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Perceptions of Using Smart Speaker Technology for Improving the Health and Wellness of Older Adults Living in a Low-Income Community

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Title: Perceptions of Using Smart Speaker Technology for Improving the Health and Wellness of Older Adults Living in a Low-Income Community

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Background

Residents living within a low-income housing development may benefit from the use of smart speaker technology as a means for creating a more engaging and healthier lifestyle. Smart speakers can also be helpful to older adults by providing more personalized or localized data and sensor technology integrated into these devices. However, to date, no studies have explored low-income seniors' perceptions of using a smart speaker in daily living.

Results

RedCap and SPSS 26 are the statistical analysis programs used. The demographic characteristics and smart speaker perceptions survey data will continue to be summarized through this SPSS analysis and the results will be updated as this information becomes available. To date, descriptive analysis indicated study participants were 51% male; 63% Black/African American, and 87% completed a high school degree/GED or less. The technology survey results indicated that 66% were smartphone users, 51% had laptops, 87% heard "of an Echo Dot or Alexa," and 89% reported that a reminder of medical appointments would be helpful. Also, 96% agreed it would be helpful to use the smart speaker if they had fallen, to alert someone.



Methods Conclusion

A cross-sectional survey with 46 individuals over age 50 was conducted.

This research is an important step towards understanding the perception of smart speaker technology by older adults living in low-income environments. There is a lot of room for growth in the gerontechnology space, especially with he engagement of older adults. Much of the current technology has been put on the market with imited evaluation and survey of the demographic that it intends to serve. This research can be used as a catalyst for other research teams to pursue the real value of the technology that they are evaluating.