

NOVEMBER 2023

GERICONNECT APP

RNFOO NIA ANNUAL REPORT



GeriConnect

← Create Patient

TRIGGERS

- Language / Phrases Sounds
- Actions Medical Triggers (UTI, Hyperglycemia, AKI)

PERSONAL PREFERENCES / HOBBIES / MOBILIZATION

Music

- Classical Cultural Rock
- Jazz Big band/swing Hymns
- Radio

Other

Television

- News Sports Comedy

Other

Games

- Puzzles/Sudoku Crosswords Card games

Other

Reading

- Bible Quran Mystery/Thriller
- Romance News



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A WORD FROM THE APP TEAM

Dear members of the Nurse Innovator Award committee:

We are excited to share with you our progress and learnings in our Year-end report enclosed to you. Thank you again for RNFOO's vision and values of the Nurse Innovator Award, which has allowed our project team to immerse ourselves in the journey of app design and creation – for the betterment of patient care and capacity building for nurses.

As nurses venturing into the foray of app creation, our development progress encountered many new learnings and implementation factors that has impacted our project timeline. We are excited to share reflections from our app development advancement, and findings from our dissemination activities.

We are expected to move into Phase 2 of GeriConnect app revision and design by January-February 2024 and remain committed to sharing our progress with RNFOO and the NIA team beyond the NIA anticipated timeline.

We are grateful for this opportunity to lead nursing change and innovation, made possible by the Nurse Innovator Award.

Sincerely,

GERICONNECT TEAM

LINDA LIU

TINA CHEUNG

MARIJANA ZUBRINIC

EXECUTIVE SPONSOR: PAM HUBLEY



SUMMARY OF GERICONNECT APP

The GeriConnect app is an innovative app encompassing: a) Assessment tool to collate the patient's demographics, past medical history, responsive behaviours, and preferences; b) Care plan function derived from assessment tool findings to deliver customized programming via a tablet device; and c) Repository of virtual/online applications/programs to complement care plan interventions.

Innovation outcomes: The creation of Geri-Connect aims to examine through a quality improvement (QI) lens whether tailored virtual programming can reduce responsive behaviours (e.g. physical/verbal agitation, line pulling, bed exiting) in the context of delirium and/or neurocognitive disorders (e.g. dementia). The desired outcomes of this QI innovation project are:

- 1.Reduced responsive behaviours for older persons admitted to acute care settings
- 2.Increased patient activation and engagement
- 3.Increased nursing competence and confidence in managing responsive behaviours

The planned deliverables included:

- 1.Pilot implementation of the Geri-Connect prototype
- 2.Evaluation of Geri-Connect pilot to inform both app outcomes on responsive behaviours; as well as directing feedback to refine the Geri-Connect app design
- 3.Conversion of web-based application to an iOS IPAD app to increase dissemination, uptake and accessibility
- 4.Dissemination activities of our pilot findings

SUMMARY OF APP DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS

We continue our strong partnership with our app developer to co-create the GeriConnect app. Our collaboration is a knowledge sharing journey as our developer learned about responsive behaviours, medical conditions impacting behavioural presentations, and care planning algorithms. In tandem, as a clinician team, we gained knowledge in conceptualizing care plan strategies as coding scripts. We continue to meet weekly to test and revise program scripts.

Introducing new technological innovations within a healthcare organization has been a fascinating learning curve for our team. This involved collaborations with our:

- Legal department
- Privacy department
- Digital Security

We learned how the healthcare organization regulates and guides the implementation of new digital apps whilst safeguarding patient privacy and confidentiality, and risk management.



CARE PLAN

Hello,

You are at Toronto General Hospital.

Today's date is: 05 July 2021

It is now : 08:36 PM



Videos



Music



Staff Perception of an App Based Intervention for Responsive Behaviours:

GeriConnect

By: Angelica Rojas
Toronto Metropolitan University
April 14, 2023

PHASE I QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

- We explored inpatient clinician perceptions on their ability to manage responsive behaviours, perceptions of the GeriConnect app, and willingness to trial the GeriConnect app for patients
- Completed 1:1 – 1:3 clinician sessions on 3 acute care units to walk through the app and mock a patient profile.
- Collected clinician feedback through surveys and open-ended questions
- Majority of responses found the GeriConnect app to be useful with reported willingness to explore app with patients
- Identified factors impacting implementation: sufficient tablets and wifi coverage
- Findings informed our discussions at leadership levels in terms of needs/asks
- We are in the midst of planning our Phase II QI plan to test the prototype app on patients



N=29

Completed 1:1 to 1:3 blitzes introducing the app to 2 medicine units and 1 surgery unit. We provided an overview of the app and walked participants through a mock-up patient profile and programming outputs.

We surveyed staff nurses, advanced practice nurses and occupational therapists.

88.4%

of respondents reported that GeriConnect would be helpful in managing responsive behaviours.

84.6% of respondents found the app easy to use.

82.7%

Response rate from participants.

We conducted a brief survey measuring

- Years of practice
- Confidence and ability in managing responsive behaviours
- Perceptions of usefulness and applicability of GeriConnect app
- Willingness/readiness to employ the app

96.2%

of respondents reported that they were willing to trial GeriConnect.

Identified implementation barriers included:

- Availability of tablets to launch app
- WIFI network infrastructure to support app
- Time constraints in setting up a patient profile

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Completed:

1. Liu, L., Cheung, T., & Zubrinic, M. (April 10-13, 2023). Geri-Connect: An innovative nurse-led delirium management app to provide culturally-relevant virtual programming for older persons experiencing responsive behaviours in acute care settings. Nurses Improving Care for Health Systems of Elders (NICHE) 2023 Conference, New Orleans.
2. Liu, L., Cheung, T., & Zubrinic, M. (April 21-23 2023). Geri-Connect: An innovative nurse-led delirium management app to provide culturally-relevant virtual programming for older persons experiencing responsive behaviours in acute care settings. Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association Conference: Emerging from the mist...We are ready, Niagara Falls
3. Liu, L., Cheung, T., & Zubrinic, M. (November 2, 2023). Fostering geriatric nursing best practice competencies to reduce responsive behaviours in acute care: The GeriConnect app. Krembil UHN International Nursing Conference, Toronto, Ontario.

Future opportunities and plans

1. January 22, 2024 - UCLA Geriatric/NICHE speaker series
2. Canadian Academy of Geriatric psychiatric Sept 24-27, 2024
3. International congress of Psychosomatic Medicine World congress Sept 19-21, 2024
4. Canadian Association on Gerontology Annual conference Oct 2024.
5. Publication on GeriConnect conceptual design and creation process
6. IPAD app launch on the IOS store





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- Joy Richards
- Angelica Rojas



REGISTERED NURSES'
FOUNDATION OF ONTARIO