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# Preventive care and digital health: A fad or forever

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# Introduction to preventive care and digital health



# Introduction

## Preventive Care

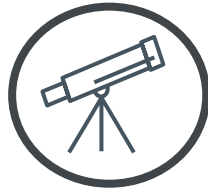
- Range of services to screen and identify health issues before symptoms develop
- Prevention activities: Primary, secondary and tertiary
- Examples: Annual check-up, cancer screenings and immunisations

## Digital Health

- Digital technology to improve operation and quality of healthcare services
- Pandemic boosted utilisation of digital health
- Examples: Collection of data, patient-facing apps and telemedicine



# Technology in preventive care



## Remote patient monitoring

Assess and treat patients outside of clinical settings

- United HealthCare (US) provides wearables such as KardiaMobile to monitor heart conditions, using real time data to manage patients remotely
- Veterans Affairs Health System reported a reduction of 25% in hospital admissions among remotely monitored veterans



## Digital patient engagement

Use of digital tools to actively involve patients in their health

- Techniker Krankenkasse (Germany) send personalised reminders for preventive care services
- Mysugr (Austria) is an app designed for diabetic patients, allowing them to log blood sugar levels, meals and insulin doses and includes gamification



## Predictive analytics and AI

Predictions of potential outcomes and treatments

- Ping An Good Doctor (China) uses predictive analytics to analyse symptoms and suggest possible diagnoses
- AIA's (Hong Kong) AI system can predict the likelihood of certain chronic diseases using health data, family history and lifestyle inputs



# Bringing it to life

THE LANCET  
Public Health

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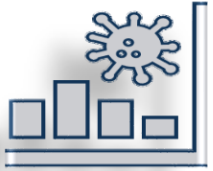
## Daily steps and all-cause mortality: a meta-analysis of 15 international cohorts

[Amanda E Paluch, PhD](#)<sup>a</sup> · [Shivangi Bajpai, MS](#)<sup>a</sup> · [Prof David R Bassett, PhD](#)<sup>b</sup> · [Prof Mercedes R Carnethon, PhD](#)<sup>c</sup> · [Prof Ulf Ekelund, PhD](#)<sup>d,e</sup> · [Prof Kelly R Evenson, PhD](#)<sup>f</sup> et al. [Show more](#)

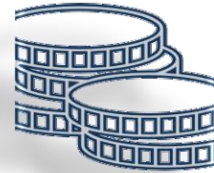
	Steps per day quartile	Number of studies	Median steps per day	Participants	Deaths/person-years	Hazard ratio (95% CI)		Risk difference per 1000 people (95% CI)	Heterogeneity I <sup>2</sup>
						Model 1	Model 2		
<b>Total</b>	1	15	3553	11858	1447/70991	1.00 (ref)	1.00 (ref)	1 (ref)	
	2	15	5801	11877	676/74732	0.56 (0.47 to 0.65)	0.60 (0.51 to 0.71)	-65 (-72 to -58)	52%
	3	15	7842	11877	511/75587	0.47 (0.40 to 0.56)	0.55 (0.49 to 0.62)	-79 (-86 to -72)	12%
	4	15	10901	11859	379/76526	0.39 (0.32 to 0.48)	0.47 (0.39 to 0.57)	-90 (-97 to -83)	47%



# Why preventive care?



Early detection of disease



Reducing healthcare costs



Improving quality of life



Increasing life expectancy



Public health integration







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# Impacts of introducing a preventive care and digital health model



# Public health



Disease prevention and control



Health education



Promoting equity



Environmental health



Emergency preparedness



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# Public health spending

Return on investment of public health interventions:  
a systematic review

Rebecca Masters,<sup>1,2</sup> Elspeth Anwar,<sup>2,3,4</sup> Brendan Collins,<sup>2,4</sup> Richard Cookson,<sup>5</sup>  
Simon Capewell<sup>2</sup>

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure"

**ROI 14.3:1**

Median ROI of 14.3:1 for public health interventions; every £1 invested returns £14

**CBR 8.3**

Median CBR is 8.3, meaning significant savings for the healthcare system

**National 27.2**

National-level interventions show higher returns (median ROI of 27.2), but local interventions also yield strong results (median ROI of 4.1)

**False economy of cuts**

Cutting public health budgets may save money in the short term but results in greater future costs to health services and the wider economy



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# Delivering value



**Customer engagement**



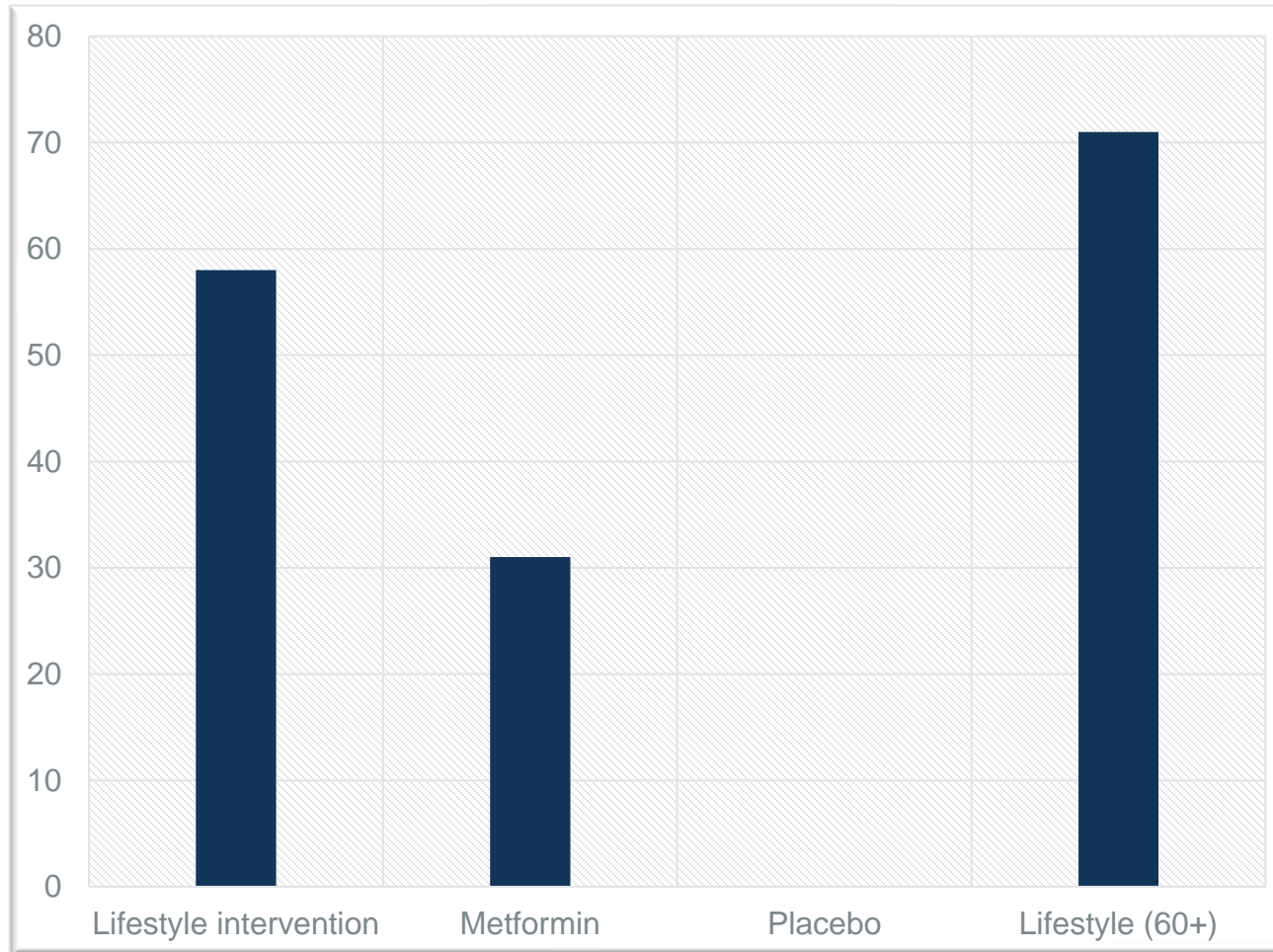
**Reduced reliance on  
invasive procedures**



**Better chronic disease  
management**



# Success stories – pre-diabetes reversal



DPP Study Results  
And Weight Loss  
Risk Reduction



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# Opportunities in developing this model



# Underlying challenges

## Utilisation rate

- Lack of awareness and engagement
- Perceived value of preventive care and behavioural inertia



## Accessibility

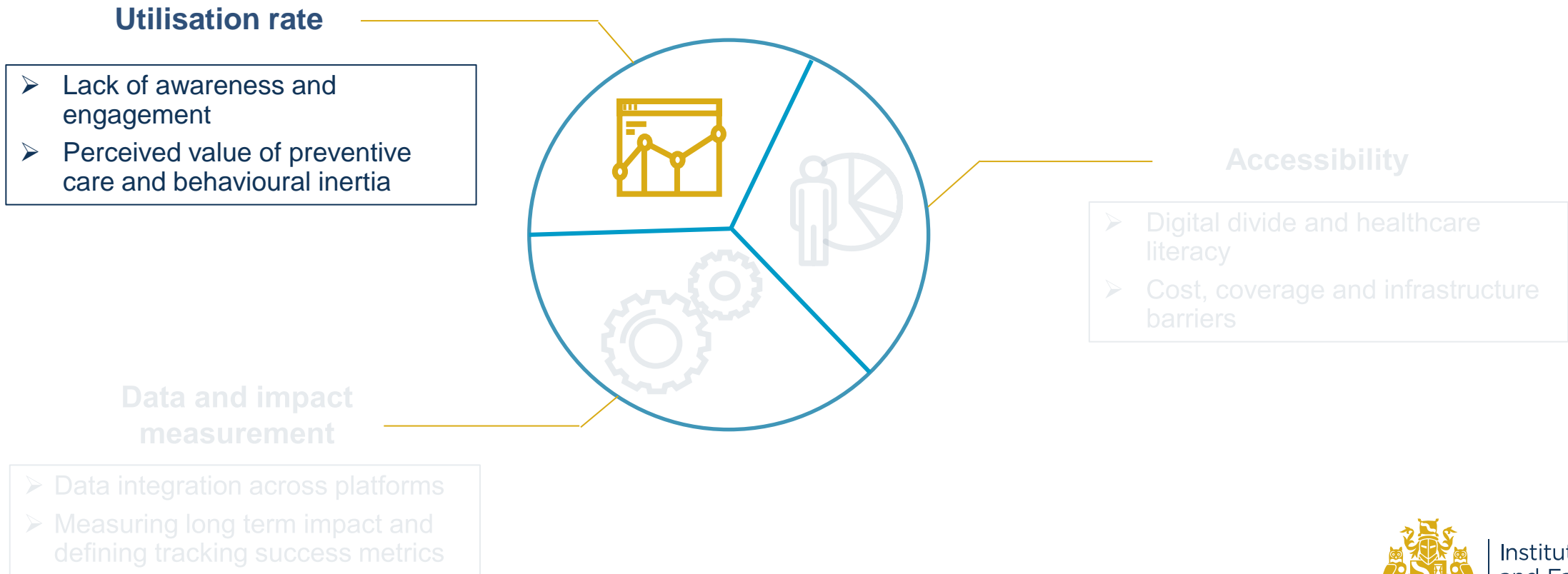
- Digital divide and healthcare literacy
- Cost, coverage and infrastructure barriers

## Data and impact measurement

- Data integration across platforms
- Measuring long term impact and defining tracking success metrics



# Underlying challenges





# Underlying challenges



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# Opportunities with this model

## Utilisation rate

- Targeted communications campaign and education
- Offer financial incentives/ rewards and create gamified wellness challenges

## Data and impact measurement

- Promoting and adopting standardised data formats
- Develop KPI's and track outcome and costs over time.



## Accessibility

- Prioritising simplicity in digital health platforms
- Use simplified communications with clear messaging
- Telemedicine and flexible care models offering both in-person and virtual consultations



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# Questions

# Comments

Expressions of individual views by members of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries and its staff are encouraged.

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**Thank you**

