

Research

Background

Cancer patients usually receive multiple side effects in their treatment. One major challenge is that cancer patients are already having a difficult time in fighting cancer and it would be a time consuming, tedious and sometimes painful task for them to remember and record their symptoms accurately. And from the end of physicians, usually they are not able to know about the patients' symptoms in a timely manner. This causes difficulties in making or adjusting the treatment plans.

Current solutions

Paper symptom diary is still extensively used for symptoms recording, which results in low efficiency and accuracy. However, there are some few apps that have symptom logging capability, but there are still gaps or problems. They do not connect the patients with physicians very well. Also they do not provide good features in generating summarized information. For example, figure 1 showed that the symptom logging page of App Symple has only 5 levels of symptoms and limited symptom options. Moreover, the patients could not request an appointment through app with the physician.

What an ideal solution should be?

The solution should allow patients to log daily symptoms accurately and more easily with a user-friendly interface. The solution should also benefit physicians by enabling them to access and check the health logs in real time. Ideally, the solution can also generate a summary of the electronic medical records at interval appointments so that physicians can have a more straightforward and accurate information of the patients' conditions.

In sum, based on the information above we collected, we developed our own web-based app - Shenong APP.



Figure 1. Symptom logging page of App Symple

Reference

Symple symptom journal and health diary. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.sympleapp.com/>