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Approaching Mental Health Through a Preventive Data Analysis Platform

The rising prevalence of chronic diseases and the aging population globally are diminishing the overall quality of life, especially for those with demanding daily routines. As medical advancements extend lifespans, the proportion of individuals over 60 is set to double by 2050, necessitating societal shifts toward health-responsible citizenship. Despite longer lifespans, evidence suggests that older age often accompanies mental health challenges such as anxiety, depression, and substance misuse. Social isolation and loneliness further compound these issues, affecting both physical and mental well-being. Digital wellness empowers individuals to take charge of their health, promoting proactive care and literacy to foster health-conscious citizenship.

This paper explores the intersection of mental health, aging populations, preventive wellness initiatives, and health literacy, emphasizing their significance within the Health 5.0 framework, especially for older adults. Traditionally, health regulators offer static workflows for adopting standard procedures in health and well-being, reflecting a reactive approach. However, the evolving landscape of wearable and mobile devices connecting to healthcare IT systems through secure online networks necessitates a shift. Technology now facilitates remote patient monitoring and telemedicine service subscriptions and empowers individuals to manage their health proactively.

The BE4YOU project, conducted in Portugal, serves as a case study, facilitating individual maintenance of health and well-being through intelligent and dynamic workflows, which are defined based on analytical models considering each person's risk profile. By facilitating data sharing, promoting healthy lifestyles, and enabling early detection of mental health issues, the project leverages technology to support personalized monitoring and enhance overall health outcomes. Through technology-driven empowerment, individuals and healthcare professionals are better equipped to assess risks and ensure ongoing wellness monitoring, underscoring the role of technology in fostering personal health and supporting healthcare effectiveness.

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Mapping the Psychosocial: Introducing a Standardised System to Improve Psychosocial Understanding within Mental Health

Objective: Psychosocial approaches are increasingly being advocated as an efficacious means of addressing mental health problems. However, with a multitude of complex and varying interpretations present with the use of the term 'psychosocial' / 'psycho-social' in contemporary discussions of mental health, its application can be vague and even contradictory. This presents problems for research to inform practice and practice to inform research, ultimately inhibiting the help given to those suffering.

Method: Literary review, reflecting an extended period of 10 years, explores and analyses the use of the terms 'psychosocial' and 'psycho-social' within a mental health context.

Results: This article identifies that applications and use of the term psychosocial vary significantly, with two models being primarily evident in mental health applications: a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary model. Conclusion: A standardised system is established for mental health theorists and practitioners to identify and categorise these different applications. This outcome is intended to lead to a better understanding of different psychosocial applications, provide better communication between existing psychosocial applications, and improve clarity for future instruction.

Case Report Published Date:-2024-01-31 10:56:39

Schizoaffective Disorder in an Individual with Mowat-Wilson Syndrome (MWS)

Mowat-Wilson Syndrome (MWS) is an autosomal dominant genetic syndrome caused by mutations in the ZEB2 gene. It is characterized by distinctive facial appearance, intellectual disability (ID), epilepsy, Hirschsprung disease (HSCR), and other congenital anomalies. The psychiatric symptoms, associated with MWS have rarely been reported. The following report highlights a case of schizoaffective disorder in a 24-year-old male with MWS and the challenges he encountered over his treatment course.

After considering numerous diagnoses including bipolar disorder and psychosis secondary to a general medical condition, the patient was diagnosed with schizoaffective disorder. Various trials consisting of atypical antipsychotics and mood stabilizers were unsuccessful in managing his symptoms. Eventually, the patient stabilized on a medication regimen consisting of clozapine 300 mg once daily, topiramate 75 mg twice per day, and lithium 1800 mg once daily.

This case report documents co-occurrence of MWS and Schizoaffective disorder.

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Hospitalization, Surgery and Ioneliness

Being hospitalized or undergoing a surgical procedure may be quite an isolating and lonely experience. This review explored loneliness in the hospital and surgical setting, and highlights the emotional and psychological challenges experienced by patients during their healthcare journey. While hospitals traditionally provide medical and surgical care for a wide array of conditions, the irony lies in their potential to disrupt one's daily routines, contribute to loss of control, prolong hospital stays, and limit connections with family and loved ones leading to negative psychological well-being and intensifying feelings of loneliness. The implications of loneliness in the hospital and surgical contexts are discussed along with recommendations for improving the healthcare system's response to the negative health consequences associated with loneliness. Coping strategies are discussed, including social support mechanisms, and approaches to healthy behaviors, i.e. mindfulness, which contribute to mitigating loneliness, in the context of hospitalizations and surgery.