

S.E. LEVKOFF, H. CHEN, P. WEITZMAN. **Evidence-based framework for developing health information technology (HIT) solutions for ethnically diverse populations.** *Gerontechnology* 2016;15(suppl):45s; doi:10.4017/gt.2016.15.s.749.00

**Purpose** Despite the emergence of health information technology (HIT), and its evidence in supporting a variety of health outcomes, there has been less penetration of HIT in ethnic minority populations, where cultural values may play a role in moderating access. We provide an overview of a framework for the development of culturally-sensitive HIT interventions for ethnic minority older adults. **Method** Informed by Behavioral Change Theories<sup>1</sup> with Technology Acceptance Models<sup>2</sup> that are most likely to explain desired outcomes, we follow a series of research steps for HIT development (Figure 1) by collecting qualitative and quantitative data necessary for evaluating usability, feasibility, and effectiveness of the HIT intervention for ethnically diverse older adults. Cultural sensitivity of the HIT product is ensured throughout the research process, from forming multi-cultural / multidisciplinary research teams, engaging in dialogue with target audience, to testing implementation strategies in ethnically diverse user communities. **Results & Discussion** Applying this framework, four studies were conducted, including: an HIV/STD prevention web-site for ethnically diverse, high-risk older women; an education and training online intervention for ethnic Chinese dementia caregivers; a text messaging intervention for medication adherence in HIV+ older African Americans; and a self-monitoring system for older African Americans with congestive heart failure.

#### References

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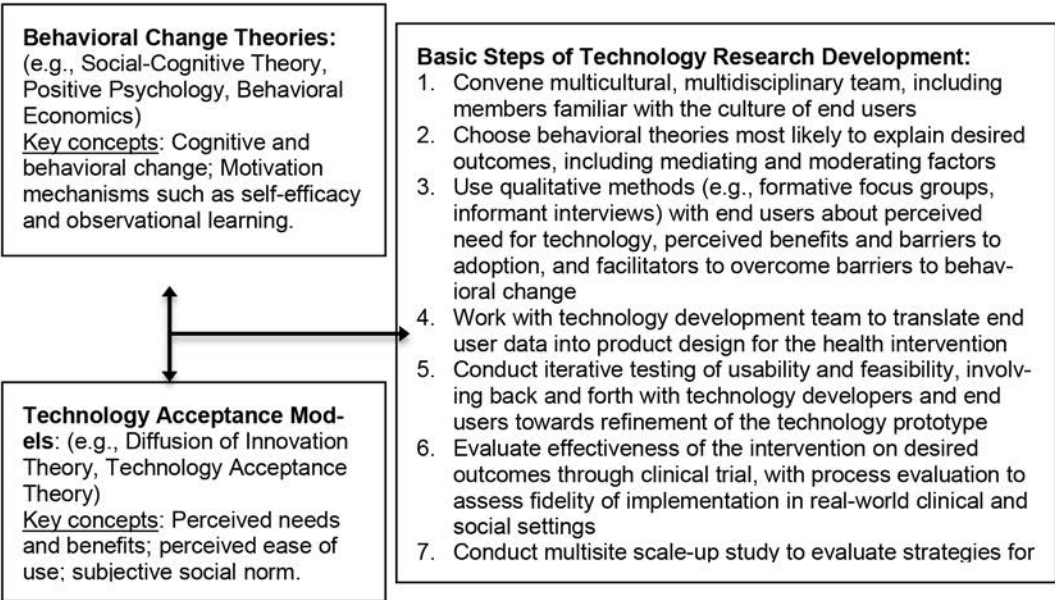


Figure 1. Framework for developing health information technology solutions for ethnically diverse older adults as informed by Behavioral Change Theories and Technology Acceptance Models