Research Theme
Health Systems and Population Health

Research Project Title
eLearning for Patient Activation and Education

Principal Investigator
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Project Description

Background
Chronic diseases and conditions—such as heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, obesity, and arthritis—are among the most common, costly of all health problems. As of 2012, about half of all adults—117 million people—had one or more chronic health conditions. One of four adults had two or more chronic health conditions in 2012. As healthcare moves from a model of episodic and specialist care services in acute hospitals to that of Population Health—a whole system integration that focuses on health promotion, disease prevention and integrated healthcare provided in the community, patient education will play an increasing and critical role in the treatment and management of chronic diseases. Patients can be engaged to play a more active role in protecting and managing their health, choosing appropriate treatments for episodes of ill health and managing chronic disease in their homes and the community. One way of patient engagement is through eLearning, which remains relatively as an untapped field of health education, but one that shows great potential given increasing greater computer literacy and internet access around the world. Considerable evidence suggests that patient engagement, experience and satisfaction can be improved through eLearning, while maintaining clinical and economic effectiveness.

Proposed work
The aim of this project is to advance the field of eLearning for patient education. Its objective is to understand its current use in health settings and communities and its effectiveness on patients’ outcomes. This project will also explore the role of eLearning on treatment decision-making and self-management of chronic conditions.

This research work is highly multi-disciplinary, and will take the candidate through the fields of...
clinical sciences, education/ andragogy (adult learning), information technology, behaviour change psychology, sociology, economics and modern epidemiology of chronic diseases. The candidate will also experience and undertake other fields in population health, including the eHealth research, trials methodology, statistics and multi-method approaches. The candidate will also get involved in stakeholder engagement, including research teams across LKCMedicine; healthcare providers including the National Healthcare Group (NHG), Singapore; industry partners; and policy makers.

Contact Us
If you have questions regarding this project, please email the Principal Investigator.
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