

Feasibility of a remote companion for home hospital patients

Linnea Wilson¹

Janice Bernstein¹

David Levine^{1,2}

1. Department of General Internal Medicine, Brigham and Women's Hospital

2. Harvard Medical School

Introduction

- Home hospital provides traditional hospital-level care in the home
- Companions have been shown to combat loneliness in community settings

Objective

To pilot a remote volunteer companion to assess its feasibility and satisfaction during home hospital care

Methods

- Nurses/physicians communicated to the volunteer which patients were appropriate to contact
- Calls were conducted via audio or video and continued at patient's discretion until their discharge
- Primary outcomes: satisfaction and comfort being contacted
- 5-point Likert scale (5 completely comfortable or satisfied)

Providing remote companionship to home hospital patients is feasible and well-received

Results

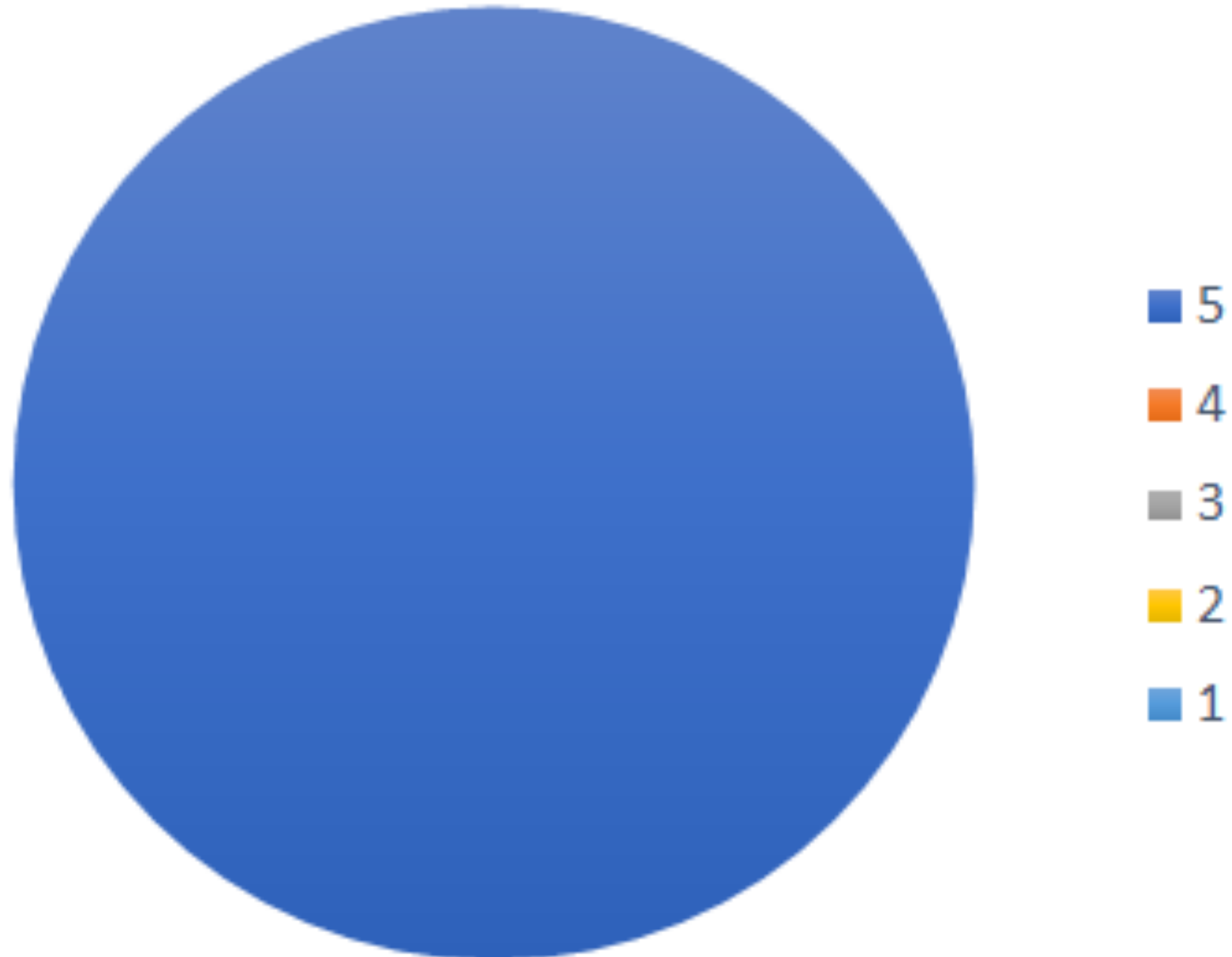
	Population (n = 16)
	n(%)
Median age (IQR), years	73 (18)
Female	11 (68.8)
Race/ethnicity (%)	
White	8 (50.0)
Black	6 (37.5)
Latin@	2 (12.5)
Median calls (IQR)	2 (12)
Responses	12 (75.0)
Call Recollection	9 (75.0)

- Comfort 4 ratings: unaware were to be called so could be inconvenient or surprising

Conclusion

- Most home hospital patients were very satisfied and very comfortable with remote companionship
- Providing patients with information ahead of time may increase receptivity
- Providing remote companionship is feasible and well-received, thus warranting further research

Satisfaction



Comfort

