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IDEA Lab MONTHLY

A look into current and up-and-coming projects

About IDEA Lab

Dr. Lillian Hung

The IDEA Lab brings people together to contribute to Innovation in DEmentia care and Aging. We are a team of people who innovate together towards the improvement of dementia care. We do Patient-Oriented Research (POR). Our projects with patient partners are potent tools for students, at all levels, to gain practical skills in academic and professional advancement. We learn from each other and support each other's growth. Our productivity outcomes matter and we intend to share through papers, presentations, our website and by elevating voices for greater visibility.

IN THIS ISSUE

Newsletter Team:
Ahmed Soltan, Haniya Bharucha and Katrina Jang

IDEATHON

Get the opportunity to compete in our beginner-friendly case competition to learn about neurodegenerative diseases and the patient care aspect associated with them.

Lillian Hung's IDEA Lab and UBC PATHS are collaborating to put on this case competition sponsored by the Alzheimer's Society of BC. Students will be able to present their ideas to our experienced panel of judges.

Applications will be open from Feb 19 – March 1, and the live event will be on March 14th. There will be a short video submission due on March 6th.

Details:

The case competition will require participants to design an initiative/solution to issues regarding neurodegenerative diseases, such as improving quality of life or addressing their impact on caregivers and healthcare workers – details regarding these issues will be available in the full case package. Your goal is to develop and create a plan for implementing your idea and ensuring that it is sustainable for long-term growth. The presented issues must be original and supported by evidence. Suggestions must be large-scale measures that can range from but are not limited to, policy, social programmes or other initiatives/innovations.

You are able to sign up individually or in teams of up to 3 people.

To read the full details on the case competition, please see the signup link here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCgSCemW116n7ThDkISHWz8054bNV1r2sNOyv2O-eb6D1nlg/viewform

PRIZES:

1st place: $400 for the team + noise-cancelling headphones and a speaker for each team member
2nd place: $300 for the team + speaker for each team member
3rd place: $200 for the team + speaker for each team member

Ideathon
Virtual Case Competition
UBC PATHS X IDEA LAB

Alzheimer Society | DEA lab | UBC PATHS

SCAN ME

VIRTUAL P.I.E.C.E.S.

Lillian Hung

P.I.E.C.E.S. is a best practice program, implemented to a community care team in Richmond of VCHA. The letters "P.I.E.C.E.S." represent a holistic approach: Physical, Intellectual, Emotional, Capacities, Environment and Social aspects are considered. The goal of the P.I.E.C.E.S. program is to offer a systematic framework, along with practical tools, for conducting interdisciplinary assessment and developing care strategies to address behavioral challenges of older people living with dementia and other related complex illnesses. This study intends to contribute to understanding the complex process of knowledge translation in the context of community care settings and what helps engage staff in the knowledge translation processes to improve practice.

TOCHIE

Margaret Lin & Sophie Yang

Tochie is a smart audio device that allows families and caregivers of older adults to record and schedule send messages. In this research study, we explore the experiences of long-term care (LTC) residents, family members, and staff using the Tochie device. Early findings from our focus groups find that using Tochie in LTC may facilitate an emotional connection between residents and families, with families sharing stories about ways they have used the device to keep in touch and communicate with their loved ones. We are further exploring the implications of Tochie usage in LTC as we proceed with data analysis.

Some of our team members.
Back from left to right: Mineko Wada, Ali Hussien, Chelsea Smith, Charlie Lake, Erika Young. Front from left to right: Margaret Lin, Sophie Yang, Lillian Hung, Joey Wong, Carly Wang

WHAT MATTERS APP

Mariko Sakamoto

The WhatMatters project team has worked with interaction designers at the Emily Carr University of Art & Design, computer scientists at Simon Fraser University, and app designers at Racoopack Media. The goal is to design an app to help facilitate person-centred care for people with dementia in LTC care and hospitals. Several workshops with residents, staff members and patient partners have taken place, and the app is approaching its third iteration in the development process. Once the prototype is fully functional, future research would entail evaluating its effectiveness and usability in the clinical setting.

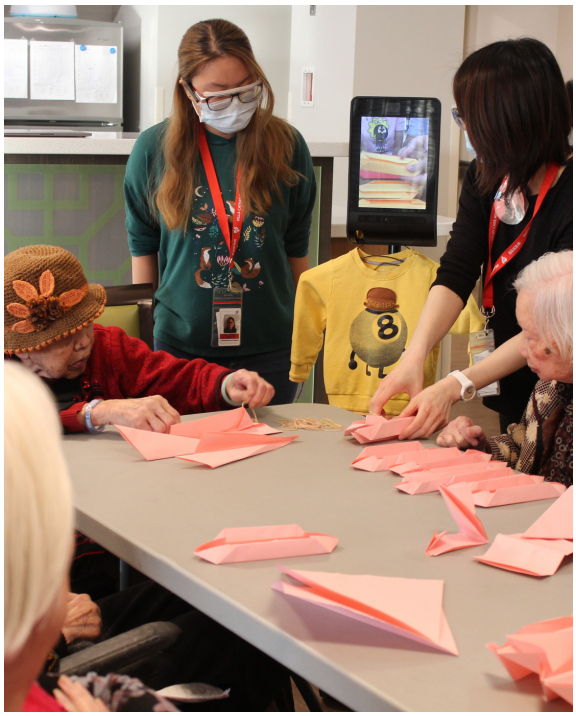
TELEPRESENCE ROBOT

Joey Wong & Erika Young

The Telepresence Robot Project is a three-year study that explores the feasibility and psychosocial impacts of using telepresence robots in long-term care (LTC). Starting in May 2021, our team has since published a scoping review on facilitators and barriers of implementing the robots in healthcare settings and attended conferences to present our findings on staff attitudes towards using the telepresence robots in LTC. We are currently exploring and analyzing the ethical and technological risks around using telepresence robots in LTC from the perspectives of ethicists, clinical leaders, staff, and students. As we advance into the next implementation phase, we will continue to work closely with patient and family partners, community partners, and champions at research sites to co-plan the training, recruitment, and implementation of the telepresence robots.

IDEA LAB FACT

We are curious and seek to understand how technologies can be best used for humanity. We engage in democratic collaboration in scientific research for social good. Our research team is **JEDI**. We value:
Justice, **E**quity, **D**iversity, and **I**nclusion.



OVERCOMING LONELINESS

Chelsea Smith

This research intends to investigate the state of loneliness in residents living in LTC homes in the COVID-19 pandemic to identify non-pharmacological ways to decrease loneliness and to work together with stakeholders to co-develop policies. This research will be useful in improving the quality of life for residents in LTC homes. It will generate relevant and new knowledge directly from staff, residents, and family members and will help reinforce the strengths of our healthcare model. We intend to explore how we can improve quality of care to mitigate loneliness by identifying any lessons learned together.

SMART TV

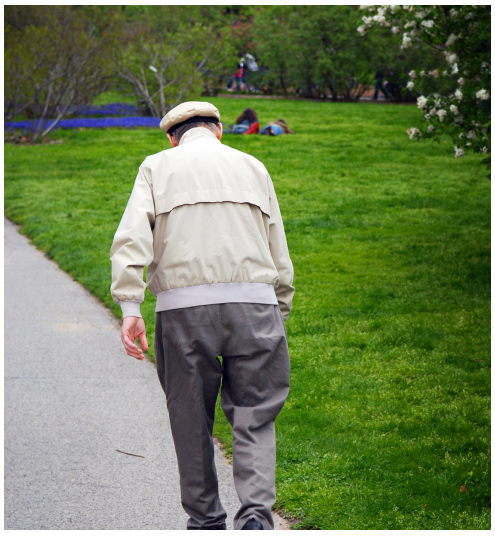
Karen Wong

This project explores using a TV program that consists of videos tailored to people living with dementia's needs and interests. This project investigates how this program may be used as a resource improving the quality of life and psychosocial well-being of residents living in long-term care and patients in geriatric acute care.

VIRTUAL REALITIES

Flora To-Miles

We are looking forward to starting our Virtual Reality project. We have submitted our Mitacs application and our ethics application; we should hear back from both of them by mid-March or early April. In addition, we have started our scoping review on this project. For any questions, please get in touch with Flora (ftomiles@alum.ubc.ca).



DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Ahmed Soltan & Joey Wong

Funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada, this project aims to improve how people living with dementia, and their care partners, access their communities. Our results will inform city planners and service providers information on how to better design spaces to reduce anxiety and keep people with dementia independent and mobile and have a better quality of life.