

Accelerating Innovations into CarE – Market Access Program (AICE-MAP)



Implementation and evaluation of a conversational health technology to assess and improve the health of adults with frailty

PROJECT FAST FACTS

PARTNERS: Mikata Health, Edmonton Oliver Primary Care Network, Institute of Health Economics

AWARD: \$237,795

AWARD DATE: January 13, 2020

PROJECT DURATION: 18 months

THE PROBLEM

Frailty is a major health burden in terms of system costs and quality of life for patients. It is estimated that 1 in 4 older adults presenting to primary care are at risk of frailty, a syndrome that sometimes results from aging-related decline and causes significant vulnerability. Frailty is not an inevitable part of aging. The progression from fitness to frailty can take 5-10 years, presenting an opportunity for primary care providers to proactively assess and address the condition in early stages. Once an older adult is identified as being at risk of frailty, evidence supports doing a comprehensive geriatric assessment (CGA). Unfortunately, this type of assessment requires an expert geriatric team and can take multiple hours, straining primary care resources.

THE SOLUTION

The innovation, developed by Mikata Health, enables primary care teams to assess and manage frailty by using novel technology to make the administration of CGAs more efficient, scalable, and user-friendly. Mikata's conversational software (i.e. chatbot) engages patients and caregivers in a private, secure, automated chat prior to their doctor appointment to collect CGA-related information. Clinicians then use the information to accurately and efficiently assess frailty. By automating the collection of this information from patients, CGAs can be performed at a scale and efficiency that is not possible today.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Mikata Health, the Institute of Health Economics, and the Edmonton Oliver Primary Care Network are working together to implement Mikata's conversational software and evaluate its impact on improving efficiencies and lowering costs of performing comprehensive geriatric assessments (CGAs). The goals of this pilot are to:

1. Evaluate the impact of Mikata's technology on the overall cost of performing a CGA per patient.
2. Investigate the impact of the innovation on time spent by clinic staff compared to the gold standard assessment.
3. Explore the impact of the innovation on patient and caregiver satisfaction with care, compared to gold standard.

"AICE-MAP allows us to work directly with the leading experts in frailty assessment and care. The evidence generated through the project will allow us to expand our tools to a new use case that is currently very time-consuming for physicians and presents a growing market opportunity." – Kyle Nishyama, CEO at Mikata Health

"An opportunity exists in primary care to mitigate or prevent the negative health and system outcomes of frailty and evidence generated through this project outlines an innovative solution to support primary care teams to achieve this at scale." – Dr. Sheny Khera and Dr. Marjan Abbasi, physicians with Edmonton Oliver PCN

ABOUT THE AICE-MARKET ACCESS PROGRAM

AICE - MAP is designed to accelerate health innovations that face evidentiary hurdles in achieving market access. The Program supports small to medium-sized enterprises and real-world testing sites in carrying out clinical trials and feasibility studies of innovative health technologies. Successful Projects are designed to generate key evidence that will facilitate commercial progression and market adoption. If you'd like to learn more, please check out our [AICE website](#).

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