Review of: "Six Months of Remote Patient Monitoring is Associated with Blood Pressure Reduction in Hypertensive Patients: An Uncontrolled, Observational Study"

Jianhui Xu[1]

1 Johns Hopkins University

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This is an important study, especially when the pandemic has fueled researchers' and medical practitioners' interest in thinking about what health care can be provided outside of traditional clinical settings.

A few suggestions:

1. The authors mention that participants wore different devices (A&D, Omron, or Indie Health blood pressure cuffs). Given that measurement errors likely differ across devices and that the authors use initial measurement to categorize participants into quartiles, it is important to report the overall percentage of participants wearing each device and the percentage among each quartile. If the percentage of each device varies across quartile, percent changes in MAP, such as the ones reported in Table 2, may be less meaningful, and the authors may want to focus on absolute changes instead, assuming that the same device consistently measure blood pressure over time.
2. In the beginning of Methods, the authors write that “The patients were followed until disenrollment from the program or until July 31, 2022”, while later suggest that they only analyze 6 months of data for each person. This point needs clarifying.
3. The authors write that “Lastly, we divided the patient cohort into 6 groups based on the average number of days they transmitted MAP values to the portal each month.” It seems there are 4 groups. They may combine <15 since the <8 group is very small and its quartile lines in Figure 3 seem very noisy.
4. The authors imply that there are people who disenrolled. How many were there? And it seems that they are not included in the analysis, but this point should be explicit.
5. Table 3 should report the N for each row.
6. The authors may not have much information to control for, but they should at least adjust for the seasonality of each participant’s 6 months, since blood pressure varies at difference times of year.