Sustainability of use of an electronic health journal (patientMpower) for pulmonary fibrosis in a US patient support group (PF Warriors) over 180 days.

Colin Edwards, Bill Vick, Eamonn Costello

Abstract

The patientMpower platform (pMp) is an electronic health journal (EHJ) for pulmonary fibrosis (PF) to enable patients to record medication adherence, activity, forced vital capacity (FVC), dyspnoea & health outcomes. pMp was evaluated in an open-label, single-arm, prospective, observational survey (6 wks) of 27 patients enrolled through a support group (PF Warriors). Patients were asked to use pMp with daily seated home spirometry (Spirobank Smart) for ≥6 wks and then give feedback on acceptability. They could continue to use pMp after the survey. 27(100%) people [13 f/12 m; median 65Y; mean FVC 61% predicted] used pMp. Spirometry was recorded during the 6-wk survey by 23(85%). 18(67%) provided feedback questionnaires at ~6-wks (reported elsewhere). There was wide variation in duration & frequency of use of pMp + spirometry over 180d follow-up. 18 (78%) people recorded spirometry ≥once after ~6wks, 16 (69%) ≥once after 90d and 5 (22%) at 180d. 7 (30%) recorded spirometry regularly during 180d follow-up. Recruiting patient-volunteers to observational studies through support groups is feasible in PF. Using an EHJ + integrated home spirometry to record daily FVC and other data may be a useful approach to capture patient-reported long-term trends in health outcomes in patients with PF. Patients may continue to use an EHJ even if not in a formal trial or survey.
Footnotes

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