Effectivness of a digital telemonitoring platform for cancer care of elderly patient (EP): the *ConnectElderlyPatientToDoctor* study

ESMO 2021

Abstract #17030P

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Background

More than 50% of new cancers are diagnosed in EP over the age of 70.

The COVID-19 pandemic was particularly challenging for EP, which are the most fragile against both diseases.

Telemedicine has clearly developed during this period but its place remains to be defined for the EP.

The ConnectElderlyPatientToDoctor study aimed to evaluate the digital oncology platform Haya by Cureety for EP cancer care (Figure 1).

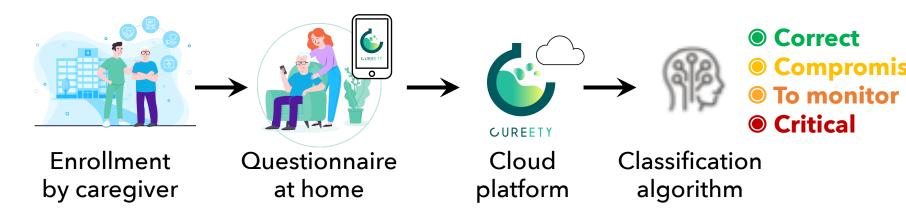


Figure 1. Cancer patient care that includes telemonitoring.

Patients & Methods

This prospective study was conducted at the Military Hospital Bégin on cancer patients aged ≥ 70 years (EP). Patients were allowed to respond to a symptomatology questionnaire based on CTCAE v.5.0, personalized to their pathology and treatment. An algorithm evaluates the health status of the patient based on the reported adverse events, with a classification into four different states:

- A Correct State (green)
- B Compromised State (yellow)
- C State to be monitored (orange)
- D Critical State (red)

In the case of C/D classification, the patient is invited to call the hospital. In case of A/B classification, the patient receives therapeutic advice set by the doctor to help manage each of the reported AEs.

Results

- 54 EP were included in the program.
- The median age was 78 and 69% presented a metastatic stage (Table 1).
- Patient monitoring status is represented in Figure 2. Compliance was high (67%).
- Overall, 1412 questionnaires were completed, resulting in 529 B-state and 145 C or D-state.
- More than 60% of the alerts were managed through outpatient care or with a rapid intervention to resolve the adverse events (Figure 3).
- 72% of the patients were satisfied.

Variables	N (%)
Number of patients	54
Median age (range)	78 years (70-99)
Gender	
Female	16 (29.6%)
Male	38 (70.4%)
Location	
Prostate	37 (68.5%)
Lung	6 (11.1%)
Breast	6 (11.1%)
Other	5 (9.3%)
Stage	
Localized	12 (22.2%)
Metastatic	37 (68.5%)
Other	5 (9.3%)
Systemic Treatment	
Chemotherapy	13 (24.1%)
Hormonotherapy	32 (59.3%)
Targeted therapy	5 (9.3%)
Immunotherapy	4 (7.4%)
Patients included in a trial study	20 (37.0%)

 Table 1. Baseline characteristics of the patients.



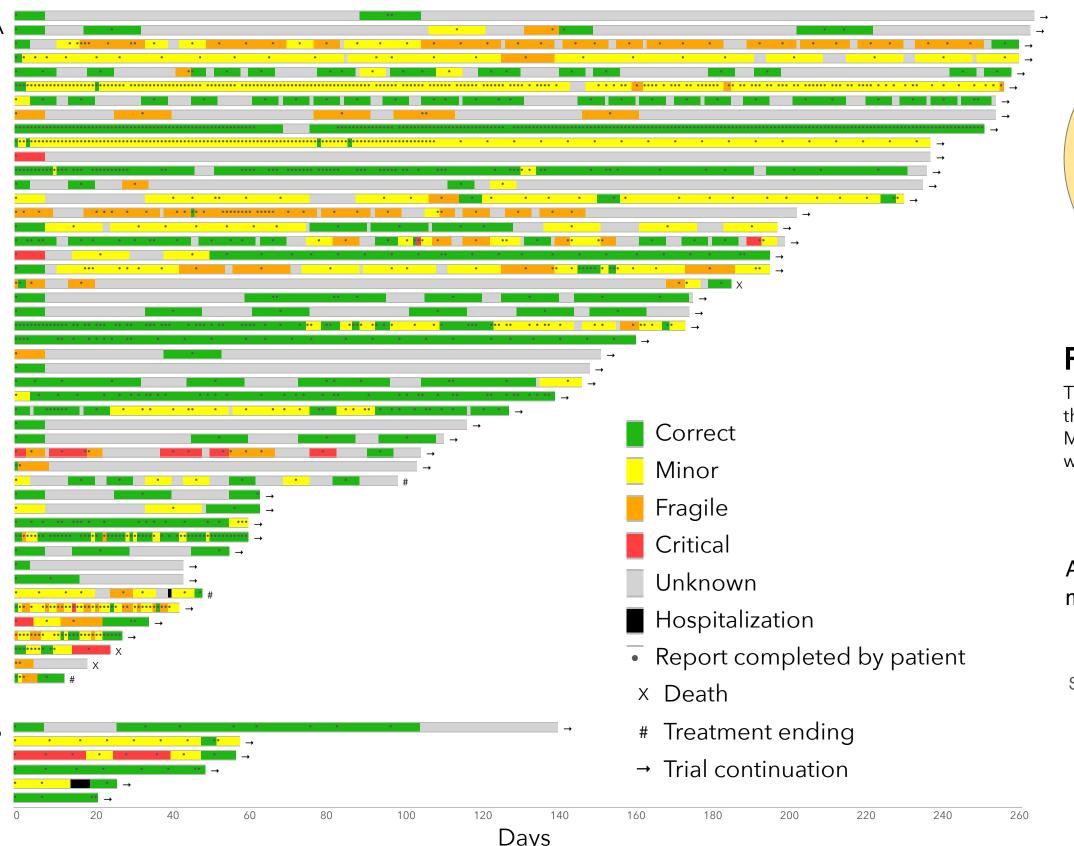


Figure 2. Patient monitoring timelines

Each line represent the monitoring for one patient. Days when patients completed their health questionnaire are marked with a bullet point and the health status by colored areas. The gray areas indicate timespans without a known health status. Patients used the app themselves (A) or were monitored via phone calls (B).

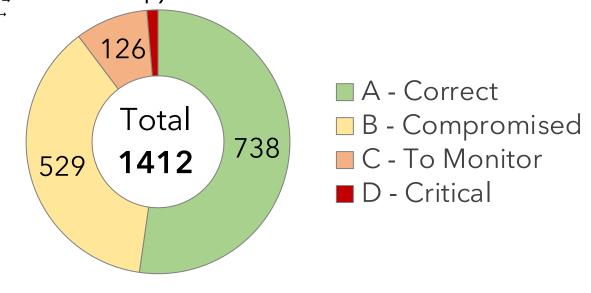


Figure 3. Distribution of health classifications.

The 54 patients completed 1412 AE questionnaires over the course of the study, resulting in 529 yellow alerts and 145 orange or red alerts. More than 60% of the alerts was managed through outpatient care or with a rapid intervention to resolve the adverse events.

Are you satisfied with the Cureety platform for the monitoring of your health?

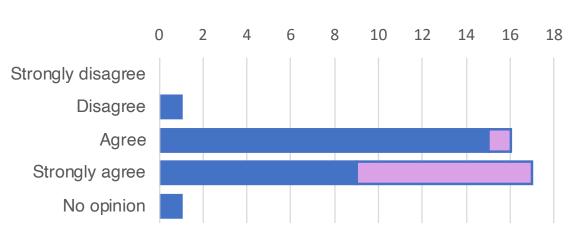


Figure 4. Patient satisfaction.

A satisfaction questionnaire was completed by a subset of 35 patients (as part of clinical trials), monitored via phone calls (purple) or that used the app (blue).

Conclusions & Perspectives

- EPs had a clear benefit from using this platform.
- Patients felt less isolated and felt that they benefited from personalized care.
- This solution makes it possible to streamline the EP care process.

Future Directions for Research

- Evaluate the medico-economic benefits of the digital oncology platform Haya by Cureety.
- Evaluate the impact of the digital oncology platform Haya by Cureety on emergency hospitalizations and survival of cancer patients.