



Poster # 45

Title of poster: Technology Supports for Community-Dwelling Frail Older Adults

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Abstract

Population aging is placing extensive pressure on homecare programs to provide the necessary services for complex care clients to remain in their homes and avoid institutionalization or hospitalization. Finding innovative and cost-effective ways of meeting the healthcare needs of older adults and the healthcare workers who support them is becoming a pressingly urgent issue. Assistive in-home technologies, such as tools for fall prevention and medication management, have been demonstrated to positively affect health outcomes and the quality of life of autonomous older adults living in the community. This literature review identifies technologies that may improve homecare of frail older adults while reducing caregiver stress through comprehensive examination of current literature in the field of “gerontechnology.” Past research has demonstrated assistive technologies are beneficial in retaining elder independence while reducing risk of falls, medication errors, and caregiver burnout. The findings of this review highlight how technologies are currently integrated into homecare and how the healthcare system can better include these assistive tools in the care of community-dwelling older adults.