

# Using Data from Activities on Mobile Devices

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Real-World Evidence Generation and Evaluation of Therapeutics: A Workshop—NAS—2016-10-19



# **Digital Health**

"The broad scope of digital health includes categories such as mobile health (mHealth), health information technology (IT), wearable devices, telehealth and telemedicine, and personalized medicine" (US Food and Drug Administration)



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MedWand

Source: CES 2016: Running list of health and wellness devices By Jonah Comstock January 06, 2016

#### **CES 2016**

S-BEL

better sleep? If

## Yet Another Exponential Growth

Number of published studies using Fitbit devices as 9/23/2016 Source: fitabase



Advantage of digital health devices and trackers in generating RWE: **Time and Space** 

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## **Time: Within-subject analyses**

Adherent use of activity trackers is associated with weight loss with Pourzanjani, Quisel, *PLOS ONE* (2016)

N=14k digital health trackers for weight, food, workout in 2012-2015



- 1.35% of additional weight lost per month, during adherent food tracking periods
- 2.4% of additional weight lost per month, during adherent weight tracking periods

#### **Time: Effect of Medical Events on Activity**



Quantifies effects of therapeutics, comparative effectiveness of drugs, impact of acute events

#### **Space: Easier Recruitment**

Efficiency Of Virtual Recruitment Methods For Broad And Specific Study Populations Kumar, Oley, Juusola. SMDM (2016)

**Virtual recruitment** for digital heath clinical studies uses social media, email campaigns, online advertising.

	No. Enrolled	Time to Complete Recruitment	Patients Enrolled/day
Study A (Self-reported type 2 diabetes)	108	3 days	36 patients/day
Study B (Uncontrolled hypertension (BP > 140/80 mmHg))	244	15 weeks	2.3 patients/day
Study C (Uncontrolled type 2 diabetes (HbA1c ≥ 7.5))	413	23 weeks	2.6 patients/day
Study D (Historic use of specific healthcare product)	45	5 weeks	1.3 patients/day

**Results**: Studies A, B, C and D were 6-12x faster in recruiting their target patient populations when compared to similar studies in the literature that used traditional recruiting methods

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## Conclusion

- Growth in digital health drives research and applications
- **Time** advantage: within-subject analyses, capture behavior, reactive to interventions, track outcome improvements.
- **Space** advantage: enable virtual trials, ease to enroll, achieve diversity, quick iterative hypothesis generation.

#### **Open issues**

- Lack of standardization
- Shift toward patient-centered more attention needed to UX/HCI
- Reliability (accuracy, engagement)

#### Thank you!



#### **Positions available:**

Researcher in ML/biomedical informatics. Strong academic background. MD preferred.