miniQ

Support, medication, older people

Optimising drug treatment among older people through a patient-centred, web-based decision support system.

Overview

A web-based decision support system, miniQ monitors prescription drug use in older people and can be used to aid drug prescription and drug utilisation reviews. The interface is accessible by physicians, nurses, patients, relatives, pharmacists and pharmacologists, ensuring that any drug-related problems can be quickly identified and resolved.

We developed miniQ in response to the extensive and well-known problems of inappropriate medication being prescribed to older people and other drug-related issues (e.g. when older people are unknowingly prescribed multiple medications by different doctors, leading to a negative combinatorial effect).

Key facts

Project started: 2016
KIC: EIT Health
Theme: Healthy living and active aging
No. of partners: 3

Market potential

Very few similar systems are available today and miniQ is unique as it offers:

- **Power**: analysis algorithms comprising both drug- and diagnosis-specific quality criteria and indicators, as well as assessment of potential adverse drug reactions based on a patient’s symptoms
- **Flexibility**: possibility to load different sets of criteria and indicators
- **Versatility**: modules for patients and a range of medical practitioners
- **Functionality**: data capture and storage, decision support, statistics and reports
- **Deployability**: the web-based nature of the miniQ system makes it easy to scale up and to launch updates

EIT Health support

EIT Health is providing a platform for further project development and collaboration with our partners.
Societal impact

For older patients, who are the real beneficiaries of this service, the miniQ system will help to improve their health and quality of life. This will lead to the consumption of fewer healthcare resources, meaning a reduction in healthcare costs for society.

For physicians and nurses, who are the main users of the system, the benefits are better control over drug prescriptions and the treatment of elderly patients, and improved communication between medical professionals and patients.

Teamwork

Our team consists of the Karolinska Institutet, the University Hospitals of Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust and the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid.

Between the three partners, we will initially translate the different modules of the miniQ system into English and Spanish and adapt the system to national drug formularies and associated services in the UK and Spain. Discussions so far have been exciting and brought many new ideas; all the partners complement each other very well.

More information

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