GERONTE
TRANSFORMING PATIENT CARE

Streamlined **Ger**iatric and **O**ncological evaluation based on IC **Te**chnology for holistic patient-oriented healthcare management for older multimorbid patients.

GERONTE Project:

A Participatory Rapid Appraisal for the co-design of a <u>technology-supported</u> improved care pathway for older cancer patients, with multimorbidity.

Introduction: GerOnTe is an EU funded project designed to improve the quality of life for older cancer patients with multimorbidity. Europe has an ageing population and GerOnTe will design, implement, and trial a novel integrated technology supported care pathway for these patients. The first step is the design of a novel care pathway, and an application to improve care-coordination. This allows; secure sharing of data between clinicians; patients to input data, and to receive self-care strategies based on their clinical assessment; and care-coordination through a central point of contact - a specialist nurse.

GerOnTe is currently at the co-creation stage.

Aim: The aim of the co-creation process is for stakeholders (patients, carers, clinicians, developers) to identify; 1) what improved coordination of care would look like; 2) how technology can help; and, 3) what this technology should look like.

Methods: GerOnTe has developed a new approach to co-creation combining Focus Group (FG) and Participatory Rapid Appraisal (PRA) methods. Serial FG provide in-depth understanding of end-users' needs across both stakeholders and FG iterations.

PRA enables the rapid analysis, sense checking and feedback of findings to design, and refine the care pathway and technology to be implementation into a specific healthcare setting.

The combination supports a fast iterative co-design process that covers 1) end-users' specification of requirements; and, 2) software designers' need for iterations of design and testing.

Results: The co-design process is ongoing, and the new method is undergoing analysis and evaluation of its ability to support the co-design, implementation and evaluation of healthcare changes and technology innovation in complex healthcare systems.

Conclusion: Combining FG and PRA methods offers a practical, affordable, grounded approach that enables in-depth understanding, and tailoring of the product and implementation plan to specific end-users and healthcare setting.

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