# **e-Patients in British Columbia:** Building Digital Health Capacity through Public Participation

e-Health 2016 Vancouver

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Digital Emergency Medicine



# What is happening

- The digital health explosion:
  - Fitness, health and wellness apps
  - Wearables
  - Telehealth expansion
  - Government portals
- BC Ministry of Health's focus on patient- and family-centred care.
  - Founded upon active participation in self-management

Digital health can offer many opportunities to motivate, inform, engage, and support patients and families

# What we know about digital health

- There is evidence that demonstrates digital health works well for:
  - Promoting changes in behavior
  - Increasing self-efficacy, and knowledge
  - Impacting health outcomes



## What we know about *eHealth literacy*

- To be able to get all the benefits offered by digital health, people need to know:
  - What is available
  - Where to find things
  - How to use the tools and resources appropriately and safely
  - How to evaluate for themselves if eHealth tool is a good fit to their needs
  - How to use it to provide input into the future direction of digital health

• eHealth literacy<sup>1</sup>: the ability to seek, find, understand, and appraise health information from electronic sources and apply the knowledge gained to addressing or solving a health problem

<sup>1</sup>Norman, Cameron D., and Harvey A. Skinner. "eHealth literacy: Essential skills for consumer health in a networked world." *Journal of Medical Internet Research* 8.2 (2006).



"You can't list your iPhone as your primary-care physician."

Credit: Kaamran Hafeez, New Yorker magazine

# What we did (and are continuing to do)

- UBC Faculty of Medicine + BC Ministry of Health Patients as Partners
  - Vision: Using digital health to support patient- and family-centred care
  - Mission: <u>Engage</u>, <u>enable</u> and <u>equip</u> BC residents, families and communities to take charge of and manage their own health through the *informed* and appropriate use of digital health tools.
- Formed a *provincial e-Patient committee* to steer the direction and design of our engagement activities.

## Snapshot: Patient and public perspective

 Action: Understand the interest and perspectives of patients and the public.



...to include digital health in provincial initiatives supporting patient- and familycentred care in BC

#### Snapshot: Increase eHealth awareness

- Action: Develop resources and tools to increase eHealth awareness
- Highlight: What is eHealth? video



#### Snapshot: Start the dialogue

- Action: Host online and in-person public forums
- Highlight: eHealth and Innovation Technology Showcase: Get connected to better your health!



B.C. Ministry of Health. Location | Alice MacKay Room, Patients as Partners Vancouver Public Library e-Patient / eHealth Working Group







The panel of seven speakers has been asked to discuss how technology is and can be used to support the health and wellness of British Columbians. The speakers selected represent a diversity of viewpoints and experiences. and include patient partners, health professionals and organizations.







The panel portion of the session includes time for audience participation.

a chat message online, or tweet out your questions and comments using

Have a question or a comment? Speak up! Step up to the microphone, send

#eHITShc











Mt. Marte move, . A nurse, an avid gardener and craftsperson, a w and a grandmother to 4, and a best friend to a w Miniature Schnauzer.

ndian-born Canadian to be elected M.L.A. in Canada. Devoted husband and Filler

9

# Snapshot: Keep the dialogue going

- Action: Find and create opportunities to engage.
- Highlight: Workshop and presentation series
- Learn how eHealth tools, when used in partnership with health professionals, can help achieve better health and wellness!
  - National Seniors Day, Vancouver Public Library
  - Newton Seniors Centre Computer Club, Fraser Health Authority
  - Jewish Alliance Centre Spring Forum



## Snapshot: Partner to engage and enhance

- Action: Involve the patient and family care giver voice in eHealth project planning and implementation
- eHealth innovation partnership program research
  - During development: Patients and family caregiver representatives member of the grant application submission team.
  - In action: Patient and family caregiver representative in the healthcare innovation community and project committees.

- Virtual care strategy planning
  - Call for public/ patient feedback on drafted provincial virtual care strategy.
  - Opportunity to review, discuss, ask questions and express opinions.

## Key observations

- There is an unequivocal interest and demand from patients in using eHealth strategies to support patient and family centred care.
- Patients want to know how to use digital health technology to:
  - Learn more about their health and wellness
  - Connect to health care providers and resources
  - Provide input into their health
- The timing is right for the inclusion and integration of eHealth in patient and family centred care.

eHealth has promise to motivate and inform patients. Engaged e-patient partners are essential to effectively integrate eHealth in patient and family centred care.

# Thank you!

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- Patients as Partners, BC Ministry of Health
- e-Patient Committee members:

<b>Kendall Ho</b> , Digital Emergency Medicine, UBC	<b>Dale and Iris Kisch</b> , Patient Partners	Karla Warkotsch, Interior Health
Barbara MacLean, Family Caregivers BC	<b>DeAnn Adams</b> , Fraser Health	Sam Burnett, Centre for Collaboration, Motivation and Innovation
<b>Cheryl Rivard</b> , Vancouver Coastal Health	Helen Novak Lauscher, Digital Emergency Medicine, UBC	Sherry Barr, BC Ministry of Health
<b>Connie Davis</b> , Centre for Collaboration, Motivation and Innovation	Jennifer Cordeiro, Digital Emergency Medicine, UBC	