The Patient Matters in the End(point)

By Pip Griffiths, Diana Rofail, Rea Lehner & Vera Mastey

Griffiths, et al. discuss how digital health technologies (DHTs), such as apps, sensors, and wearable devices, are increasingly used in clinical trials and result in various endpoints which may not be meaningful to the patient.

Authors use DiMe’s Digital Measures That Matter to Patients to highlight the importance of beginning research with an understanding of what is important to patients, concluding that a concept of interest can be defined and assessed only after identifying meaningful aspects of health.

In an effort to be innovative, digital devices have been included in research programs without first establishing meaningful aspects of the individual’s health and clear delineation of whether assessments are biomarkers or rather COA and being specific at the onset about what exactly the DHT is trying to measure... We have the technological assessment tools, but not yet the associated meaningful digital endpoints that matter to patients. — Griffiths, et al.

DiMe engages, focuses, and convenes experts to position and undertake research activities fostering an understanding of digital medicine tools that enhance the efficiency of clinical research, expand access to care, reduce the cost of care, and improve health outcomes. In 2020, DiMe published Digital Measures That Matter to Patients, a framework to guide the selection and development of measurements in research and clinical care that are meaningful for patients.

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