

monthly semi-structured telephone interviews and pre/post questionnaires. Participants desired to use their devices to communicate with others, and for a range of health activities, including nutrition tracking, medication management, and health information searching. However, numerous usability barriers emerged. Some participants perceived their device as a social companion. These findings indicate that older adults are willing to use digital assistants for various activities that may enhance independence, although instructional and training materials are needed to support their use.

#### SMARTBATHROOM DATA VISUALIZATION TOOL TO INFORM OT CLINICAL REASONING

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Traditionally, Occupational Therapy assessment of an older adult's toilet transfer performance has been based on qualitative observation and client self-report. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of supplementing traditional clinical reasoning with quantitative transfer performance data about body and foot position, balance, hand placement and grasping forces on grab bars. Specifically, we conducted an online survey of occupational therapy practitioners and educators to assess the usefulness and usability of 2D and 3D graphic visualizations representing foot and hand position and forces exerted on the floor, toilet seat and grab bars. These data were captured by sensors located throughout GA Tech's SmartBathroom laboratory during a study of transfer performance. Findings are being used to identify the most useful sensor data and the most effective ways to convey that data to improve training of occupational therapy students.

### Session 3655 (Symposium)

#### TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT SOCIAL, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING OUTCOMES AMONG OLDER ADULTS

Chair: Walter Boot

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, information and communication technologies (ICTs) are primarily how many people communicate, socialize, and receive healthcare. In a recent Pew report, experts in the role of technology in society believe that post-COVID-19 pandemic, society will continue to be far more technology-driven than pre-pandemic. That is, technology will play an even greater role in our lives in the "new normal." However, compared to younger adults, many older adults are less likely to adopt the technologies needed to perform these everyday tasks. Differences in technology proficiency, acceptance, and adoption between groups is often referred to as the "digital divide," and older adults are more likely to be on the disadvantaged side of this digital divide. This session explores the potential of technology to support social, health, and wellbeing outcomes among older adults, and the challenges involved. This session will start with a talk by A. Lothary on the success and challenges of using a simple video chat platform to address loneliness and social isolation. S. Shende will present a video-technology intervention for older adults with and without cognitive impairment, and how this intervention was designed to facilitate engagement.

This will be followed by a presentation by X. Lin on the relationship between social media usage and well-being across the lifespan, and mediators of this relationship. The session will conclude with a presentation by W. Qin on predictors of older adults' use of telehealth technology to support health and wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### VIDEO CHAT TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

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Concerns about loneliness and social isolation for older adults were already evident but have been exacerbated during the pandemic. Home and Community Based Organizations (HCBOs) provide support for their older clients in the community and need to support their staff, who may be working remotely. We are exploring the potential of video chat technology to connect older adults with their friends, families, and other support. We review the technologies available to older adults in the community and staff working with older adults to promote social engagement. We are collaborating with OneClick.chat to identify the needs of the HCBOs through a literature review and qualitative interviews of staff members from different senior living environments. Their challenges and successes of engaging older adults through video chat technologies will provide guidance for design of an HCBO dashboard for OneClick.chat that will support diverse needs.

#### CONTENT DEVELOPMENT FOR A VIRTUAL SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT INTERVENTION

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Video technology has the potential to provide older adults with socially and cognitively engaging activities for in-home participation. We are exploring use of OneClick.chat, a video technology platform, to present older adults with and without mild cognitive impairment opportunities for engagement. In collaboration with iN2L we have developed events that will facilitate conversations that do not rely on episodic memory, cover a range of topics, and represent different cultures and interests. We selected event topics that were positive, socially and cognitively engaging, and included a range of pictures based on our previous research. Events were carefully controlled for length of presentation, picture type, and readability. Discussion questions related to the events were designed to stimulate engaging conversations through

open-ended questions and to not burden memory recall or enforce stereotypes. Our work highlights potential future avenues for researchers and home and community-based organizations to use technology to promote social engagement.

#### THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOCIAL MEDIA USE AND WELL-BEING: THE MEDIATING ROLE OF SOCIAL SUPPORT

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Frequent social media usage can have negative effects on well-being, but the mechanisms involved are unclear. This study explored the mediating role of giving and receiving support. Using the Midlife in the United States Refresher eight-day daily diary study (N=782, age 25-75), multilevel structural equation modeling examined the hypothesized relationships at both the within- (intraindividual) and between-person (interindividual) levels. Results showed that at the within-person level, days with more social media use were associated with a larger proportion of time giving support and worse well-being (less positive affect and more stress, negative affect, and loneliness). At the between-person level, more social media use was associated with worse well-being. Giving support, but not receiving support, mediated the relationship between social media use and well-being at the within, but not the between-person level. Discussion focuses on ways to address the negative consequences of social media use related to social connections and well-being.

#### ADOPTION OF TELEHEALTH AMONG OLDER ADULTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Weidi Qin, *University of Michigan*

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted older adults' in-person healthcare services. Many individuals rely on remote communication with their healthcare providers for non-urgent health or mental health issues. The present study investigated the effects of technology learning and depressive symptoms on new adoption of telehealth (e.g. online messaging, video call) to communicate with healthcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic. A sample of 1,500 Medicare beneficiaries aged 65 or older was selected from the National Health and Aging Trend Study. A series of logistic regressions were performed. Results showed that older adults who learned a new online technology during the COVID-19 outbreak were more likely to adopt telehealth. Also, older adults with a higher level of depressive symptoms were more likely to start using telehealth. The findings highlight the importance of technology training to help older adults go online. Telehealth can be an important coping tool for depressive symptoms during the pandemic.

### Session 3660 (Symposium)

#### TRAUMATIC EVENTS AND HEALTH: AN ECOLOGICAL AND LIFE COURSE PERSPECTIVE

Chair: XinQi Dong

During the past decades, researchers have shown an increasing interest in the study of traumatic events among aging populations. The majority of studies on trauma focus

on mental health, which overlooks the possibility that trauma may also have an adverse effect on other health outcomes, such as cognitive function. A number of studies focus on a single traumatic event. However, this approach may underestimate its health impact as many people experience multiple forms of traumatic events. Indeed, the impact of traumatic events on health depends on the event itself (e.g., single or multiple forms, time) as well as ecological factors. This symposium aims to address the above limitations. The first longitudinal study An Ecological Model of Risk Factors in Elder Mistreatment (EM) Victims tested different dimensions of the ecological model to prevent recurrence of EM. The second study Polyvictimization and Cognitive Function in an Ethnic Minority Aging Population explored whether exposure to multiple forms of EM affects cognitive function. The third study Traumatic Events and Cognitive Function: Does Time Matter? examined whether traumatic events happened in childhood, adulthood, or old age will influence late-life cognitive function. The fourth study Face-saving and Help-seeking among Older Adults with EM identified cultural determinants of help-seeking behaviors in EM victims. This symposium will advance knowledge in the health consequences of polyvictimization and exposure to traumatic events in different life stages. It will also inform interventions to stop the recurrence of EM in immigrant families and enhance the help-seeking behaviors of ethnic minority older adults.

#### POLYVICTIMIZATION AND COGNITIVE FUNCTION IN AN ETHNIC MINORITY AGING POPULATION

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Globally, around 1 in 6 older adults experienced some form of elder mistreatment in community settings. However, little is known about the prevalence of polyvictimization, or experience of multiple forms of abuse, which may exacerbate negative outcomes over that of any one form of victimization in isolation. Data were drawn from the PINE study. Polyvictimization was defined as exposure to multiple forms of victimization, including psychological, physical, and sexual mistreatment, financial exploitation, and caregiver neglect. Cognitive function was evaluated by global cognition, episodic memory, executive function, working memory, and MMSE. Regression analyses were performed. Among 3153 participants, 128 experienced two forms of abuse while 12 experienced three or more forms of abuse. Polyvictimization was associated with lower global cognition ( $b=-0.05$ ,  $SE=0.02$ ,  $p<.05$ ), episodic memory ( $b=-0.06$ ,  $SE=0.03$ ,  $p<.05$ ), working memory ( $b=-0.14$ ,  $SE=0.07$ ,  $p<.05$ ), and processing speed ( $b=-0.68$ ,  $SE=0.33$ ,  $p<.05$ ). Interventions could target older adults with polyvictimization and protect their cognitive function.

#### AN ECOLOGICAL MODEL OF RISK FACTORS IN OLDER ADULTS WITH REPEATED EXPOSURE TO ELDER MISTREATMENT

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