Reviewer’s report

Title: Are Austrian practitioners ready to use medical apps? Results of a validation study

Version: 0 Date: 22 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Donna J. Slovensky

Reviewer's report:

Interesting paper; adds new information with modification of PRAT. In light of the few number of apps identified as used, perhaps additional discussion about relationship of willingness to use and availability of desirable apps would be useful. Paper has appropriate and comprehensive referencing.

Small edits (missing words, formatting, etc.)

Page 2, Line 49 "serve as AN important"
Page 4, Line 17 - among vs. between
Page 4 Line 42 - delete "e.g."
Page 14 Line 1 - "participants" vs. Participates
Page 32 Line 36 - smooth vs. smoothen
Page 36 - citations 27 and 42 are incomplete
Page 1 - Suggest using mHealth as keyword rather than telemedicine, or in addition to
Page 5, Line 7 - study referenced is from 2012; five years is a long time in tracking technology trends. Are more current data available?
Page 8, Line 46 - Does number of times link was opened minus 203 equal the number of people who opened the link, or did some people open the link multiple times?
Page 5 Line 58 - "telehealth readiness" is intent of PRAT - perhaps more discussion about adaptation of the tool for mobile apps specifically would be helpful
Page 12 Table 2 - suggest formatting table to indent breakdowns under groupings of "Frequent" and "Rare" for easier review
Page 14 Line 12 - but "differences were observed" for age group and SHIP.
Page 16 Line 7 - but "differences were observed" for age in regard to
Page 20 Table 5 - Maximum points and number of items show items are not equally weighted; perhaps a statement as to why the 3 core items were weighted slightly higher than the other two categories.

Page 28 Lines 40 - 49 - Possibly an additional table describing the most commonly used apps [App title; function / intended use; user comments from free text field; reference cite]

The free text comments provide very useful information - specifically infrastructure issues such as poor wireless reception and facility policies against cell phone use, and physician perceptions that the doctor-patient relationship is harmed by cell phone usage during the interview. Perhaps these suggest future research or comparison of infrastructure issues with other countries.

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Unable to assess

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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