

Open Call for Manuscripts

Journal: Internet Interventions

Special Issue on Digital Health Interventions in Chronic Medical Conditions

Guest edited by: Harald Baumeister, David D. Ebert & Frank Snoek

Chronic medical conditions such as coronary heart disease, cancer, diabetes and pain are increasingly common and associated with a high burden for persons affected by them. Persons with chronic medical conditions are confronted with a multitude of disease (self-) management challenges, including adhering to complex and often ambivalent treatment plans over a long period of time, coping with symptoms, functional limitations and treatment side-effects, as well as dealing with social and mental health issues such as depression, grief, anxiety, anger and guilt.

Internet-based interventions can be a viable way to support persons with a chronic illness in their self-management and achieve optimal health outcomes, both medical and psychological. Areas of application comprise prevention, (co)-treatment, after-care and palliative care, attuned to the changing patient needs in the course of the disease trajectory. While there is already substantial evidence in this area of e-health application, there is still much to learn about the best way of providing internet-based interventions for people with medical conditions.

For example:

- Do existing internet interventions for mental health need to be adapted to the needs of specific patient groups?
- Who will benefit most from which intervention?
- How to best match interventions to the needs and physical condition of patients at different stages of the disease trajectory?
- Are there promising ways of implementing IMI into the complex and often fragmented world of medical and mental health care services?
- What are the promises of smart- and bio-sensing augmented intelligent IMI for chronic medical conditions?

The present special issue aims to provide an overview of current research in the field, conceptualize applications of IMI across the spectrum of chronic medical conditions and provide an outlook on future digital health care innovations and where this might lead us.

The guest editors particularly welcome original research studies (including meta-analyses) on challenges specific to the field of internet-based interventions for people with medical conditions, not limited to the aforementioned exemplary questions. For a more comprehensive overview on the topic please see the scoping review by Bendig E, Bauereiß N, Ebert DD, Snoek F, Andersson G, Baumeister H.. Internet-based interventions in chronic somatic disease. *Dtsch Arzteblatt International*. 2018;659–66.

This special issue is initiated by the ISRII Special Interest group on Internet-based interventions in chronic medical conditions (<http://isrii.org/sig-medical/>). Interested colleagues are welcome to join.

Important dates

First submission expected: 1st March 2020

Submission deadline: 1st May 2020

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