documents [10], unfamiliarity with ADs and the process, understanding the clinical, legal, and ethical frameworks in which lifesustaining technologies would be used [11], and being too young [12]. It is suggested that ACP participation may be more successful if tied to wider future planning processes and redesigned AD formats [13].

Other contributors to low ACP adherence involve challenges with the present-day AD paper document. AD forms were found to be widely varying in retrieval method, language, structure, content, legal requirements, educational information, and storage location [6]. Additionally, the AD forms were deemed difficult to interpret by both patients in expressing their wishes and their providers in translating those wishes into a medical treatment plan [6]. For example, hypothetical situations in AD's may not be relevant to a patients' clinical presentation. Furthermore, until CMS' payment rule in 2016, no financial reimbursement existed for providers to spend valuable clinic time having end-of-life conversations with patients.

Lastly, significance exists in reconceptualizing ACP from the perspective of the patient. A traditional academic assumption of ACP is that ACP occurs within the context of the physician-patient relationship [14]. Surveyed patient-participants challenged this assumption in viewing ACP as a largely social process involving close loved ones and infrequently involving physicians [14]. Another traditional academic assumption is the focus on completing the written AD forms whereas participants stated however patients were found to place more value on having the conversation with loved ones with the aim of preventing future familial burden [14].

# History of Advance Care Planning

In the 1900s, half of individuals died at home [15]. In 1963, the American Heart Association formally endorsed the use of

Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation [16]. In 1967, an attorney, Louis Kutner, drafted the first written living will [17]. In 1975, the notable Karen Ann Quinlan case went before the courts and, after nearly a decade in a vegetative state, her family was allowed to discontinue Karen Ann's mechanical ventilator [18]. In the 1980s, living will legislation was present in 39 states and the notable case of Nancy Cruzan was overturned at the U.S. Supreme Court level authorizing the removal of her feeding tube after years in a persistent vegetative state [19]. In December 1990, the Patient-Self Determination Act (PDSA) was passed by the U.S. Congress requiring health care institutions and home health agencies to provide written advance health care directive information to patients upon admission to their facility in efforts to inform them of their right to facilitate their own health care decisions, their right to accept or refuse medical treatment, and their right to make an advance health care directive [20]. Individual physicians and private clinics were exempt from this act and the act did not impact state laws as it had hoped [20]. Also in the 1990s, the American Medical Association and American College of Physicians promoted ACP as an essential component of medical care. Presently, one-third of deaths occur in hospitals and almost half occur in hospice [21]. Patient educational materials, supporting services, and documentation requirements of the paper forms continue to vary by facility and by state and largely have remained unchanged since the PDSA of 1990 [22]. In January 2016, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services began, for the first time, to reimburse qualified healthcare professionals for having end-of-life care planning conversations with Medicare patients; quality metrics have yet to be released. With this new stream of revenue for providing ACP services, attention to the reconceptualization and improvement in the ACP process is an opportunity that awaits.

## Health Economics and an Aging Population

Health care expenditures for persons in their last year of life presently account for over 25% of Medicare spending [23]. By 2050, the population aged 80 and older is projected at 30.9 million [24], a 300% increase from the 11.3 million in 2010 [25]. This population is expected to be both more ethnically diverse and have more chronic conditions than previous generations [26]. With the rapid increase in the aging population, a core focus in geriatric care and population health planning is placed on engaging the population in conversations surrounding their values, beliefs, and wishes in considering and

planning for care at the end-of-life. The capacity for providers to provide personalized medicine to patients, now and in the future, is reliant on stable avenues of communication between the patient and care provider(s) paired with technological capabilities robust enough to access, document, exchange, share, and store vital data retrieved as information.

## Methods

A survey was distributed to providers within the University of Missouri Health System to establish a baseline of satisfaction and usability, with the current advance care planning (ACP) process and documentation within the EMR. Qualified healthcare professionals (nursing staff, social workers, physicians, residents, and fellows) attached to the palliative care, critical care, intensive care unit, internal medicine, or family medicine services and/or individuals who work with patients making end-of-life care plans, were invited to participate. An 11-question online structured questionnaire (Appendix C) was developed to identify providers' retrieval of ACP documents, knowledge of ACP resources, barriers to wider use/recall of documents, and ranking of strategic initiatives priorities. Participation in the survey was voluntary and was open to providers from October-

November 2015. Participants were provided a survey invitation (Appendix D) that detailed the purpose of the research, procedures to be followed, time duration, statement of confidentiality, and voluntary participation of the research. Consenting participants will be enrolled in the study. Following the survey invitation (Appendix D), weekly reminder emails (total of 2) were sent to invited participants. This survey was reviewed and approved with an Exempt application by the University of Missouri-Columbia Institutional Research Board under Project #2003242 (Appendix E).

#### **Results and Discussion**

The survey had 364 respondents with self-reported occupations as nurse (73%), physician (21%), social worker (4%), clinical ethicist (1%), and other (2%). While 64% of survey respondents (N=364) had assisted patients with creating an AD, 77% felt somewhat comfortable or less with assisting patients in creating or modifying their AD. Almost half (45%) were unfamiliar with the *Life Choices* ACP resource book currently utilized within the health system, with 29% being somewhat familiar with the resource book. A majority (83%) of respondents do not see or access ADs in the EMR, and have experienced retrieval barriers. Those who do see/access ADs in the EMR reported the

documents are the appropriate length (39%), too long (19%), too short (16%), or it depends on the situation (34%). Only 12% reported the EMR location of ADs is easy to locate and access. Respondents were asked to review a list of 19 barriers to proper review and utilization of ADs and report how frequently they experience the barrier. Reponses were given a value of always (4), sometimes (3), rarely (2), or never (1), with the top-ranking six barriers emerging as:

1) Cannot locate document in EMR; 2) Applicability to current clinical presentation; 3) Family conflict with AD wishes; 4) Outside records not in EMR; 5) Difficulty advocating wishes to the care team; and 6)

Difficulty translating wishes into the care plan (Table 1).

#	Barriers to Utilization	Scale Total
1	Cannot locate document in EMR	270
2	Applicability to current clinical presentation	251
3	Family/guardian/spokesperson conflict with AD wishes	247
4	Outside records not in EMR (e.g., nursing home records)	246
5	Difficulty advocating wishes to care team	227

Table 1, Barriers to Advance Directive Utilization

Next, respondents ranked 12 proposed AD improvement areas in terms of high priority, medium priority, low priority, or not a priority with the top-ranking six prioritization areas emerging as: 1) General

population education on ACP; 2) Provider education/training on endof-life discussions with patients and/or surrogates; 3) A computerized
program to guide patients/users through the ACP process; 4) Provider
education/training on completion of the AD; 5) Improved workflow/
ownership of patient education with EOL medical decision-making; and
6) Patient's ability to upload their own AD and/or DPOA documents
directly to their medical record (Table 2).

Table 2, Priority Improvement Areas

#	Priority Improvement Areas	Scale Avg.
1	General population education on ACP	179
2	Provider education/training on end-of-life discussions with patients and/or surrogates	171
3	A computerized program to guide patients/users through the ACP process	169
4	Provider education/training on completion of the ACD	168
5	Improved workflow/ownership of patient education with EOL medical decision-making.	158
6	Patients ability to upload their own ACD and/or DPOA documents directly to their medical record	156

Results from the provider questionnaire support the need for improvement to the ACP process, directed by the health system, focused at both the patient and provider-level.

## **Conclusion and Future Directions**

This paper aims to summarize the current state of advance care planning in the U.S. and the opportunities that exist to improve end-of-life care. The provider survey identified the most prevalent barriers to AD utilization within the EMR and in identifying prioritization areas for improvement of advance care planning within the health system. Future clinical research opportunities are discussed below to guide further improvements and innovations.

# Computer Decision-Aid

Over the past decade, research of ACP in the U.S. has increased, however, few published studies have evaluated user preferences and outcomes of a web-based ACP application [27-29]. These studies reported successful interventions with high satisfaction [27], high accuracy [28-29], and where patient-participants agreed (84%) with the physician translation of their directive [28]. While limited, these study results suggest the potential for continued innovation in the delivery and evaluation of computer-based ACP. In harmony, shifting towards an interactive web-based software could support the integration for real-time transfer of information into the EMR. This future opportunity is significant as, if developed as a patient-centered

education framework, could reach a broader population than the existing low impact educational tools that are used and hosts the opportunity to capture and translate patient preferences into individualized medical action that is accessible to medical providers across health systems.

#### **EMR & Education**

Further data integration and retrieval efforts are necessary to address provider utilization barriers. Future opportunities exist to both improve the current process and transform the manner in which ADs are created, stored, and retrieved by the patient and the medical team. These utilization barriers require improvements within the EMR and/or health information exchange(s) and multimodal educational initiatives with the general public and medical provider teams. By improving the AD exchange environment, patient-provider communication is enhanced through the use of health information technology with aims to more clearly and effectively articulate patient values and choice to the medical team. Enabling capabilities for future private insurance plan reimbursements with qualities metrics tied to reimbursement should be taken into consideration. The identified improvement areas support the societal trend of shifting from paper-

based AD forms towards the use of web-based technology. Exchanging this information electronically empowers health information professions to mine population data for completion, preferences, outcomes, length of stay, cost of medical care, familial satisfaction with care, etc. The capture and analysis of this information, currently not available within most systems, enables broader population health planning.

#### Future Skills to be Gained

From the patients' perspective, skills to be gained from process-based improvements and innovation include improving the knowledge translation of ACP choices, increasing the ease of completion of ACP documents, and improving individual ownership of ACP decisions and choices. From the perspective of the provider, skills will be gained by sharing vetted methods which increase adoption of patient-preferred tools, leading to enhanced patient-provider ACP conversations and overall understanding of individualized goals of care. Furthermore, enabling real-time provider access to a document consistent with patient values and with greater alignment and consistency with patient belief structures will impact the delivery of patient-centered care in medically necessary situations. Broader skills to be gained include

gaining an understanding of how clinical ACP documentation and provider-based ACP education can better align with adoption, learning, documentation, completion preferences of patients. With this understanding, the quality and applicability of clinical documentation, the clinical workflow, and storage and retrieval of documents within the health record may be improved. These advantages and innovations aim to support an overall promise in shifting the engagement, utility, conversation and translation of ACP documentation and decisions towards a pointed and personalized avenue in which patients are motivated and satisfied to participate.

### **Definition of Terms**

Advance Directive: Also known as advance healthcare directive, living will, or similar.

Advance care planning: The process of thinking and planning about your future death.

**Advance care plan:** A written summary of your wishes, preferences and decisions about your end of life care.

**Best interest:** A process clinicians use to assess, ascertain, and decide what is in the best interests for care for a person if they cannot say so themselves. Advance care planning tools such as advance directives and/or their durable power of attorney may be used to gain as much information as possible about a person wishes.

**DNR:** Do not attempt cardio-pulmonary resuscitation.

**Durable Power of Attorney (DPOA):** A legally appointed surrogate decision-maker.

**End of life care:** An approach to care for when somebody may be in the last years, year, months, weeks or days of life.

Hospice care: An approach to care (as in palliative care) which includes helping people who have an incurable illness live well until they die through person-centered care. Includes inpatient and

outpatient care, outreach, pain/symptom control, family support, conversations, education, and research.

Palliative care: A multi-professional approach to care for those who have an incurable illness (as in hospice care) with a focus on physical, emotional, psychological, spiritual, and social support. Takes part in any setting and for those with cancer or non-cancer diagnoses.

Patient-centered care: An individualized approach to care which treats the patient as a unique individual.

**Person-centered care:** An approach to care where a provider aims to understand the person (patient) within the context of their own social relationships, networks, and lived experiences.

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## **CHAPTER 5 – CONCLUSION**

Interventional informatics, a sub-specialty of health informatics, is an approach which supports health information professionals to apply data-driven innovations focused on generating unique evidencegathering approaches which contribute to the coordination and delivery of health care and the management and insight of population health. The research presented in this thesis aims at producing innovations and knowledge, from three separate studies, that drive the field of health informatics forward. Each of these studies is linked in identifying, evaluating, and/or developing interventions with potential to shift current foci to robust processes that support the exchange of information, quality of programmatic services, measure outcomes of patient-facing applications, improvements in patient care, improved alignment between self-directed continuous quality improvement projects and their organizational initiatives and garner efficiencies and effectiveness of care delivery protocols. Through a greater understanding of these opportunities, barriers, application, innovation, and outcomes facing health information technology professionals, we are able to better allocate resources to current and future industry needs.

First, the "Building and Launching an Online Quality Improvement Information Exchange for Home Visiting Programs in Missouri" chapter describes the characteristics, development, build, and launch of a quality improvement practice exchange virtual environment for use by home visiting agencies in Missouri and present results of three usability pilot tests and the site launch. Pilot testing results were overall positive, desirable, and vital to improving the site prior to the full-launch. The majority of reviewers stated they would access and use the learning materials (87%), use the site for completing CQII (80%), and reported that the site will benefit their work teams in addressing agency challenges (66%). The majority of reviewers also approved of the developed fidelity assessment: as, easy to use (79%), having a clear purpose (86%), providing value in selfidentification of CQII (75%), and recommendations were appropriate (79%). The System Usability Scale (SUS) score increased (10%) between pilot groups 2 and 3, with a mean SUS score of 71.6, above the U.S. average of 68. The site launched to 60 invited users; the majority (67%) adopted and used the site. Development of the Gateway environment aimed to complement the existing MIECHV CQI framework. We were successful in meeting these aims by: 1) adding

CQI elements that are missing or ineffective, such as standardized training tutorials, webinars, and structured CQI project forms, 2) adding elements for CQI identification and program evaluation, such as the "Program Fidelity and CQI Assessment" and 3) offering LIAs a network to share CQI experiences and collaborate at a distance, through avenues such as the discussion forums and the *CQI Storyboard Library*. We built a stable site that successfully: achieved an above average (71.6) usability score, developed an acceptable (78% overall satisfaction) fidelity self-assessment tool to prioritize CQI activities, and concluded with a site adoption rate of 67% averaging 29 page views per day.

Through the development and launch of the site, lessons were learned. First, the site design is fluid and appears to harness the necessary adaptability to change as the programs and/or end-users change. Second, encouraging open communication between end-users, developers, and program administrators was a necessary activity in garnering shared vision and ownership of the site. Third, further pilots are necessary to understand how individuals are motivated to use the site. Last, the site would benefit from storing and sharing data, ideally real-time data, where end-users could benchmark their performance.

This data integration, powered by informatics frameworks, requires a shift in program willingness to share the data both with the site and with all site users.

Limitations to this study exist. First, significant run-time is essential for adoption and utility of any new technology. The short run (12 weeks) did not allow adequate time for a pilot test where generalizable impact to larger user populations could be assured. Further and lengthier pilots are necessary to gather and analyze key usage trends over time. Second, a lack of prior studies on comparable web-based tools pose challenges in the ability to set baseline measurements of whether the web-based CQI intervention achieved meaningful success. Lastly, from conceptualizing a problem for improvement to measurement of current to future-state change to monitoring and maintaining the change, there is a strong reliance on certifiable and accessible program performance data. Due to data reporting system barriers, external and independent from the site, shared performance data was unable to be integrated as a site resource.

Overall, the *Gateway* site adds value to the application of quality improvement beyond the conducted study. Funding has been secured

for site expansion to programs and agencies beyond the built population with pilot feasibility study in progress with results to be shared in the near future.

Second, chapter three entitled "Psychometric Properties of Patient-Facing eHealth Evaluation Measures: Systematic Review and Analysis" reviews eHealth technology instruments for outcomes and evaluation components geared towards patient outcomes. The search strategy yielded 47,320 articles from six databases, which after review for inclusion, led to 23 articles included in this review. Of these, 16 described an instrument and six used an instrument; however it was found that none included a complete psychometric evaluation. Then, the 23 instruments were categorized, leading to twelve emerging concepts: clinical content, communication, effectiveness, efficiency, frequency/consistency of use, hardware and software, perceived ease of use, policies and procedures, risk and benefits, user preferences, social influence, and usability. Three measures (eHEALS, Computer-Email-Web Fluency Scale, and System Usability Scale) emerged as measures which may benefit technology studies most; however work remains to build and further refine these measures.

Limitations of this study include excluding grey literature (eg, conference abstracts, dissertations, and unpublished studies), possible removal of articles based on missed keyword and/or through review of title or abstract. Last, the authors' choice of theoretical models used to analyze the selected articles may impose limitations on the findings.

Overall, this review highlights important gaps in the availability of psychometrically sound measures to evaluate eHealth technologies. While advances in eHealth promise improved access to care and overall quality, further work is necessary. Future work may surround developing: a measure of the relative advantage of a new technology/features when compared to prior methods, a measure of the degree to which new technology/features facilitates a change (eg, behavioral, physical), a measure to evaluate the platform delivery method (eg, desktop, mobile, kiosk), and a measure to evaluate implementation of eHealth technologies.

Third, the "State of Advance Care Planning and Provider Usability of Electronic End-of-Life Documents" chapter describes (1) a brief history of advance care planning (ACP) in the United States (U.S.), (2) the current state of ACP in the U.S., (3) presents results of a health provider survey that identified barriers to utilization of end-of-life care

preference documents stored in the electronic medical record (EMR), and (4) presents results of a health provider survey that identified prioritization areas where improvements to the EMR technology, clinical workflow and process, and the delivery of education to both providers and patients should be made.

The provider survey found that the current HIT lacks movement towards an infrastructure of capturing patient preferences that can potentially translate to medical decision-making in end-of-life care. The survey had 364 respondents with self-reported occupations as nurse (73%), physician (21%), social worker (4%), clinical ethicist (1%), and other (2%). While 64% of survey respondents (N=364) had assisted patients with creating an advance directive (AD), 77% felt somewhat comfortable or less with assisting patients in creating or modifying their AD. Almost half (45%) were unfamiliar with the *Life Choices* ACP resource book currently utilized within the health system, with 29% being somewhat familiar. A majority (83%) of respondents do not see or access ADs in the EMR, and have experienced retrieval barriers. Those who do see/access ADs in the EMR reported the documents are the appropriate length (39%), too long (19%), too

short (16%), or it depends on the situation (34%). Only 12% reported the EMR location of ADs is easy to locate and access.

Within a large health system, it was necessary to identify the most prevalent barriers to utilization of the electronically-stored AD and identify improvement areas/goals that the majority of respondents agreed with. Based on respondent ranking, the top-ranking six barriers to utilization of the AD emerged as: 1) Cannot locate document in EMR; 2) Applicability to current clinical presentation; 3) Family conflict with AD wishes; 4) Outside records not in EMR; 5) Difficulty advocating wishes to care team; and 6) Difficulty translating wishes into care plan. The top-ranking six prioritization areas for improvement emerged as: 1) General population education on ACP; 2) Provider education/training on end-of-life discussions with patients and/or surrogates; 3) A computerized program to guide patients/users through the ACP process; 4) Provider education/training on completion of the AD; 5) Improved workflow/ ownership of patient education with EOL medical decision-making; and 6) Patient's ability to upload their own AD and/or DPOA documents directly to their medical record.

Overall, results from the provider questionnaire support the need for improvement to the ACP process, directed by the health system,

focused at both the patient and provider-level. Future research opportunities exist to guide further improvements and innovations in end-of-life care research and the overall experience. These opportunities include: 1) the adoption of a web-based ACP application for users to create, share, and transfer their unique end-of-life care preferences to their health provider/system of choice, 2) improvements to the EMR in how ADs are stored, indexed, and retrieved by the medical team, and 3) patient- and provider-level education (eg, goals of care, billing requirements, AD legal requirements, etc.), and 4) a standardized template for providers to document their ACP conversations with patients built for billing, sharing across health systems, and for retrieval by the medical team. With the potential to directly impact public health with the delivery of an innovative approach to the reinvention of the ACP activity, the health care industry will be better prepared to deliver patient-centered care across health systems.

In conclusion, the main contribution of this research to the field of health informatics is garnered from its' willingness to examine traditional pathways for knowledge discovery and when applied, innovative technologies, to better understand user-adoption, utility,

usability and feasibility of these technologies and the outcome of exposure to the technologies developed and evaluated from a multi-dimensional perspective of person, team, system, and outcomes.

## **APPENDIX**

Appendix A, Multimedia 1 119
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Appendix C, Provider Questionnaire
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Survey on Advance Care Directives" Survey 153
Appendix E, Institutional Review Board Approval

# Appendix A: Multimedia 1

SET A: PLATFORMS LOCATION		
Cell phone	Title/Abstract	
Computer	Title/Abstract	
Mobile phone	Title/Abstract	
Digital health	Title/Abstract	
Electronic communication*	Title/Abstract	
Email	Title/Abstract	
"Electronic mail"	MESH	
Gamification	Title/Abstract	
Gaming	Title/Abstract	
"Video games"	MESH	
Interactive voice response	Title/Abstract	
Internet	Title/Abstract	
Kiosk	Title/Abstract	
Mobile application*	Title/Abstract	
Online communit*	Title/Abstract	
Online forum*	Title/Abstract	
Online support group*	Title/Abstract	
Patient portal*	Title/Abstract	

SET A: PLATFORMS	LOCATION	
Personal digital assistant*	Title/Abstract	
Remote monitoring	Title/Abstract	
Secure Messaging	Title/Abstract	
Smart phone*	Title/Abstract	
Social networking	MESH	
Social network*	Title/Abstract	
Telecommunication	Title/Abstract	
"Telecommunications"	MESH	
Telemonitoring	Title/Abstract	
Telephone	Title/Abstract	
Text messaging	Title/Abstract	
Texting	Title/Abstract	
SMS	Title/Abstract	
User interface	Title/Abstract	
Video conferencing	Title/Abstract	
Web	Title/Abstract	
Wireless	Title/Abstract	
"Wireless technology"	MESH	
World wide web	Title/Abstract	

SET A: PLATFORMS	LOCATION	
"Computers, handheld"	MESH	
"Cellular Phone"	MESH	
"computers"	MESH	
"Internet"	MESH	
"telephone"	MESH	
"text messaging"	MESH	
"online systems"	MESH	

SET B: MEASUREMENT	LOCATION
Instrument	Title/Abstract
Interviews	Title/Abstract
Interview	Title/Abstract
Measure	Title/Abstract
"Outcome assessment (health care)"	MESH
"Process assessment (health care)"	MESH
Psychometrics	Title/Abstract
Psychometric	Title/Abstract
Questionnaire	Title/Abstract
Reliability	Title/Abstract

SET B: MEASUREMENT	LOCATION
"Reproducibility of results"	MESH
Scale	Title/Abstract
Survey	Title/Abstract
Tool	Title/Abstract
"Validation studies"	Publication Type
Validation	Title/Abstract
Validity	Title/Abstract
"Questionnaires"	MESH
"Evaluation studies as topic"	MESH
"Evaluation studies"	Publication Type

SET C: FUNCTIONS/ INFORMATION USE	LOCATION
"computer literacy"	Title/Abstract
consumer health informatics	Title/Abstract
"care coordination"	Title/Abstract
eHealth literacy	Title/Abstract
e-health literacy	Title/Abstract
information seeking	Title/Abstract
"health literacy"	MESH
heuristics	Title/Abstract
human computer interaction	Title/Abstract
"information literacy"	MESH
"meaningful use"	MESH
participatory design	Title/Abstract
patient access	Title/Abstract
patient activation	Title/Abstract
patient engagement	Title/Abstract
patient-provider communication	Title/Abstract
Doctor-patient communication	Title/Abstract
personal health information management	Title/Abstract
self-management;	Title/Abstract

SET C: FUNCTIONS/ INFORMATION USE	LOCATION
self management	Title/Abstract
"social support"	MESH
usability	Title/Abstract
user centered design	Title/Abstract
user-centered design	Title/Abstract
"case management"	MESH
"user-computer interface"	MESH
"consumer participation"	MESH
"patient access to records"	MESH
"health communication"	MESH
"health information management"	MESH
"self care"	MESH
case management	MESH
"information seeking behavior"	MESH
"attitude to computers"	MESH
"patient satisfaction"	MESH
"patient preference"	MESH
"patient acceptance of health care"	MESH
"health promotion"	MESH

SET D: HEALTHCARE OCCUPATIONS	LOCATION
Health*	Title/Abstract
Medicine	Title/Abstract
Nurse*	Title/Abstract
Dentis*	Title/Abstract
Psychiatr*	Title/Abstract
Pharmacist*	Title/Abstract
Pharmacy	Title/Abstract
Social work*	Title/Abstract
"Health occupations"	MESH
"Delivery of healthcare"	MESH
Psychology*	Title/Abstract
Medical	Title/Abstract
Nursing	Title/Abstract

SET E: EHEALTH/ TELEMEDICINE	LOCATION
eHealth	Title/Abstract
e-health	Title/Abstract
mHealth	Title/Abstract
m-health	Title/Abstract
"Health records, personal"	MESH
Telehealth	Title/Abstract
Telemedicine	Title/Abstract
Telepatholog*	Title/Abstract
Teleradiolog*	Title/Abstract
Telenurs*	Title/Abstract
Teledentist*	Title/Abstract
"Telemedicine"	MESH
"Therapy, computer-assisted"	MESH

## Appendix B: Multimedia 2

Citation	Atkinson, 2007	Bakken et al., 2006	Brockmyer, et al., 2009
Instrument name	No name	No name	Game Engagement Questionnaire
Construct	Perceived characteristics of an eHealth education innovation	Satisfaction with telemedicine	Engagement of players during violent video games; constructs examined include flow and psychological absorption
Theoretical foundation	Diffusion of innovations	NR	Rasch approach to measure development
Modification of another instrument	Yes	NR	No
# items	30	21	NR
Item types	Likert-type	Likert-type	yes/no questions
Administration time	NR	NR	NR
I tem development	Re-worded items from a previous study by Bolton (1983)	Selected 51 items from other surveys; telemedicine experts prioritized items & suggested new ones; developed English and Spanish versions	1) Existing measures were reviewed, 2) Focus groups were conducted with children and adults, 3) the measure was administered to different groups of players  Item development focused on the participant's tendency to become engaged in violent video games
Scoring	NR		NR
Readability	NR	8th grade (range across items was 2.2 to 12th grade)	NR
Sensitivity to change	NR	NR	NR

Citation	Atkinson, 2007	Bakken et al., 2006	Brockmyer, et al., 2009
Reliability: test-retest	NR	NR	NR
Reliability: inter- rater	NR	NR	NR
Reliability: internal consistency	Items with Cronbach's alpha ≥0.70 retained	Video Visits Cronbach's alpha 0.96; 0.92 for Use & Impact	NR
Validity: content	NR	Review by four telemedicine experts	Reviewed existing measures of related constructs and conducted focus groups for item construction.
Validity: criterion, convergent, concurrent, discriminant	NR	Significant discriminant validity between Hispanics and non- Hispanics	NR
Validity: construct	Confirmatory and exploratory factor analyses to evaluate a priori scales consistent with diffusion of innovation framework	Factor analysis resulted in two components: Video Visits and Use & Impact	NR
Sample	College students	Home based telemedicine intervention participants with diabetes	Junior high school students age 12 to 15 years' male undergraduates attending a midsized Midwestern university
Limitations	Use of a convenience sample, small sample size, one wave of data collection	Used different methods of administration in subgroups, e.g.,, mailed surveys vs. interviews Items with higher readability levels included words such	If expanded to include non-violent video games, additional items would need to be included

Citation	Atkinson, 2007	Bakken et al., 2006	Brockmyer, et al., 2009
		as telemedicine,	
		blood pressure	
		testing, blood sugar	
		testing, ADA	
		educational web	
		pages, and privacy.	

Citation	Brooke, 1996	Bunz, 2004	Demiris et el., 2000
Instrument name	System Usability Scale	Computer-email- web Fluency Scale	Telemedicine Patient Satisfaction Questionnaire
Construct	Usability	Computer and email fluency, Web navigation and editing	Consumer perception of the risks and benefits of home telecare
Theoretical foundation	NR	NR	NR
Modification of another instrument	NA	Yes	NR
# items	10	21	17
Item types	Likert-type	Likert-type	Likert-type
Administration time	NR	NR	NR
I tem development	20 participants rated two software systems (one rated easy to use, the other rated difficult to use) using an initial pool of 50 items. 10 items that led to the most extreme responses were selected for the final scale	Original 46 items- 32 participants identified confusing questions and possible content areas that were missing. This yielded 52 revised items then used in scale development. Final scale after reliability and validity studies yielded 21-item measure.	Items were selected from a review of literature and focus group discussions

Citation	Brooke, 1996	Bunz, 2004	Demiris et el., 2000
Scoring	The score contribution for items 1,3,5,7 and 9 is the scale position minus 1; the score contribution for items 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 is 5 minus the scale score. Scale contributions are summed, then multiplied by 2.5; scores have a range of 0 to 100.	Likert scale item summed	Responses based on 5- point Likert scale with overall scores ranging from 17 to 85; higher score indicates a more positive patient perception of telehomecare.
Readability	NR	NR	NR
Sensitivity to change	NR	NR	NR
Reliability: test- retest	NR	NR	The control group did not have a statistically significant change in overall scores after a 30-day period (mean difference=0.18, t=0.69, p=0.51). Also, there was no significant change in score for each item for the preand post-test in the control group.
Reliability: inter-rater	NR	NR	NR
Reliability: internal consistency	Intercorrelations of items ranging from ± 0.7 to ± 0.9	Total scale coefficient alpha=0.89; computer subscale=0.72. Email Subscale=0.75, Web Navigation =0.64., web editing 0.79.	Cronbach's alpha 0.8

Citation	Brooke, 1996	Bunz, 2004	Demiris et el., 2000
Validity: content	Software systems rated by users in the scale development process were generally agreed to be "really easy to use" or "almost impossible to use."	Reviewed by students for question design and presence or absence of key concepts.	Results from 9 focus groups and feedback from telemedicine researchers
Validity: criterion, convergent, concurrent, discriminant	NR	NR	NR
Validity: construct	In scale development, 10 items (from a pool of 50) that elicited the most extreme responses when rating an easy-to-use and a hard-to-use software system of 50 were selected	conducted a principal component, varimax rotation, factor analysis which yielded four factors: Basic Computer Skills, Basic e-Mail scales, Web navigation, and Web editing. Total percent of variance accounted for was 67.3%. The CEW showed adequate independence from other measures of computer use and satisfaction such as the Computer Use Scale, (Panero, Lane, & Napier, 1997) frequency of use, comfort with computer use, number of computer courses taken. Duration of Internet Usage and Level of	High correlation between similarly worded items

Citation	Brooke, 1996	Bunz, 2004	Demiris et el., 2000
		Expertise predicted CEW fluency total score (R-square=0.368).	
Sample	Office systems engineering group	College students	Hospital patients (and some of their carers) who were about to be discharged to home care, home care patients in assisted-living facilities and members of a cardiac rehabilitation support group
Limitations	Does not identify what makes a system usable (or not)	Convenience sample of college students. Author acknowledges that scale might be improved by including items with more advanced skills.	Sample size; severity of disease was not included in analysis

Citation	Finkelstein, et al., 2012	Henkemans et al., 2013	Hudiburg, 1989, 1989, 1993, 1995
Instrument name	No name	eHealth Analysis and Steering Instrument	Computer Technology Hassles Scale
Construct	Patient satisfaction	3 dimensions that contribute to the effectiveness of eHealth supporting self- management: 1. Utility 2.Usability 3. Content	Computer-related stress independent of attitudes toward computer technology.
Theoretical foundation	NR	NR	NR
Modification of another instrument	NR	NA	NA

Citation	Finkelstein, et al., 2012	Henkemans et al., 2013	Hudiburg, 1989, 1989, 1993, 1995
# items	15	32	37
Item types	Likert-type and 3 open ended items	Dichotomous items (applicable, not applicable)	Severity rating scale
Administration time	NR	NR	NR
Item development	Compiled from a literature review and other surveys and item banks	Generated 43-items to reflect the three concepts described above.	Patterned after the Daily Hassles Scale
Scoring	Five point Likert scale; scoring range 15 to 75	0 or 1 for each item which is summed for the total score	The number of hassles endorsed is counted with a total score ranging from 0 to 69. A second way to score is deriving a total severity score by adding the severity for all the items checked, with a possible range from 0 to 207. The two types of scoring are highly correlated.
Readability	Sixth grade based on Flesch-Kincaid Readability Index	NR	NR
Sensitivity to change	NR	Construct not expected to change.	Not necessarily expected to change.
Reliability: test- retest	Testing approximately 2.5 months apart; intra-class correlation coefficient was 0.77	NR	Test-Retest coefficient = 0.64 over a two-month time period.
Reliability: inter-rater	NR	Inter-rater reliability for items ranged from Kappa=0.41 to Kappa= 0.81. Three items showed perfect	NR

Citation	Finkelstein, et al., 2012	Henkemans et al., 2013	Hudiburg, 1989, 1989, 1993, 1995
		agreement.	
Reliability: internal consistency	Cronbach's alpha was 0.93 overall	Cronbach's alpha for three dimensions ranged between 0.56-0.62.	Coefficient alpha=0.95 for the full scale and 0.94 for the Computer Runtime Errors subscale and 0.89 for the Computer Information Problems subscale.
Validity: content	Based on sources of items, judgment of research team, and informal discussions with study participants	Face validity was tested through a Delphi process using Dutch experts. This process eliminated 8 items and retained 35. Both exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis yielded a one- factor solution.	NR
Validity: criterion, convergent, concurrent, discriminants	Criterion assessed by correlation between actual home monitoring adherence and self-reported adherence (0.87)	Determined the degree to which ratings actually predicted outcomes of RCTs that already occurred. RCT outcomes were put in categories: determinants of behavior, selfmanagement behavior, health outcomes.  Total eASI predicted 31% of the variance in the effect sizes of selected RCTs on self-management behavior. Usability and Utility subscales also predicted	Computer Technology Hassles Scale correlated positively with the Perceived Stress Scale (r=0.26) but was not related to the Computer Attitude Scale. The Computer Hassles Scale correlated with the Symptom Checklist – 90 (r=0.34, p<0.01).

Citation	Finkelstein, et al., 2012	Henkemans et al., 2013	Hudiburg, 1989, 1989, 1993, 1995
		effectiveness on self- management behavior. Total eASI score did not predict effectiveness on health outcome measures. Usability predicted 13% of the variance on health outcomes, but the other two subscales were not predictive.	
Validity: construct	NR	NR	Factor analysis confirmed a four factor model, in contrast to the two-factor model assumed by the two subscales.
Sample	Patients participating in home spirometry monitoring	7 men and 9 women age 20 to 25 years	College age students.
Limitations	Limited sample size	Authors acknowledge the reliability and validity could be improved upon. They recommend using a Likert type of response rather than dichotomous ratings. They also recommend some content changes for the items. Authors state they have a small sample of raters and did not use a large sample of RCTs. Moreover, the RCTs where predominantly European.	Needs to be validated in other populations; older instrument

Citation	Jay & Willis, 1992	Lewis, 1995	Lin, 2011
Instrument name	No name	Computer Usability Satisfaction Questionnaire	No Name
Construct	Seven dimensions of attitudes toward computers: comfort, efficacy, gender equality, control, dehumanization, interest, and utility	User satisfaction with computer system usability.	Computer literacy defined as "basic computer skills, whereas computer competency is defined as the computer skills necessary to accomplish a job task."
Theoretical foundation	NR	NR	NR
Modification of another instrument	NA	NA	NA
# items	32	19	22
Item types	Likert items across 7 factors	Likert-type scale	Likert-type
Administration time	NR	NR	NR
Item development	Compiled from a literature review	The PSSUQ, the measure that preceded the CSUQ, was created by IBM usability experts using a list of usability attributes "known to influence user perception of usabilitya series of investigations using decision support systems revealed a common set of five system characteristics associated with usability by several different user groups."	The scale developed in this study is based on the Ministry of Education course guidelines and relevant literatures on computer literacy and computer competency." The researchers narrowed the questionnaire to six constructs (domains) and their corresponding measurement items based on the literature.
Scoring	Factor scores	Average the scores	NR

Citation	Jay & Willis, 1992	Lewis, 1995	Lin, 2011
Readability	calculated for 7 factors, standardized to a mean of 0 and SD of 1 NR	from items to obtain the scale and subscale scores. Low scores are better	NR
Sensitivity to	NR	NR	NR
change Reliability: test- retest	NR	NR	NR
Reliability: inter- rater	NR	NR	NR
Reliability: internal consistency	Cronbach's alpha across 7 factors ranged from .54 to .82	Coefficient alpha exceeded 0.89, indicating acceptable scale reliability.	Cronbach's alpha values for the six constructs were .828, .867, .932, .838, .894, and .848, respectively; overall scale reliability was .923
Validity: content	7-factor structure developed with college students and confirmed in an elderly sample	Items were developed by IBM usability experts using a list of usability attributes known to influence user perception of usability.	Eleven experts reviewed content relevance; A content validity index between .6 and .8 was considered acceptable but requiring modification based on experts' suggestions. Of the 24 items, all scored higher than .82, except for Multimedia question 3, which scored .73. After adjustment of MM3, this study had a total of 24 measurement items. After an exploratory factor analysis, the

Citation	Jay & Willis, 1992	Lewis, 1995	Lin, 2011
			measure was narrowed down to 22 items.
Validity: criterion, convergent, concurrent, discriminant	NR	NR	Studied factor loadings (criterion > 0.7), Composite reliability values and AVE. Factor loadings for all items and CR values for all constructs were above .7. Average variance expected values for all constructs were above .5 (all values were above recommended levels).
Validity: construct	NR	NR	NR
Sample	Developed with college students and validated in an elderly sample	Employees of temporary health agencies with at least 3 months experience with a computer	Nursing students, and Exercise & Health Science department students; 79% were women.
Limitations	73% of the elderly validation sample were educated women; only short term training effects were measured (2 weeks)	The article described multiple questionnaires (e.g.,, PSSUQ, ASQ, CSUQ) and concluded that a limitation with all the tests were that the validity measures were all concurrent and that future research should measure the predictive validity. The authors indicate that further research should	Needs to be assessed with other populations.

Citation	Jay & Willis, 1992	Lewis, 1995	Lin, 2011
		utilize available scales to construct a "multi-trait- multimethod matrix to investigate convergent and discriminant validity for the construct of	
		usability."	

Citation	Pluye et al., 2014	Schnall & Bakken, 2011	Tariman et al., 2011
Instrument name	Information Assessment Method	No name	Acceptability e- Scale
Construct	Knowledge translation between information providers and consumers	Technology acceptance	Acceptability of online assessment of symptom or quality of life screening for cancer patents
Theoretical foundation	Acquisition cognition – Level of Outcomes Model	Technology Acceptance Model	NR
Modification of another instrument	No	NA	Yes
# items	19	9	6
Item types	Yes/no	Likert-type scale	Likert-type
Administration time	NR	NR	NR

Citation	Pluye et al., 2014	Schnall & Bakken, 2011	Tariman et al., 2011
I tem development	Review of literature and prior work (Pluye et al. Four levels of outcomes of information-seeking: a mixed methods study in primary health care.  J Am Soc Inf Sci Tec. 2012;64(1):108–125. doi: 10.1002/asi.2279 3) Interviews with laypersons Expert panel review.	Items were developed based on constructs in the TAM and adapted from existing questionnaires.	Items selected from the 10-item post-survey patient impression Form developed by Carlson et al. (2001) and by Taenzer et al. (1997).
Scoring	NR	Responses to structured survey items are summed. Two items are negatively worded and reverse coded so that a higher score was associated with more positive attitudes towards the system.	1 to 5 for each Likert item; 80% of total possible score or higher considered "Acceptable"; no validation of this threshold provided.
Readability	NR	NR	Fifth-grade Level. No item was more than 14 words or more than 18 syllables.
Sensitivity to change	NR	NR	Not meant to assess change.
Reliability: test- retest	NR	NR	NR
Reliability: internal	NR	(a) Perceived Usefulness (3 items,	Coefficient alpha = 0.757; Item to

Citation	Pluye et al., 2014	Schnall & Bakken, 2011	Tariman et al., 2011
consistency		Cronbach's alpha=0.91), (b) Perceived Ease of Use (3 items, Cronbach's alpha=0.89) and (c) Perceived Barriers to Use (2 items, Cronbach's alpha=0.69).	total scale correlation: range 0.312-0.715 with only two below 0.40. Coefficient alpha =0.721. Item total scale correlations ranging from 0.211- 0.663 with only two falling below 0.40
Validity: content	Review of literature and prior work; Interviews with laypersons; Expert panel review	Extensive review of the literature	NR
Validity: criterion, convergent, concurrent, discriminant	NR	NR	NR
Validity: construct	NR	Principal component factor analysis with Varimax rotation (n=94), sampling adequacy for factor analysis assessed post hoc using the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) statistic to determine if criterion > 0.60 was met. Three factors explained a total of 84.9% of the variance: (a) Perceived Usefulness (b) Perceived Ease of Use and (c) Perceived Barriers to Use Behavioral Intention to Use was	Both exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis yielded a one- factor solution.

Citation	Pluye et al., 2014	Schnall & Bakken, 2011	Tariman et al., 2011
		measured through a single item.	
Sample	Laypersons (health information consumers), and 20 experts (co- authors) from McGill University, and 3 organizational partners (Canadian Pharmacists Association, College of Family Physicians of Canada, Centre for Literacy Québec)	Case managers who provide care to persons living with HIV	Older adults aged 65- 90 years
Limitations	Lay participants; convenience sample with adequate functional health literacy; needs further validation with a larger sample	Selection bias is possible since all participants in the study were Internet users and willing to complete and online survey, and so may be more likely to think favorably about technology. Respondents evaluated a mockup of a CCR with context specific links, rather than fully functional systems, and did not use the system at the point of care delivery.	Authors state it was validated on a non- diverse sample that is relatively well- educated.

Citation	Wang & Wang, 2008	Wehmeyer, 2008	Wolfradt & Doll, 2001
Instrument name	Mobile Computing Self Efficacy	User-device Attachment	Internet Motivation Scale
Construct	Mobile computing self- efficacy (MCSE) defined as a summary judgment of one's capability to engage in general and specific computing-related activities through a mobile computer.	User-device attachment	Assesses three motives: information, interpersonal communication, and entertainment.
Theoretical foundation	Social cognitive theory, MCSE can be a significant antecedent of behavioral intention to use mobile computing.	Draws on scholarly work from marketing, sociology, information science, and human-computer interaction (HCI).	NR
Modification of another instrument	NA	No	NA
# items	45 items (plus 6 global items)	19	20
Item types	Likert-type	Likert-type scale	5-point Likert scale
Administration time	NR	NR	NR
I tem development	Developed based on the definition of MCSE and a review of the literature on computer selfefficacy, selfperceived computer competence, network competence, web-specific selfefficacy, and Internet self-	Developed based on a review of the literature for each domain (symbolism, aesthetics, and perceived necessity) and subsequent group discussions with academic staff and IS and business students. Reviewed literature from marketing on material possession attachment, HCI	NR

Citation	Wang & Wang, 2008	Wehmeyer, 2008	Wolfradt & Doll, 2001
	efficacy. Reviewed with 2 information system professionals, two college teachers, and three mobile computer users.	research on the perception of aesthetics of physical and technical artifacts, and studies from sociology on cell phone usage.	
Scoring	Likert scale items are summed	NR	NR
Readability	NR	NR	NR
Sensitivity to change	NR	NR	NR
Reliability: test-retest	NR	NR	NR
Reliability: inter-rater	NR	NR	NR
Reliability: internal consistency	Cronbach's alpha for the MCSE = 0.98 (then each factor: using basic mobile computer operations [.93], general use of the Internet [0.97], using e-mail [0.97], using specific mobile services [0.96], accessing/underst anding mobile computer knowledge [0.94]	Cronbach's alpha =0.782 for symbolism, 0.860 for aesthetics, and 0.857 for necessity.	The internal consistencies (alpha) of the three motives were: 0.84 for information; 0.81 for interpersonal communication; and 0.76 for entertainment
Validity: content	The authors note that the rigorous procedures used to conceptualize the construct, and generate items representing the construct.	Preliminary items were reviewed with three expert judges (researchers in marketing and IS).	NR
Validity:	Criterion-related	Convergent validity	Entertainment

Citation	Wang & Wang, 2008	Wehmeyer, 2008	Wolfradt & Doll, 2001
criterion, convergent, concurrent, discriminant	validity assessed by the correlation between the total scores on the MCSE instrument and the 6 global measures of criterion (Cronbach's alpha=0.966); criterion- related validity=0.83, p<0.001 Nomological validity evaluated by testing the hypothesis that there is a positive correlation between the MCSE score and the intention to use mobile computing (r=0.588, p<0.001)	ranged from 0.27 to 0.50 suggesting that the factors are not orthogonal. Discriminant validity demonstrated by correlations not equal or close to 1.00 and low crossloadings in the inter-subscale correlations.	motive was positively associated with neuroticism and with all three personal factors (attitude, self-efficacy, innovativeness) but unrelated to the social factors Interpersonal communication motive is positively related to neuroticism and extraversion, to self- efficacy, and to expectations of one's peer group to use the Internet.
Limitations	Authors note that while it can be used to assess an individual's self-efficacy in mobile computing, a better way is to assess norms and then compare individual level with those norms	More work is needed to corroborate the initial conceptualization. Testing performed in non- probabilistic samples may bias the results and may not be generalizable. Snowball sampling used for confirmatory analysis may lead to respondent driven sampling. Nomological validity as not been established yet. The use of	Needs to be tested in other populations

Citation	Wang & Wang, 2008	Wehmeyer, 2008	Wolfradt & Doll, 2001
		subjective scales and self-reports may inflate correlations due to common method bias.	

Citation	Xie, et al., 2013	Yip et al., 2003
Instrument	Health Information Wants	
name	Scale	No name
Construct	Patients' preferences for the (1) amount of information desired about different aspects of a health condition (Information Preference Scale), and (2) level of decision- making autonomy desired across those same aspects (Decision Making Preference Scale).	Satisfaction with telemedicine
Theoretical foundation	The Health Information Wants (HIW) framework	NR
Modification of another	Yes	NR
instrument		
# items	21 for each scale	14
Item types	Likert-type (for the scales); multiple choice, open-ended	Likert-type
Administration time	15-45 minutes	NR
Item development	Previous literature and author's previous studies	Review of literature
Scoring	Calculate subscale scores and overall dimension scores as means across relevant items.	NR
Readability	NR	NR
Sensitivity to change	NR	NR
Reliability: test-retest	NR	NR
Reliability: inter- rater	NR	NR
Reliability: internal	Cronbach alpha coefficients ranged from .9571 for the	Internal consistency 0.93 (did not specify Cronbach's alpha);

Citation	Xie, et al., 2013	Yip et al., 2003
consistency	younger age group, and .98- .78 for the older age group	item total correlation >0.3; intraclass correlation coefficient 0.43
Validity: content	NR	Review by 14 physicians, nurses, and telemedicine experts
Validity: criterion, convergent, concurrent, discriminant	NR	Correlation between TSQ and self-reported adherence significant (r=0.45, p<0.05)
Validity: construct	Confirmatory factor analysis supported construct validity	Factor analysis resulted in 4 factors; one eliminated; explained 68% of variation
Sample	College students; older adults recruited from senior centers	Chinese sample with diabetes
Limitations	Convenience sample	Validated in Chinese sample, needs further testing in other populations; needs convergent and divergent validity testing

# Appendix C: Provider Questionnaire

pl no	o establish a baseline of the usefulness of and barriers in advance care planning, I am conducting a rief research survey in efforts to gather primary opinion from users who are directly related to care anning and are accessing the directives. This brief 11 question survey is voluntary and should take more than 10 minutes to complete. Your responses are anonymous, there is no way for me to know who filled out a survey. Feel free to skip any questions that you do not want to answer. If you have estions about the survey, please feel free to email me at rickardd@health.missouri.edu or the Healt Sciences IRB Office at irb@missouri.edu.
	ase select your occupation: lect up to two)
	Chaptain
_	Clinical Ethicist
_	Nurse (i.e. administrator, RN, LPN)
_	Physician (i.e. attending, fellow, resident)
	Social Worker
	Other Health Care Provider (i.e. OT, PT, Medical Assistant)
	Other, not listed, please describe:
Dir Se	my role, I have the opportunity (or have in the past) to assist patients with creating an Advance Care ective: elect One) The above statement is true. The above statement is false.
Ca Se	ase rank how comfortable you are (or would be) assisting a patient in creating or modifying their Advance re Directive:
	Very comfortable
_	Somewhat comfortable
	Somewhat uncomfortable  Variable State of the least of th
()	Very uncomfortable



I am familiar with the "Life Choices" book (pictured) which is available to help patients complete an Advance Care Directive: (Select One)

	familiar
O Son	newhat familiar
O Son	newhat unfamiliar
O Not	familiar familiar
	role, do you see Durable Power of Attorney (DPOA) documents more/less/equal to Advance Care res in the electronic medical record (EMR)? One)
O Ise	Durable Power of Attorney documents more frequently in the EMR.
O Ise	Advance Care Directive documents more frequently in the EMR.
O Ise	both documents equally in the EMR.
O Iha	ve never seen either document in the EMR.
O IIIu	
n my r	
n my r Select	One) specific
n my ro (Select Too	One) specific vague
In my re (Select Too Too	One) specific

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Too short				
O Too long				
The appropriate length				
O Depends on the situation				
I do not see Advance Care Directives				
In the EMR, the place (commonly under "Administrative Docum (Select One)	ents") the Ac	lvance Care D	irective is	stored is:
Easy to locate and access				
Somewhat easy to locate and access				
Not easy to locate and access				
Yes, I have experienced barriers.  No, I have not experienced barriers.  I have never utilized the EMR to access Advance Care Directives.				
Advance Care Directive form.				
Advance Care Directive form.  Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current	e "Other, plea	ase describe" i	tem boxes	below)
Advance Care Directive form.  Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation	e "Other, plea	ase describe" i Sometimes	tem boxes Rarely	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form.  Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation  Cannot locate document in the EMR	e "Other, plea Always	ase describe" i Sometimes	tem boxes Rarely	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form.  Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation  Cannot locate document in the EMR  Difficult to read due to poor handwriting	e "Other, plea Always	Sometimes	tem boxes Rarely	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form.  Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation  Cannot locate document in the EMR  Difficult to read due to poor handwriting  Difficulty advocating wishes to care team	e "Other, plea	ase describe" i	Rarely	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form.  (Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation  Cannot locate document in the EMR  Difficult to read due to poor handwriting  Difficulty advocating wishes to care team  Difficulty opening scanned document in EMR	e "Other, plea Always	se describe" i	Rarely	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form.  Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation  Cannot locate document in the EMR  Difficult to read due to poor handwriting  Difficulty advocating wishes to care team  Difficulty opening scanned document in EMR  Difficulty translating wishes into care plan  Family/Guardian/Spokesperson conflict with the Advance Care Directive	Always	se describe" i	Rarely	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form.  Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation  Cannot locate document in the EMR  Difficult to read due to poor handwriting  Difficulty advocating wishes to care team  Difficulty opening scanned document in EMR  Difficulty translating wishes into care plan  Family/Guardian/Spokesperson conflict with the Advance Care Directive wishes	e "Other, plea Always	ase describe" i	Rarely	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form.  Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation  Cannot locate document in the EMR  Difficult to read due to poor handwriting  Difficulty advocating wishes to care team  Difficulty opening scanned document in EMR  Difficulty translating wishes into care plan  Family/Guardian/Spokesperson conflict with the Advance Care Directive wishes  Missing/incorrect date	e "Other, plea Always	see describe" i	Rarely	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form.  Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation  Cannot locate document in the EMR  Difficult to read due to poor handwriting  Difficulty advocating wishes to care team  Difficulty opening scanned document in EMR  Difficulty translating wishes into care plan  Family/Guardian/Spokesperson conflict with the Advance Care Directive wishes  Missing/incorrect date  Missing notary authentication	e "Other, plea Always	Sometimes  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	Rarely	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form.  Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation  Cannot locate document in the EMR  Difficult to read due to poor handwriting  Difficulty advocating wishes to care team  Difficulty opening scanned document in EMR  Difficulty translating wishes into care plan  Family/Guardian/Spokesperson conflict with the Advance Care Directive wishes  Missing/incorrect date  Missing notary authentication  Missing witness signatures  am uncomfortable proceeding with the patients wishes, as written, in the	Always	ase describe" i	Rarely  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form. (Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation  Cannot locate document in the EMR  Difficult to read due to poor handwriting  Difficulty advocating wishes to care team  Difficulty opening scanned document in EMR  Difficulty translating wishes into care plan  Family/Guardian/Spokesperson conflict with the Advance Care Directive wishes  Missing/incorrect date  Missing notary authentication  Missing witness signatures  I am uncomfortable proceeding with the patients wishes, as written, in the Advance Care Directive	e "Other, plea Always	Sometimes  Sometimes	Rarely	below) Never
Advance Care Directive form. Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation Cannot locate document in the EMR Difficult to read due to poor handwriting Difficulty advocating wishes to care team Difficulty opening scanned document in EMR Difficulty translating wishes into care plan Family/Guardian/Spokesperson conflict with the Advance Care Directive wishes Missing/incorrect date Missing notary authentication Missing witness signatures am uncomfortable proceeding with the patients wishes, as written, in the Advance Care Directive ncomplete document	e "Other, plea Always	ase describe" i	Rarely  O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	below) Never
Please select how often you have experienced the below barries Advance Care Directive form. (Additional barriers not listed may be entered and ranked via the Applicability of Advance Care Directive wishes to the patient's current clinical presentation Cannot locate document in the EMR Difficult to read due to poor handwriting Difficulty advocating wishes to care team Difficulty opening scanned document in EMR Difficulty translating wishes into care plan Family/Guardian/Spokesperson conflict with the Advance Care Directive wishes Missing notary authentication Missing witness signatures I am uncomfortable proceeding with the patients wishes, as written, in the Advance Care Directive Incomplete document Inconsistent Outdated	e "Other, plea Always	ase describe" i	tem boxes Rarely	below) Never

Pages are missing in the scanned	document in the EM	R	0	0	0	0
Physician/team is uncomfortable fo Advance Care Directive	llowing the wishes,	as written, in the	0	0	0	0
Poor quality of the scanned docum	ent		0	0	0	0
Nishes are difficult to interpret			0	0	0	0
Other, please describe below:			0	0	0	0
Other, please describe below:			0	0	0	0
Other, please describe below:			0	0	0	0
Other, please describe below:			0	0	0	0
Other, please describe below:			0	0	0	0
Please prioritize improvemen each item into the prioritizatio (Additional priorities not listed	n level you selec	t:	e "Other, plea	se describe'	•	
Items			High Priority			
A computerized program to guide patients/users through the advance care planning process.						
EMR to require review/approval of any uploaded Advance Care Directive by treating provider.						
General population education on advance care planning.						
Improved workflow/ownership of patient education with end-of-life medical decision-making.			Medium Priori	ty		
New location in the EMR to store the Advance Care Directive.						
Patients ability to upload their own Advance Care Directive and/or Durable Power of Attorney documents directly to their medical record.						
Process development to improve adherence to Advance Care Directives.			Low Priority			
Provider education/training on completion of the Advance Care Directive.						
Provider education/training on end of life discussions with patients and/or surrogates.						
Provider education/training on futility/breaking bad news.			Note But "			
Provider education/training on surrogacy decision-making and guardianship.			Not a Priority			
Removal of the notary seal and/or witness signature requirement to increase ease of adoption.						
Review and revise the current hospital policy on Advance Care Directives.						



## Appendix D: Consent and Recruitment Email for "Providers Survey on Advance Care Directives" Survey

Consent & Recruitment Email for "Providers Survey on Advance Care

Directives" survey

Internet Survey – Message to Supervisors/Leaders/Chairs

Good <morning/afternoon>,

To establish a baseline of the usefulness of and barriers in advance care planning, I am conducting a brief research survey to gather primary opinion from users who are directly related to care planning and/or are accessing advance care directives. The purpose of this survey is to establish a baseline of satisfaction and usability, among care providers, with the current advance care planning process and documentation. We ask for your support by forwarding the below invitation to your <social workers, nursing staff, and physicians (including residents and fellows> who are attached to the palliative care, critical care, ICU, internal medicine, or family medicine services and/or work with patients making end-of-life care plans.

This brief 11 question survey is voluntary and should take no more than 10 minutes to complete. Your responses are anonymous, there is no way for me to know who filled out a survey. Feel free to skip any questions that you do not want to answer. If you have questions about the survey, please feel free to email me at <a href="mailto:rickardd@health.missouri.edu">rickardd@health.missouri.edu</a> or the Health Sciences IRB Office at <a href="mailto:irb@missouri.edu">irb@missouri.edu</a>. If you choose to participate, please click the following link to begin the survey: <a href="mailto:https://missouri.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\_bfJ6VeMH2B6RWhT">https://missouri.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\_bfJ6VeMH2B6RWhT</a>. Please respond no later than <insert future +30 days>.

Thank you in advance for your time and participation.

Sincerely,

Diana Rickard

Doctoral Research Fellow, MU Center for Health Ethics

## Appendix E: Institutional Review Board Approval



190 Galena Hall; Dc074.00 Columbia, MO 65212 573-882-3181 irb@missouri.edu

October 19, 2015

Principal Investigator: Diana Elizabeth Rickard Department: Health Mgmt & Informatics

Your Exempt Application to project entitled Providers Survey on Advance Care Directives was reviewed and approved by the MU Institutional Review Board according to terms and conditions described below:

IRB Project Number 2003242 IRB Review Number 206964

Initial Application Approval Date October 19, 2015 IRB Expiration Date October 19, 2016

Level of Review Exempt

Project Status Active - Open to Enrollment

Exempt Categories 45 CFR 46.101b(2) Risk Level Minimal Risk

Internal Funding Departmental Funding

The principal investigator (PI) is responsible for all aspects and conduct of this study. The PI must comply with the following conditions of the approval:

- No subjects may be involved in any study procedure prior to the IRB approval date or after the expiration date.
- All unanticipated problems, adverse events, and deviations must be reported to the IRB within 5 days.
- All changes must be IRB approved prior to implementation unless they are intended to reduce immediate risk.
- 4. All recruitment materials and methods must be approved by the IRB prior to being used.
- The Annual Exempt Form must be submitted to the IRB for review and approval at least 30 days prior to the project expiration date. If the study is complete, the Completion/Withdrawal Form may be submitted in lieu of the Annual Exempt Form
- 6. Maintain all research records for a period of seven years from the project completion date.
- Utilize all approved research documents located within the attached files section of eCompliance. These documents are highlighted green.

If you have any questions, please contact the IRB at 573-882-3181 or irb@missouri.edu.

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### VITA

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