### All About Digital Therapeutics

May 5, 2021

Sadhna Paralkar, MD MPH, MBA SVP, National Medical Director

Joanna Balogh-Reynolds, DNP, MSN, RN-BC Director of Clinical Consulting and Senior Consultant



© 2021 by The Segal Group, Inc.



History and the Evolution of the Current Marketplace Benefits of Access to Digital Health Key Areas of Focus and Notable Vendors How Segal Can Help



### What's Digital?

### **From Merriam-Webster Dictionary:**

### Definition of digital

**4:** composed of data in the form of especially binary digits (expressed as series of the digits 0 and 1)

### 7: ELECTRONIC

// digital devices/technology also : characterized by electronic and especially computerized technology // the digital age



### What's Therapeutic?

### **From Merriam-Webster Dictionary:**

### **Definition of** *therapeutic*

- 1: of or relating to the treatment of disease or disorders by remedial agents or methods
- 2: having a beneficial effect on the body or mind



# What are Digital Therapeutics?

- Digital therapeutics, also known as virtual therapeutics, use software and smartphones, tablets and computers to help patients manage their health conditions virtually.
- They aim to deliver favorable clinical outcomes by addressing three of the Social Determinants of Health:
  - Access to primary healthcare
  - Access to quality of healthcare
  - Health literacy



# What are Digital Therapeutics?

- They address factors that can have an impact on a patient's health, such as lack of transportation.
- Digital therapeutics have a broader reach and are more sophisticated than mostly information-centric consumer wellness apps.
- They are frequently used with devices such as glucometers or wearables that collect vital signs to help patients better manage their health conditions.







# Impact of COVID-19 on Virtual Care

of consumers believe the pandemic has **fundamentally changed** the way they receive healthcare of patients who had a video visit during COVID-19 were **first-time users** 

### Numbers Paint the Picture

80%

81

of physicians **provided virtual care** during the pandemic (up from 22% pre-pandemic) of physicians **plan to incorporate** telehealth into care post-COVID

92%

Sources: "The 2020 Healthcare Consumer Experience Index," study conducted by The Harris Poll and Change Healthcare, n=1,945; "From Virtual Care to Hybrid Care: COVID-19 and the Puture of Telehealth." Anwell consumer and physician survey. November 2020



of consumers **intend to use** telehealth post-COVID



### It's Basically Disease Management 2.0

- Data on vital signs transmitted from Wi-Fi enabled wearables to apps, leading to customized messaging and health coaching
- Potential to achieve desirable behavior changes via real time virtual health coaching — compare this with disease management in the 1990s
- Health and wellness plans are now focusing on prevention through behavior change practices to impact or reduce the risk of lifestyle related diseases
- Social media too many distractions and too much information – contribute to reduced attention span in younger generations. Gamified physical and mental wellness platforms can provide well-being support in a sustainable format



# How Many Digital Therapeutics Are There?

- The marketplace has many products covering several disease conditions, including (but not limited to):
- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Obesity Management
- Cardiovascular conditions
- Musculoskeletal conditions
- Cancer
- Skin conditions

- COPD/asthma
- Behavioral health, including substance use disorders and pediatric behavioral health
- ADHD
- Sleep disorders
- Neurologic disease or injury
- Digestive Health

### Today's Poll





### How Do We Keep up With This?

Accolade Advance Medical Amazon Care American Well Amino Analyte Aspire Health Avizia Axial Exchange **Best Doctors Bright Horizons** Burnalong Call9 Canary Health Carrum Health Castlight ClearCare

Compass Curaspan DoseCentRx DoubleNet Pay **Evolent Health** Flexwage Forward Health Group Ginger.io GoodRx Happify Health Loop Healthsparq Health Qx HelloWallet Humana Vitality Jiff Keas

Kurbo Livongo Lumeris Lyra Mango Health Maven **MDLive** Medicast Optum Oration Omada PatientPing Pokitdok Rally **Redbrick Health** Rubicon MD **RxAnte** 

Shape Up Silver Vue SimplifiHC Sleepio Clinic SoFi Spruce Teladoc **Twine Health** Virgin Pulse Virta Vsee WebMD Welkin Health Wellbe Zebit Zipdrug ZocDoc

**Segal** 13

### So Many Point Solutions to Consider What is Right for You?

### Plan sponsors are exposed to an ever growing array of solutions:

- Which ones really work?
- What are the trade-offs?
- Which vendors will be in business in 3 5 years?
- What 1 2 areas can you focus on?



14



History and the Evolution of the Current Marketplace Benefits of Access to Digital Health Key Areas of Focus and Notable Vendors How Segal Can Help

# Advantages of Digital Therapeutics

# **COVID-19** has brought the advantages of digital therapeutics to the forefront:

- Meet access needs of the population With a shortage of clinicians in all specialties and primary care, virtual care can reach a wider audience.
- Provide customized therapy Messaging can be individualized and customized based on demographics and user preferences.
- Increase patient engagement Patients are interested in using digital therapeutics because they provide relevant assistance and customized messages.



# Advantages of Digital Therapeutics

# **COVID-19** has brought the advantages of digital therapeutics to the forefront:

- Improve outcomes More patient engagement results in better outcomes.
- Share new medical knowledge and therapies As treatments and protocols evolve, digital therapeutics can quickly incorporate them into their workflows.
- Reduce the cost of care The scalability of digital platforms allows wider patient outreach at lower costs.
- Enhance well-being Virtual health is a core component in helping consumers proactively improve or maintain well-being.





History and the Evolution of the Current Marketplace Benefits of Access to Digital Health Key Areas of Focus and Notable Vendors How Segal Can Help

### Primary Care: Virtual First?

- Digital-first healthcare
  - Teladoc/Livongo
  - Amwell
  - MDLive (Bought by Cigna)
  - DoctorOnDemand (Merged with Grand Rounds)
  - Amazon Care
  - Others

### Virtual Primary Care: Technology is Making it Easier

- Proponents of telehealth have long argued that 50-70% of visits to the doctor's office could be replaced by remote monitoring and check-ups.
- Online visits can be enhanced by secure cloud connected devices that collect patient data at home and then send it to a doctor, which link up with a phone and make it possible to perform at least part of an annual wellness check on yourself
- These include:
  - Fitness trackers
  - Blood-pressure cuffs
  - Pulse oximeters
  - Smart thermometer
  - Self-examination kits





### The Doctor Will "See" You Now!



Tyto Device with Exam Camera and Thermometer Otoscope adaptor for examining the ears Tongue depressor adaptor for the throat



Stethoscope adaptor for heart and lung sounds

TytoApp for conducting guided exams with your doctor (iOS and Android)



### More and More Remote Monitoring Devices Getting FDA Approval



### Butterfly TeleGuidance for Remote Ultrasound Exams During COVID Pandemic

Telemedicine has been around for over a decade in various forms, but the COVID-19 epidemic has turned a convenience into a necessity. Clinical practices that never seriously considered using telemedicine are now performing virtual house calls...

MAY 7TH, 2020



### TELEMEDICINE

### BioButton to Help Track COVID, Ensure Safe Return to Work

BioIntelliSense, a Silicon Valley company, is unveiling its FDA cleared BioButton device that may help with tracking symptoms of COVID-19 in potential patients and help society return to a normal state of affairs. The BioButton is about the...

MAY 1ST, 2020



### TELEMEDICINE

### Breathable, Stretchable Electronic Fabric for New Medical Wearables

Stretchable electronic technologies offer the potential to monitor the body over extended periods of time in unprecedented ways. The heart's rhythms, flexion of joints, and other biomedical parameters can be tracked with high fidelity and...



MAY 26TH, 2020

### MAY 21ST. 2020 **TELEMEDICINE**

### AI-Powered Teleradiology FDA Cleared for Triage in Departments Swamped by COVID-19: Interview with David Stavens, CEO of Nines

Nines, a teleradiology company based in Palo Alto, CA, recently received FDA clearance for their NinesAI medical device, which supports the automated radiological review of CT Head images for the possible presence of two time-critical,...





TELEMEDICINE
Smortphono Mosouro

### Smartphone Measures Hemoglobin Levels in Photos of Eyelids

Anemia is properly diagnosed using a blood test that measures hemoglobin, but simply looking behind a patient's eyelid can be a pretty good alternative if you know how red the tissue is supposed to be. Now, a team at Purdue University has...



### Biometrics and At-Home Wellness Tests Available



Sources: Let's Get Checked

```
Segal 23
```

Metabolic Disorders for Targeted Solutions Digital Health Coaching for Diabetes, Hypertension and Weight Management



### **Options to Consider**

- Single Vendor Solution
- Broad Management
- Clinical Rigor
- Performance Guarantees
- Communications
- ROI



### Musculoskeletal Disorder Roadmap



### COVID-19 has had a Negative Impact on Mental Well-Being

Average Share of Adults Reporting Symptoms of Anxiety Disorder and/or Depressive Disorder, January-June 2019 vs. Jan 2021





January 2021 (Household Pulse Survey)

NOTES: Percentages are based on responses to the GAD-2 and PHQ-2 scales. Pulse findings (shown here for January 6 – 18, 2021) have been stable overall since data collection began in April 2020.

SOURCE: NHIS Early Release Program and U.S. Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey. For more detail on methods, see: https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nhis/earlyrelease/ERmentalhealth-508.pdf



### Virtual Mental Health Care

### What can go virtual?

- Employee Assistance Program (EAP) visit
- Behavioral Health visit to: licensed psychiatrists, psychologists, counselors, and social workers
- Various kinds of therapies including psychotherapy, cognitive behavioral therapy, dialectical behavioral therapy

✓ All of the above



### Access Issue? Solved



### Tele-Behavioral Health was Gaining Popularity Even Before COVID-19

Through phone or video appointments, tele-behavioral health provider can help with any of the following:



# Starts with an App

- Starts with an online app-based assessment
- Predictive modeling identifies evidence-based treatment
- Care-seeker is paired with a licensed therapist
- Wait times and access are guaranteed



### Plans sponsors must strengthen Parity in MH/SUD Benefits

- Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act requires parity in med/surg and MH/SUD benefits
- New law also requires group health plans to perform and document comparative analyses of the design and application of nonquantitative treatment limitations (NQTLs)
- Significant enforcement by DOL/HHS
- MHPAEA Assessment necessary when implementing these digital therapeutics



### Advantages of Text-Based Therapy

- Millions of people choose text-based therapy because it removes even more barriers like making an appointment.
- Plans start as low as \$25 a week
- Some e-therapy providers do not require insurance
- Text or message-based therapy allows patients more time to structure their thoughts
- It is easier for patients to cancel, reschedule or change their therapist within a network of online therapists
- Patients who want shorter sessions prefer it



### Other Digital Vendors



# Keeping Data Secure

- When adding a digital therapeutic, data security is critical to success and patient confidence
- Vendor security should be evaluated prior to selection
- HIPAA privacy and security assessment may be necessary depending on options
- May need to evaluate cybersecurity protections





History and the Evolution of the Current Marketplace Benefits of Access to Digital Health Key Areas of Focus and Notable Vendors How Segal Can Help

# Which digital therapeutics are most promising?

- Virtual physician consultation evolving into primary care
- Chronic condition management and digital health coaching for diabetes, hypertension and weight management
- Virtual physical therapy for musculoskeletal conditions
  - Connected with musculoskeletal centers of excellence
- Virtual counseling for behavioral health issues
  - Integrating medical and behavioral
  - Talk and text based counseling

We must connect the digital solution with the human care delivery system.

🔆 Segal 35



**Segal** 36

# Things to look for in a digital partner

- They are able to prevent, manage, or treat a medical or behavioral health disorder or disease
- They incorporate best practice design and clinical protocol using evidence based medicine
- Incorporate patient privacy and security protection
- Engage end users in product design and constant update
- Publish trial results inclusive of clinically meaningful outcomes in peer-reviewed journals
- Be reviewed and cleared or approved by regulatory bodies as required to support product claims of risk, efficacy, and intended use
- Make claims appropriate to clinical evaluation and regulatory status
- Collect, analyze, and apply real world evidence and product performance data

Work with plan professionals to ensure compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.



### Recommended Path Forward

Next Steps



# How Else Can Segal Help?

- 1. We streamline the procurement process for our clients by identifying which types of solutions and vendors fit best with our client's most pressing challenges. This enables other vendors to self-select out of the RFP process.
- 2. Our analyses of options include:
  - Clinical considerations and proof of outcomes
  - Approaches to employee engagement and maintaining positive employee experiences
  - References and demonstrations of client satisfaction
  - Vendor fees; credits or allowances to offset its cost; contract language and performance guarantees
  - Compliance considerations: MHPAEA, HIPAA Privacy and Security, HSA/HDHPs, wellness incentives, ERISA
- 3. Segal has negotiated preferred pricing for its clients with many vendors but we will find the best purchasing channel for each client. We look at what may be available through the medical carrier, the PBM, a coalition or another third party.
- 4. We assist with rollout and member engagement communications, which are important because the learning curve can be steep as patients adjust to the new user experience.

👬 Segal

39

5. We can measure the actuarial-driven ROI and VOI (value on investment) periodically.

### Questions and Discussion

X Segal 40