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The Role of ICT in Antiretroviral Therapy-Related Knowledge Seeking Among Older Chinese Living With HIV

Yao Zhang

Xiaoming Li Ph.D.
University of South Carolina, xiaoming@mailbox.sc.edu

Shan Qiao Ph.D.
University of South Carolina, shanqiao@mailbox.sc.edu

Yuejiao Zhou

Zhiyong Shen

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10 White and 10 Asian women aged 50 and over in 2016. Through content analysis, we found that SC possession was different between older White and Asian women, and SC utilization to obtain health information corresponded with their possession of SC. Comparing to other diseases, health information relevant to osteoporosis was less frequently communicated. Health information from different types of SC interactively shaped participants' behaviors. The findings suggest that culturally appropriate health interventions might improve older White and Asian women's self-management behaviors of osteoporosis.

INVESTIGATING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTERNET USE AND PERCEIVED LONELINESS AMONG OLDER CHINESE

Shijie Song,[1] Shijie Song,[2] Yuxiang (Chris) Zhao,[3] and Qinghua Zhu[1], *1. Institute of Health Informatics, School of Information Management, Nanjing University, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China, 2. Nanjing University, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China (People's Republic), 3. Nanjing University of Science and Technology, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China (People's Republic)*

There is a long debate on the impact of Internet use on individuals' perceived loneliness. This study aimed to investigate the relationship between older Chinese people's Internet use and their perceived loneliness. We employed cross-sectional data from the 2015 China Health and Retirement Longitudinal Study (N = 7,343; age range: 50-80 years old; Mean = 62.48; SD=8.00). Loneliness was measured by a 4-point Likert scale (Mean = 1.60, SD = 1.05) on the frequency of loneliness perception (higher score indicates higher loneliness). Internet use was measured by a dummy variable (Mean = 0.05, SD = 0.23). The results of multiple regression suggest that older Internet users reported significantly lower loneliness (B = -0.127, SD = 0.045, p = 0.005) compared with non-Internet users, suggesting a mitigating effect of Internet use on loneliness. Thus, the Internet might be implemented as an intervention to reduce loneliness among older adults in China.

THE ROLE OF ICT IN ANTIRETROVIRAL THERAPY-RELATED KNOWLEDGE SEEKING AMONG OLDER CHINESE LIVING WITH HIV

Yao Zhang,[1] Xiaoming Li,[2] Shan Qiao,[2] Yuejiao Zhou,[3] and Zhiyong Shen[3], *1. Kent State University, School of Information, Kent, Ohio, United States, 2. University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health, Columbia, South Carolina, United States, 3. Guangxi Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Nanning, Guangxi, China (People's Republic)*

Antiretroviral therapy (ART) enables HIV patients to reduce disease progression. ART adherence is closely related to patients' knowledge about the medical treatment. This study investigated the role of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in supporting ART-related knowledge seeking among older Chinese with HIV, using cross-sectional data collected from 2012 to 2013 in Guangxi, China. Of the 2987 HIV patients, 688 were 45 years or older and going through ART. We used an 11-item scale (α=0.69), which was developed based on existing literature, to assess ART-related knowledge to obtain a composite score (0-11). Less than 5% of the participants sought HIV-related information via computers. Patients with lower ART-related knowledge were more likely to consult medical professionals about the disease via cell phones than those with higher scores (8.28 vs. 9.45, p < 0.001). The results suggest that future interventions should integrate cell phones to promote ART-related knowledge dissemination among older patients.

SESSION 2170 (SYMPOSIUM)

AT THE INTERFACE OF THE BRAIN AND ENVIRONMENT: DETERMINANTS OF COGNITIVE FUNCTION AND MOBILITY

Chair: Andrea Rosso, *University of Pittsburgh, Department of Epidemiology, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States*
Discussant: Michelle C. Carlson, *Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland, United States*

It is hypothesized that older adults are more influenced by environmental factors due to reduced tolerance to stressors and greater cumulative exposure. The role of environmental factors in brain and cognitive aging, specifically, has not been well studied. In this symposium, we highlight novel work at the interface of the environment and the brain in aging. The presentations assess varying aspects of the environment/brain interface within three cohorts. Two of the presentations focus on the environment as a risk factor for brain or cognitive aging. Sara Godina will present analyses of neighborhood socioeconomic status and neuroimaging markers of brain atrophy within the Health ABC Study, with the aim of understanding documented associations of neighborhood socioeconomic status with cognitive function. Jessica Finlay will present data from the REGARDS study linking weather conditions with cognitive changes. Climate influences social and physical activities and could thereby, impact cognitive aging. The brain also serves to process and integrate environmental data in order to direct behaviors in an adaptive manner. Two of the presentations assess how cognitive aging may impact individuals' interactions with the environment. Using residential histories of participants in the Cardiovascular Health Study, Jonathan Platt will explore how cognitive trajectories change in relation to changes in residence. These analyses will demonstrate how residential changes may be either supportive or detrimental to cognitive aging. Finally, Andrea Rosso will present data from the Health ABC that demonstrates how cognitive aging may determine the vulnerability of older individuals to environmental influences on mobility declines.

COGNITIVE DECLINE ENHANCES VULNERABILITY TO ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINANTS OF MOBILITY

Andrea Rosso,[1] Philippa Clarke,[2] Stephanie L. Studenski,[3] and Caterina L. Rosano[3], *1. University of Pittsburgh, Department of Epidemiology, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States, 2. university of michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States, 3. University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States*

Neighborhood and residential characteristics can potentially influence mobility of older adults but associations