Predictive Insights, Support and Care Coordination in Complex Behavioural Health

Current Problem

Schizophrenia is one of the most costly illnesses – $6.85 billion annually in healthcare costs and lost productivity. Effective services are hampered by illness complexity and complicated by issues such as medication adherence difficulties, low activity levels, social isolation, and cognitive difficulties. Hospitalization costs are approximately $1,200 a day. Approximately 75% of people with schizophrenia have been hospitalized, 38% are readmitted within 1 year, and the average length of stay is 27 days.

Solution

A4i is the App4Independence. A joint venture between Canada’s largest mental health teaching hospital, CAMH, and MEMOTEXT, a leader in machine learning driven patient engagement. A4i is an evidence-based, peer-to-peer mobile app and care coordination portal for providers and people living with schizophrenia and psychosis. A4i helps patients connect virtually and anonymously, and provides patient co-designed tools to reduce isolation, improve care coordination and offer support. At the same time, it gathers anonymous data towards predictive modelling and improved insight into relapse risk.

Engagement comes as a feed with upcoming personal medication, social and care reminders, peer-to-peer (anonymized) content and evidence-based supports. A4i’s growing toolkit offers users a patent-pending ambient sound detector to help patients determine the difference between ambient noise and auditory hallucinations. Other features include short confidential notes that show up for clinicians prior to the appointment, written while an issue is on a patient’s mind.

Early Traction

Early feasibility testing shows significant improvements in several symptom domains. These results have been captured in an academic publication that is currently under review in a leading journal.

A4i won the JLabs Quickfire Challenge in 2017 and has secured commitments for validation and further collaboration from several North American hospital sites.

Learn more at http://a4i.me