

staff education on cognitive screening with an emphasis on potential cultural differences in test results and adequate resources related to dementia for Latinx adults. Clinics serving Latinx adults have a responsibility to deliver appropriate care. Leadership should consider innovative practices such creation, with patients, of educational materials for screening—a need highlighted by most participants.

Session 3000 (Symposium)

BENEFITS AND BARRIERS TO EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES TO PROMOTE HEALTH, WELL-BEING, AND INDEPENDENCE OF OLDER ADULTS

Chair: Walter Boot

Emerging technologies, such as voice assistant systems and artificial companion robots, hold a great deal of promise for improving the health, wellbeing, and independence of older adults. However, these solutions will likely be ineffective in the absence of research to understand barriers to the adoption and use of these technologies and without an exploration of the needs and preferences of older adults. This symposium focuses on both the potential of such technologies and factors that may affect their success. H. Spangler will present a detailed analysis of privacy concerns of older adults, with and without cognitive impairment, related to the use of Voice Assistant Systems (VAS). R. Nicholson will discuss the potential of a VAS app for promoting exercise among older adults and their caregivers to enhance mobility independence, with a focus on perceived benefits and dislikes about the app that may impact use. Finally, C. Berridge will present an exploration of perceptions of and attitudes toward artificial companion (AC) robots across the lifespan, before and after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, including concerns about privacy. Together, these talks will highlight novel methods through which emerging technologies can support older adults and issues to consider if these methods are to produce meaningful change.

PRIVACY CONCERNS AMONG OLDER ADULTS USING VOICE ASSISTANT SYSTEMS

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Voice Assistant Systems (VAS) are software platforms that complete various tasks using voice commands (e.g., Amazon Alexa), with increasing usage by older adults. It is unknown whether older adults have significant privacy concerns with VAS. 55 participants were evaluated from ambulatory practice sites for a study on VAS detection of early cognitive decline. The mean age was 73.3±5.6 years, 58% female, 93% white, and 53% had mild cognitive impairment. Privacy concerns were assessed via Likert-based surveys. Participants believed data was used with consent (71%) and stored properly (67%); however, 71% wanted new privacy regulations, 43%

were comfortable with daily activity monitoring, and 85% thought the data needs to be highly protected. Qualitative themes included “listening-in”, “tracking”, and unwanted sharing of information. Findings suggest that older adults do not have significant privacy concerns for VAS use, but requested additional regulations. Future research can compare VAS privacy concerns between age groups.

OLDER ADULT USER FEEDBACK ON DESIGN AND FUNCTIONALITY OF ENGAGE, A VOICE-ACTIVATED EXERCISE PROGRAM

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The EngAGE Alexa app is a socially motivated exercise program targeting older adult-caregiver dyads to promote mobility independence. EngAGE provides exercise routines that older adults can perform in the home in conjunction with a messaging component to facilitate motivation from caregivers and a tracking component to monitor progress. This presentation will describe the qualitative results that have informed the app's design and evaluation of its feasibility and functionality following a 14-week feasibility study in 10 dyads of older adult exercisers and their caregivers. The presentation will cover the perceived benefits of EngAGE's older adult users (including “real world” clinically relevant improvements, the comprehensiveness of the exercises, and exercise knowledge gained), as well as likes and dislikes that contributed to our assessment of the app's functionality. Finally, we will discuss how the feedback contributes to future directions in the development of the app's features, supporting materials, design and content.

COMFORT AND DATA SHARING WITH ARTIFICIAL COMPANION ROBOTS AMONG AN ONLINE COHORT

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Results from a June 2020 survey on comfort with two forms of artificial companion (AC) robots in normal compared with pandemic times will be presented. 1,082 adults age 21-92 (mean 64) completed the online survey for a response rate of 45%. Significantly greater comfort is reported with small AC robots relative to larger human-shaped robots in both normal and pandemic times. In bivariate and adjusted models, younger age and male gender were most commonly associated with greater comfort with AC robots. Most participants (68.7%) did not think an AC robot would make them feel less lonely. About half (52.8 %) of the participants reported that they probably or definitely would want their facial expressions to be read, while a minority (15.0%) were at least somewhat comfortable with AC robots recording their conversations. The most common person participants wanted these data types shared with is themselves, a spouse/partner, and medical provider.