

FEASBILITY AND USABILITY OF THE WELLASSIST SYSTEM BY ROUTINIFY FOR SELF-CARE AND CAREGIVING

Anna Mattie¹⁻²
Madison Herrington¹⁻²
Dr. Rose McCloskey¹
Cindy Donovan²

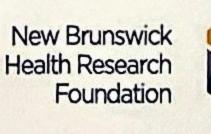
¹University of New Brunswick, Saint John, New Brunswick

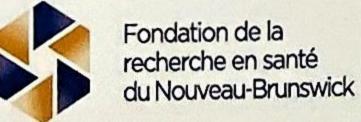
² Loch Lomond Villa, Saint John, New Brunswick









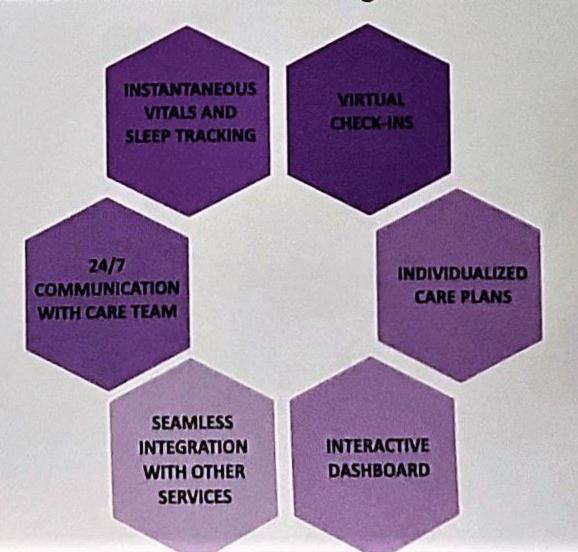


Background

- Many individuals prefer to remain in their home as they age, instead of relocating to a long-term care facility.¹
- Research related to aging in place shows community based services can enhance health and functional outcomes for older adults.²
- Older adults with physical limitations and diminished capacity, who otherwise would be dependent and require institutional care, can remain at home and experience subjective well-being when provided adequate supports.³
- Mobile technological devices, particularly those with health promotion and monitoring capabilities, create opportunities to support frail older adults at home – preventing or delaying the need for institutional long-term care.^{1,4}

Routinify

 A mobile technological device designed specifically to support older adults age in place using a WellAssist platform.
 Routinify promotes continuity of care by sharing health information with individuals' designated care team.

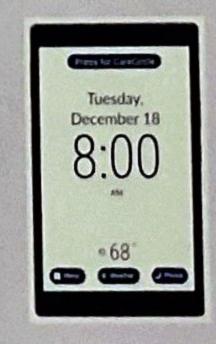


Research Aim

The purpose of this research is to promote aging in place by investigating whether the WellAssist platform can increase self-care in the aging adult and supplement caregiving, that may be provided by an informal caregiver or home care worker, to reduce caregiver burden.

Methods

- A mixed-methods study was conducted using qualitative and quantitative measurements. Data were collected through the use of surveys and semi-structured interviews.
- 78 aging adults and 11 family caregivers were recruited from the greater Saint John, New Brunswick area. Participants from a variety of senior outreach and community programs were invited to participate.







Preliminary Findings

- Initial results show Routinify WellAssist technology may be used to support aging in place by increasing independence levels in aging adults. Preliminary findings indicate an improvement in areas including self-efficacy, self-compassion, and wellness.
- Caregivers have indicated feeling less burnout, which may be attributed to the increase in support provided by the technology, resulting in a decrease in dependency from the aging adult.

Peck, S., Larjkx, K., Rijmand, M., Nieboer, M., Van Der Voort, C., Aarts, S., van Hoof, J., Vrijhoef, H.J.M., Wosters, H. (2016). Older achies' reasons for using technology while aging in place.
Geronalogy: 62(2), 226-237.

Powed Care Program Reduces Disability And Promotes Agong In Place. Health Affairs (Project Hope), 35(9), 1358-1563.

and Care Program Reduces Disability And Promises Aging in Place. Health Attack (Project Hope), 23(7), 1300-2301.

41-men, M. (2015). A community-based, technology-supported health service for detecting and