



Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center

**DigITs**

DIGITAL, INFORMATICS, TECHNOLOGY

# MSK ONCall

All things oncology, on call for all

Team 3

August 7, 2020 – DigITs Intern Summer Challenge



**August 2020**

# Who We Are



**Michael Connelly,  
Rutgers University**



**Justin Fagan,  
Stony Brook University**



**Joshua Gardos,  
University of Pennsylvania**



**Lydia Hu,  
University of Maryland**



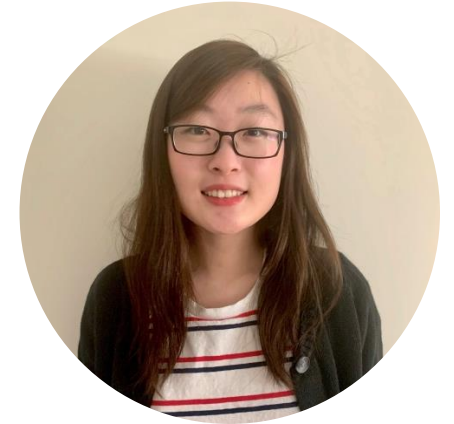
**Steffen Loh,  
Hunter College**



**Nicholas Plante,  
University of Pennsylvania**



**Kristen Russack,  
The Clinton School**



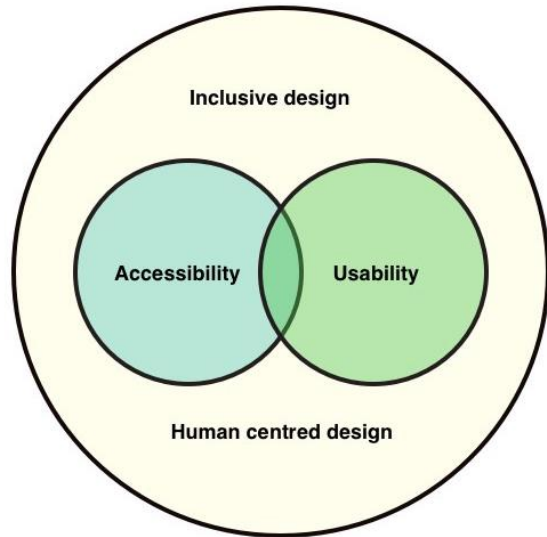
**Christie Yu,  
Yale University**

# MSK ONCall

Creating a digital knowledgebase for the layperson

# Agenda

All things oncology, on call for all



**Accessibility:** *the qualities that make an experience open to all*

**Inclusive Design:** *enables and draws on the full range of human diversity*

1

What does a cross-platform, accessible knowledge base look like? How do we leverage **unique community touchpoints** to serve the layperson?

2

How can we view MSK through the lens of **3 representative personas** to understand user needs of intersectional demographics?

3

What will it take for MSK to achieve its big bet of becoming the go-to “**digital dragon**” of **health information**?

Accessibility begins with intuitive content design and curation



## MSK ONCall

Voice Recognition Language:

- [ar-AR] Modern Standard Arabic broadband model.
- [de-DE] German broadband model.
- [en-AU] AU English broadband model.
- [en-GB] GB English broadband model.
- [en-US] US English broadband model.
- [es-AR] Argentinian Spanish broadband model.
- [es-CL] Chilean Spanish broadband model.
- [es-CO] Colombian Spanish broadband model.
- [es-ES] Castilian Spanish broadband model.
- [es-MX] Mexican Spanish broadband model.
- [es-PE] Peruvian Spanish broadband model.
- [fr-FR] French broadband model.
- [it-IT] Italian broadband model.
- [ja-JP] Japanese broadband model.
- [ko-KR] Korean broadband model.

Harness AI to provide individualized experiences for different user needs

Tapping into existing communities allows us much greater reach than MSK-to-individual efforts



Intuitive content design

Software as a tool for accessibility

Unique hardware touchpoints

Our target populations



# How do we model for diverse groups of health consumers?

## *intersectionality* (n):

the complex, cumulative way in which the effects of multiple forms of discrimination (such as racism, sexism, and classism) combine, overlap, or intersect especially in the experiences of marginalized individuals or groups



# Persona 1: Salvador

# Salvador's Story



- 47-year old low-income construction worker from Honduras
- Works in Sacramento, CA in an urban area
- Concerns over melanoma due to symptoms; recently discovered new moles and spots on face
- Can't take time off work
- Relies on smartphone for internet access

57.5 million Americans, or **18% of the population** in the continental US and Hawaii, identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino in 2016.  
—U.S. Census Bureau

Cancer is the leading cause of death among Hispanics, accounting for **21% of deaths**.

	Hispanic Origin (All Subgroups)	Hispanic Subgroup: Central American	Nonhispanic Whites (All Subgroups)
Income Below Federal Poverty Level	23.5 %	23.1%	10.6%
Speak English "not well" or "not at all"	25.5%	35.3%	11.3%
Less than High School Diploma, aged over 25 years	34.4%	44.1%	8.0%

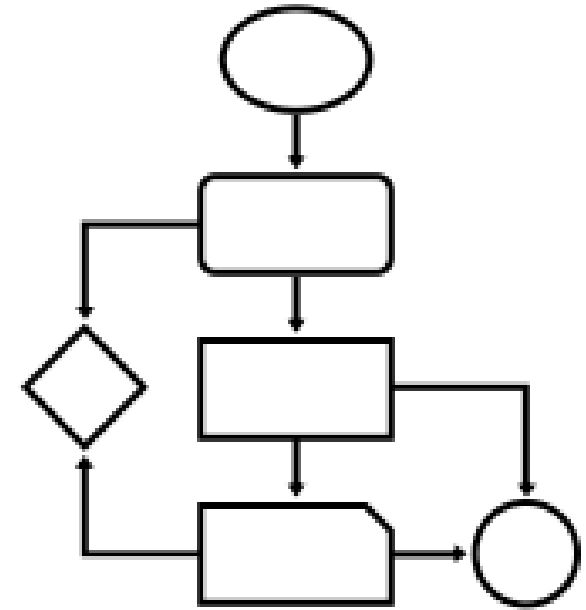


# Intuitive content design

Education barriers create usage disparities when reading health resources



- Start simple, get as complex as desired
- Minimize information overload
- Going down the “**rabbit hole**,” neural network design
- Users are coming from everywhere, so we should meet them where they are
  - Multilingual access
  - Disability accessibility
  - Writing for lower reading levels



“Rabbit hole” style  
of content layout

# This is what we mean by “content accessibility matters”

Not this...



ASCO.org Conquer Cancer ASCO Journals [Donate](#) Español

## Cancer.Net™

Doctor-Approved Patient Information from ASCO®

[eNews Signup](#) [f](#) [t](#) [v](#) [SEARCH CANCER.NET](#)

[Home](#) > [Types of Cancer](#) > [Sarcoma, Soft Tissue](#) > [Sarcoma, Soft Tissue: Symptoms and Signs](#) [REQUEST PERMISSIONS](#)

### TYPES OF CANCER

#### Sarcoma, Soft Tissue Guide

- Introduction
- Statistics
- Medical Illustrations
- Risk Factors
- Symptoms and Signs**
- Diagnosis
- Stages and Grades
- Types of Treatment
- About Clinical Trials
- Latest Research
- Coping with Treatment
- Follow-Up Care
- Survivorship
- Questions to Ask the Health Care Team
- Additional Resources

[View All Pages](#)

Other types of cancer  [Go](#)

## Sarcoma, Soft Tissue: Symptoms and Signs

Approved by the [Cancer.Net Editorial Board](#), 05/2019

**ON THIS PAGE:** You will find out more about body changes and other things that can signal a problem that may need medical care. Use the menu to see other pages.

Sarcomas can start in any part of the body. The types of symptoms that people have from a sarcoma depend on where it starts. People with sarcoma may experience the following symptoms or signs. Sometimes, people with sarcoma do not have any of these changes. Or, the cause of a symptom may be a different medical condition that is not cancer.

STS rarely causes symptoms in the early stages. The first sign of a sarcoma in an arm, leg, or torso may be a painless lump or swelling. Most lumps are not sarcoma. The most common soft-tissue lumps are lipomas. Lipomas are made of fat cells and are not cancer. Lipomas have often been there for many years and rarely change in size. In the uterus, benign tumors called fibroids, or leiomyomas, far outnumber sarcomas.

However, it's important to talk with your doctor about any lumps that are larger than 2 inches (5 centimeters), grow larger, or are painful, regardless of their location. People with a sarcoma that starts in the abdomen may not have any symptoms, or they may have pain or a sense of fullness.

Because sarcoma can develop in flexible, elastic tissues or deep spaces in the body, the tumor can often push normal tissue out of its way as it grows. Therefore, a sarcoma may grow quite large before it causes symptoms. Eventually, it may cause pain as the growing tumor begins to press against nerves and muscles.

Sarcomas that arise in other parts of the body may cause other symptoms or signs. For example, sarcomas that arise in the uterus can cause uterine bleeding or an increase in the size of the uterus. Tumors that start in the heart or a lung may cause breathing problems or pain in the chest.

If you are concerned about any changes you experience, please talk with your doctor. Your doctor will ask how long and how often you've been experiencing the symptom(s), in addition to other questions. This is to help figure out the cause of the problem, called a diagnosis.

[KidsHealth / for Kids / Words to Know \(Cancer Glossary\)](#)

## Words to Know (Cancer Glossary)

[f](#) [t](#) [v](#) [in](#) [e](#) [p](#)

AAA |

### A

**acute:** a rapidly developing condition. An acute medical condition comes on quickly and often causes severe symptoms, but lasts only a short time.

**acute lymphocytic leukemia (ALL):** a type of leukemia, or cancer of the blood and blood-forming tissue, where many abnormal lymphocytes (a type of white blood cell) are produced by the body.

**acute myelogenous leukemia (AML):** a type of leukemia, or cancer of the blood and blood-forming tissue, where many abnormal granulocytes (a type of white blood cell) are produced by the body.

**allogeneic transplantation:** a procedure where cells, tissue, or organs are transplanted to a person from a compatible donor.

 What would you like to understand? 

  
**ASK**



**SYMPTOMS**



**TREATMENTS**



**STAYING HEALTHY**



**FOR FAMILIES**

[Cancer A-Z](#)

[MSK Research](#)

[Site Options](#)

[Further Links](#)

 **BOOKMARKS**

### SITE OPTIONS

#### Accessibility

- Language
- OFF Text magnification
- OFF Reduced site colors
- OFF Dark mode
- OFF Video transcriptions
- OFF Closed captioning
- OFF Replace images with text
- OFF Highlight links

#### Advanced



STAYING HEALTHY

FOR FAMILIES

 **BOOKMARKS**



What would you like to understand



SYMPTOMS



TRE



STAYING HEALTHY



FOR FAMILIES

Sloane

Hi! How can I help you?  
¡Hola! ¿Cómo puedo ayudarte?

You

Hola. Quiero información sobre lunares.

Sloane

No hay problema. Aquí está nuestra página web sobre lunares.

**LUNARES**

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt...



Usted

¿Existe una gran posibilidad de cáncer si tengo un lunar?

Sloane

Quiero hablar con un doctor |



ASK

Cancer A-Z

MSK Research

Site Options

Further Links

 **BOOKMARKS**





**SYMPTOMS**

**TREATMENTS**

**STAYING HEALTHY**

**FOR FAMILIES**

  
**ASK**

[Cancer A-Z](#)

[MSK Research](#)

[Site Options](#)

[Further Links](#)

 **BOOKMARKS**

What would you like to understand? [Symptoms](#) [Treatments](#) [Staying Healthy](#) [For Families](#)

## Lumps and bumps on my arm



**A  
S  
K**

### Should I be concerned?

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit.

### What are the different types of moles?



#### Not what you were looking for?

- Colorless lumps
- Lumps under the skin
- Red skin spots
- How often should I visit my dermatologist?

#### This page was tagged under:

- Melanoma (topic)
- Visible symptoms
- Benign symptoms

[Contact a doctor](#)

[Diving into the symptom](#)

[What is melanoma?](#)



## Diving into the symptom



### The ABCDE's of melanoma

#### Benign



**A**symmetry: One side is different from the other



**B**order is irregular, notched, or blurred



**C**olor is mixed



**D**iameter is larger than 6 millimeters

Mole **E**volves over time



#### Malignant



### It is normal when...

- Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet
- Consectetuer adipiscing elit
- Sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt
- Ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat
- Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam
- Quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit

### You should contact your doctor if...

- Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet
- Consectetuer adipiscing elit
- Sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt
- Ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat
- Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam
- Quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit

## What is melanoma?



### What is melanoma?

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod tincidunt ut laoreet dolore magna aliquam erat volutpat. Ut wisi enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exerci tation ullamcorper suscipit. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed diam nonummy nibh euismod

### Learn more about this topic

- Melanoma (topic)
- Melanoma symptoms
- Melanoma treatments
- Melanoma FAQ's

### Related resources

- More infographics
- More videos
- Videos for families
- MSK's research
- Stories from MSK patients

Hello, I can teach you more about cancer.

00:24 pm

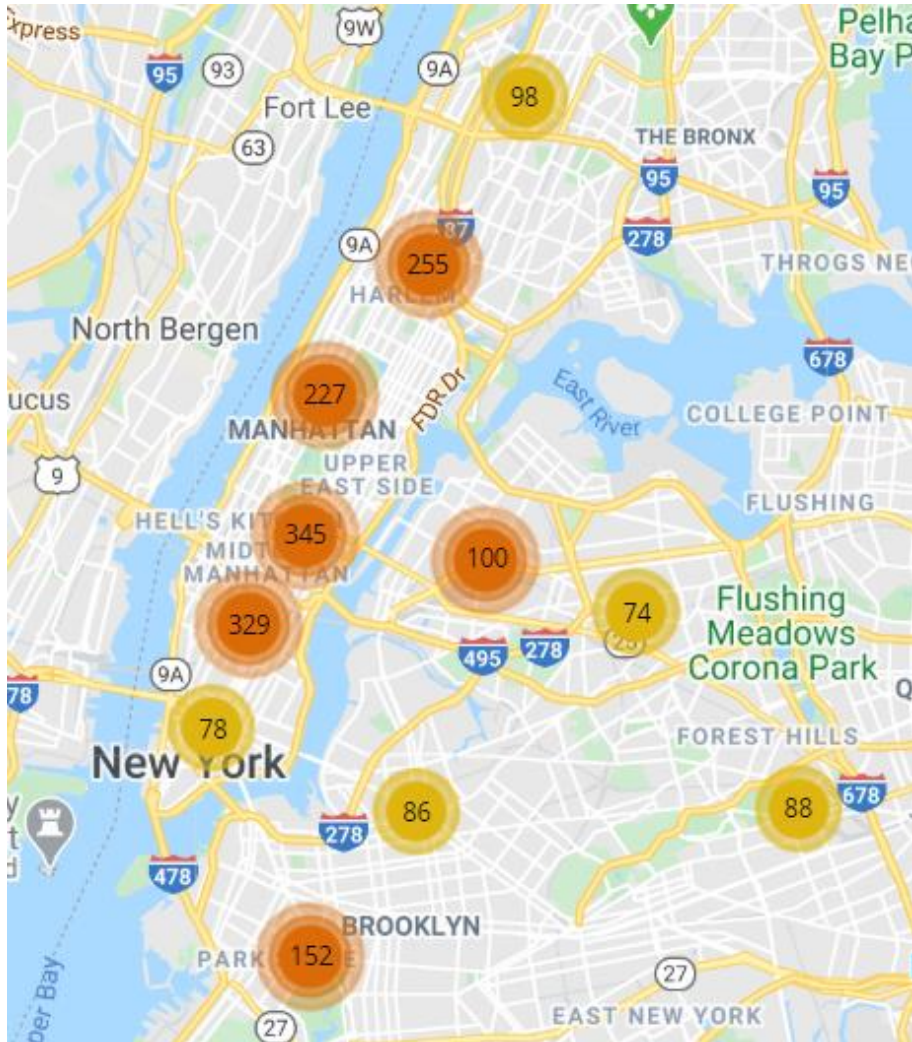
- Bridge digital divide through a suite of technological and AI solutions to reach as many patients as possible
- Voice Recognition and Multi-Lingual
  - Top 3 Most Common Languages
    - Spanish (41M)
    - Chinese (3.5M)
    - Tagalog (1.7M)
- By leveraging the power of IBM Watson, MSK can provide a state-of-the-art virtual assistant that connects to its large knowledge base



# The Rise of Interactive Kiosks



## LinkNYC and the Smart City



City hotspot kiosks (LinkNYC)



# Persona 2: Amy

# Amy's Story



- Born, raised, and lived entire life in Nebraska
- 63 years old
- Retired from an administrative position in the public school system
- Becomes aware of genetic risk of breast cancer through word-of-mouth
- Most comfortable getting healthcare information in person and through physical materials

# Rural Healthcare Disparities



Percentage of total U.S. population

**19.3%**  
rural

**80.7%**  
urban

Physicians per 100,000 people

**39.8**  
rural

**53.5**  
urban

**53%** of rural Americans lack access to the FCC's internet bandwidth benchmark speed

Specialists per 100,000 people

**30**  
rural

**263**  
urban

Sources: [Association of American Medical Colleges](#); [National Rural Health Association](#)



 What would you like to understand? 

  
**A  
S  
K**



[Cancer A-Z](#)

[MSK Research](#)

[Site Options](#)

[Further Links](#)

 **BOOKMARKS**

What would you like to understand? [Symptoms](#) [Treatments](#) [Staying Healthy](#) [For Families](#)

## Cancer A-Z

**A  
S  
K**

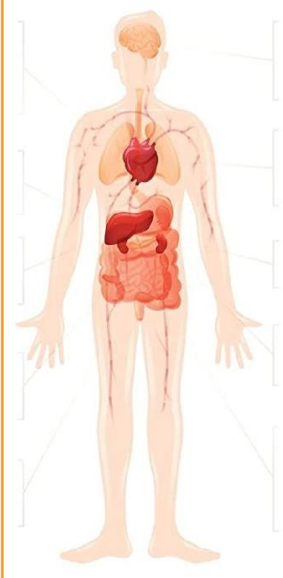
### Search by cancer

- |                         |                      |                   |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Bladder Cancer          | Leukemia             | Pancreatic Cancer |
| Breast Cancer           | Liver Cancer         | Prostate Cancer   |
| Colon and Rectal Cancer | Lung Cancer          | Thyroid Cancer    |
| Endometrial Cancer      | Melanoma             |                   |
| Kidney Cancer           | Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma |                   |
- [OTHER CANCERS](#)

### Search by symptom

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Breast changes           | Skin changes               |
| Bladder changes          | Swelling or lumps          |
| Trouble urinating        | Weight gain or weight loss |
| Bleeding or bruising     |                            |
| Bowel changes            |                            |
| Cough or hoarseness      |                            |
| Eating problems          |                            |
| Fatigue                  |                            |
| Fever                    |                            |
| Heartburn or indigestion |                            |
| Nausea and vomiting      |                            |
| Mouth changes            |                            |
| Neurological problems    |                            |
| Seizures                 |                            |
- [OTHER SYMPTOMS](#)

### Search by body part



### A-Z for:

- Patients
- Doctors
- Survivors
- Family
- Kids
- Students
- Donors

[A-Z Dictionary](#)

[Search by tag](#)

[FAQ's](#)

[Chat with us](#)

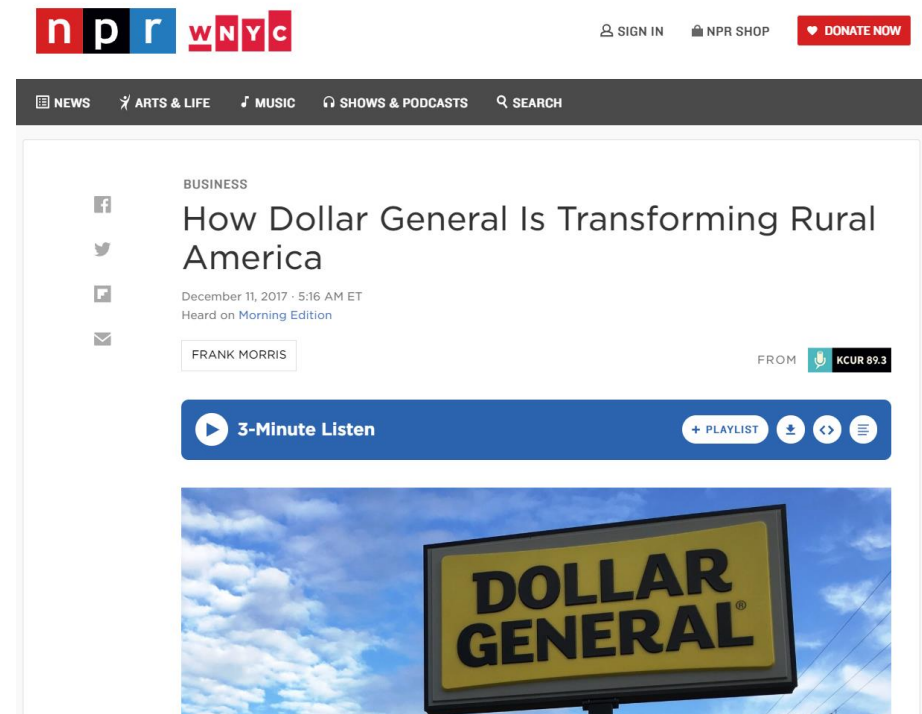
# Rural Hardware Touchpoints



## Embracing Commercial Trends



Supermarket kiosks



Community kiosks

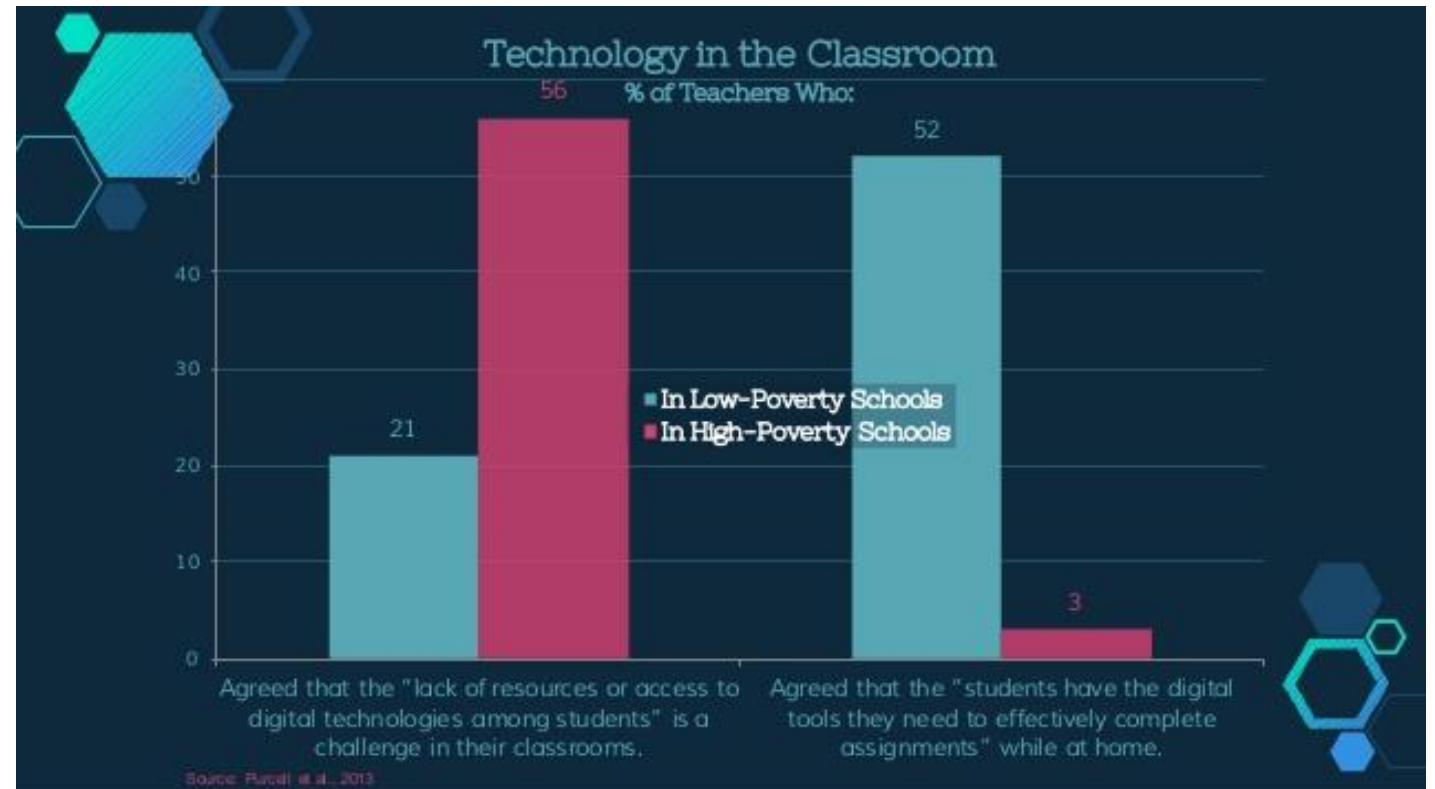


# Persona 3: Sara

# Sara's Story



- 9-year-old girl
- Her mom just got diagnosed with cancer
- Doesn't know much about what cancer is
- Attends an under-resourced school
- Has a low reading level causing most websites to be confusing



*"Every year around 0.3% of all families with children under the age of 18 years encounter parental cancer, and 3.1% of minors and 8.4% of YAs have a parent who has been diagnosed with cancer."*

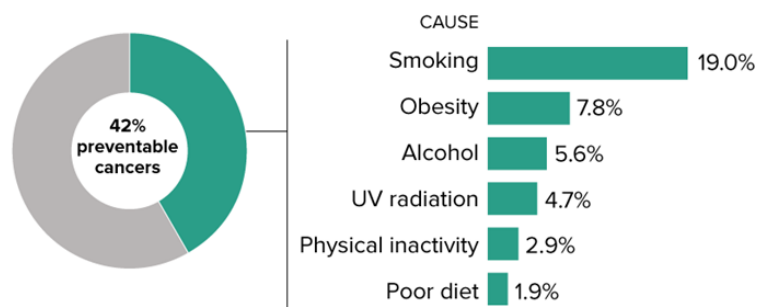
# Reaching a commonly ignored consumer population



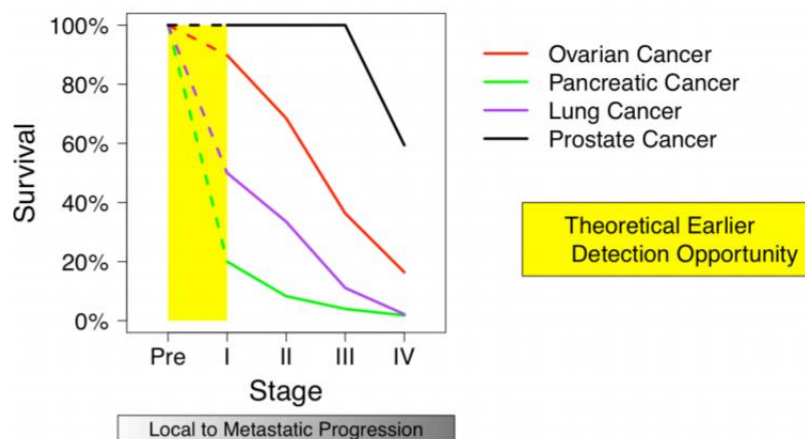
How can we provide programs and resources for the next generation?

## Preventable cancers

More than 40 percent of cancer cases can be prevented, the American Cancer Society finds in a new report. Here is a list of things people can change and their share of cancer cases:



Relative 5-year survival correlated with stage at diagnosis.<sup>8</sup>



- Education and early detection are incredibly important tools in combating cancer.
  - Explaining cancer to children can be difficult and challenging
- MSK seeks to “**educate, promote science, and explain cancer in a way that can be understood by a layperson.**”
  - Infographics and videos
  - Learning objectives and quizzes
  - Interactive chatbot
  - Links to other articles and further reading
  - Tiered education features



 What would you like to understand? 

  
**A  
S  
K**



[Cancer A-Z](#)



[MSK Research](#)

[Site Options](#)

[Further Links](#)

 **BOOKMARKS**



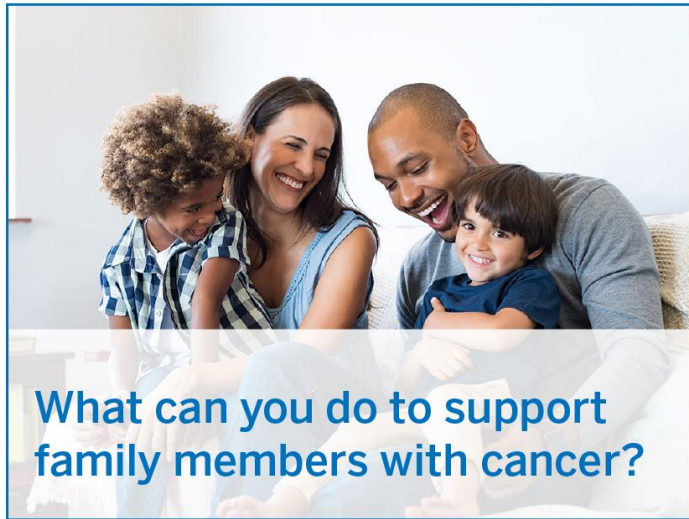
 What would you like to understand? 

[Return to main site](#)

[For Kids](#)

[For Teens](#)

[For Adults](#)



ASK

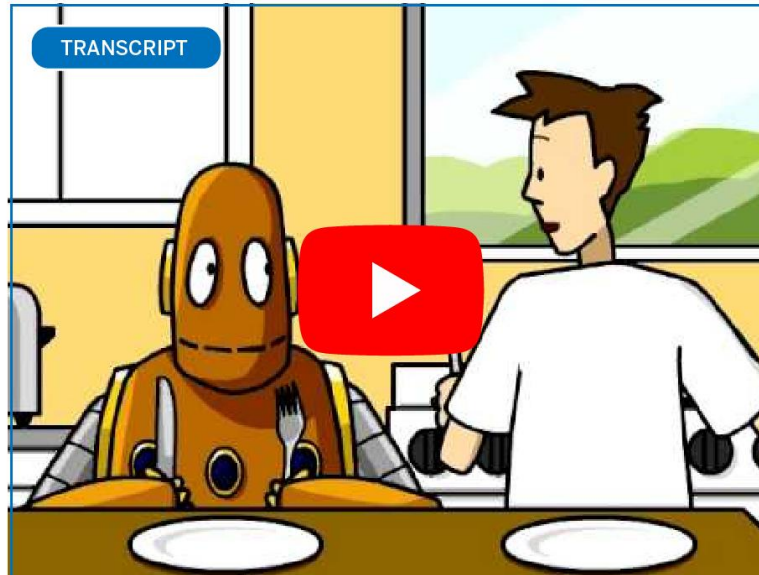


## Featured this week:

What is nutrition?

Why is nutrition so important for cancer patients?

Read more about nutritional programs for cancer patients here.



 What would you like to understand? 

[Return to main site](#)

[For Kids](#)

[For Teens](#)

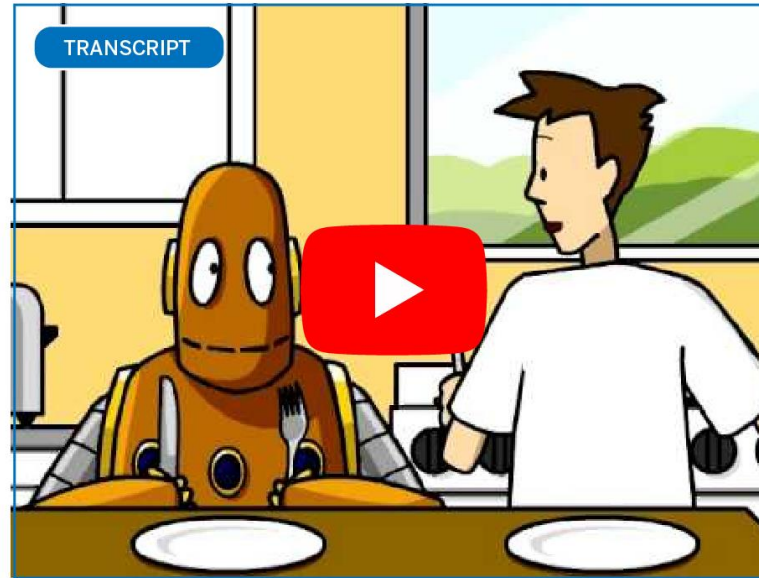
[For Adults](#)

## Featured this week:

What is nutrition?

Why is nutrition so important for cancer patients?

Read more about nutritional programs for cancer patients here.



## Challenge yourself: Take our weekly quiz!



You are a: **level 3 beginner.**  
Keep learning!

## Explore videos by topic

[Cancer basics](#)

[Side effects](#)

[Symptoms](#)

[Facts & myths about cancer](#)

[Treatments](#)

[Living with cancer](#)

[Keeping healthy](#)

[Checking for cancer](#)

[Cancer statistics](#)

### Lessons

Welcome to biology!

The science of biology



Water and life



### The science of biology

Learn

The scientific method

The scientific method

Controlled experiments

Practice

**The scientific method and experimental design**

4 questions

[Practice](#)

### Water and life

Learn

Importance of water for life

Lesson summary: Water and life

Practice

**Structure of water and hydrogen bonding**

4 questions

[Practice](#)

### About this unit



## The scientific method and experimental design

[Go to lesson page](#)

Poison ivy is a weed that produces an oil which causes skin rashes.

Scientists want to perform an experiment to see if poison ivy grows taller when exposed to more carbon dioxide.

How should the control group in this experiment be treated?

Choose 1 answer:

- (A) The control group should have plants growing at higher oxygen levels.
- (B) The control group should have plants growing at different carbon dioxide levels.
- (C) The control group should have plants growing in different amounts of water.
- (D) The control group should have plants growing at normal carbon dioxide level.



Do 4 problems ○ ○ ○ ○

Check

About this unit

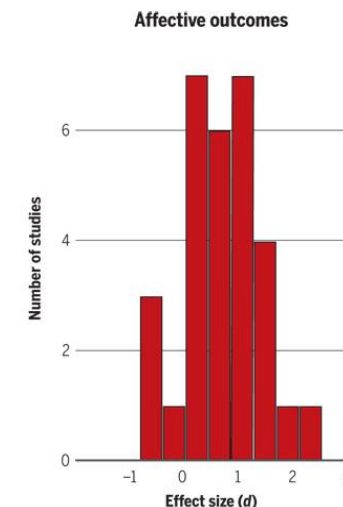
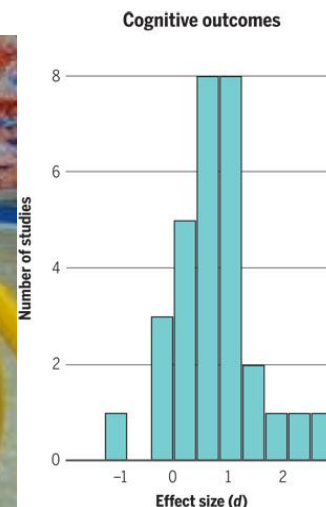


# Distributing health tech to pediatric populations



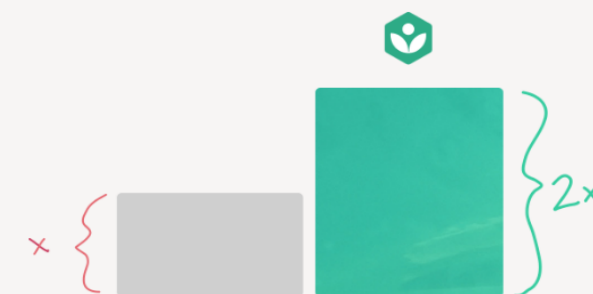
What does investing in the next generation look like?

- Use **robots** in school districts to supplement cancer education
  - Remote and disadvantaged school districts (South Korean model)
  - Games, videos, resources found on the ONCall page.
- **Khan Academy** model for self-education
  - Tiered education model for different learning levels
  - Presence in school districts, provide an effective and educational long-term experience



Over **twice** as likely to meet grade-level standards

Students who used Khan Academy for 30 minutes a week were over twice as likely to meet grade-level math standards. These findings hold true across ethnicity, family income level, and English-language learner status.



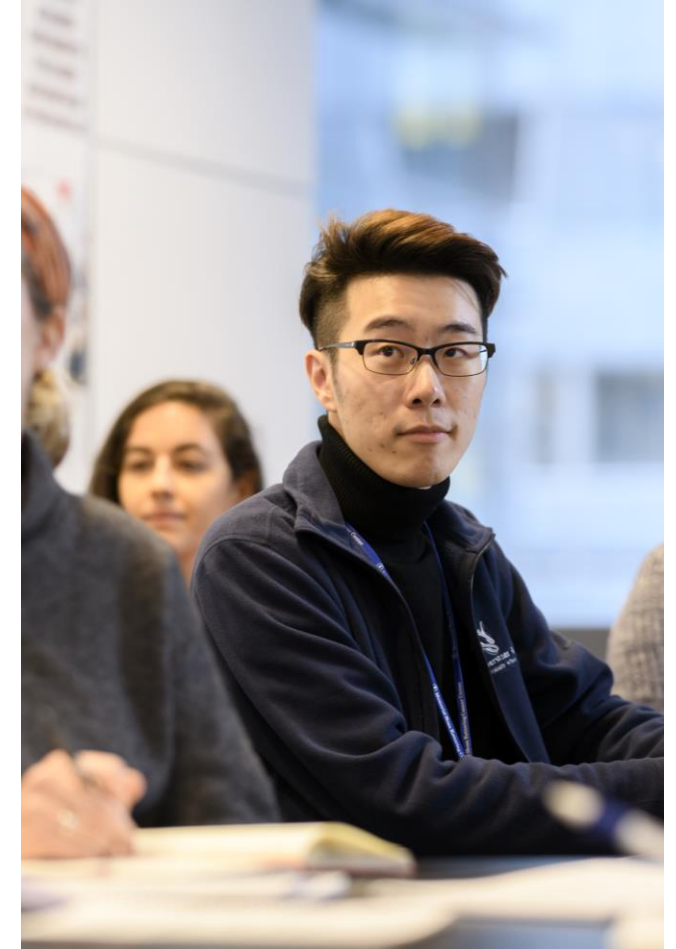
# The Long Haul

# MSK's Social Impact

Integrating the Knowledgebase into Society

How do the above solutions help shape MSK's **long-term image as the most accessible cancer knowledge center?**

What else can MSK do to perform **community outreach** and use the knowledge base to its **fullest potential?**





# MSK in Popular Media

## Doing More with More

- Media partnerships (beyond social media)
  - **Increase brand awareness**
  - Educate the public
  - Widen sphere of outreach by working with screenwriters and publishers
- Industry examples:
  - Planned Parenthood's Office of Arts and Entertainment Engagement
  - *The New York Times Presents...*
  - Podcasts, radios, movies, shows, etc.



# Physical Outreach

## Doing More with More

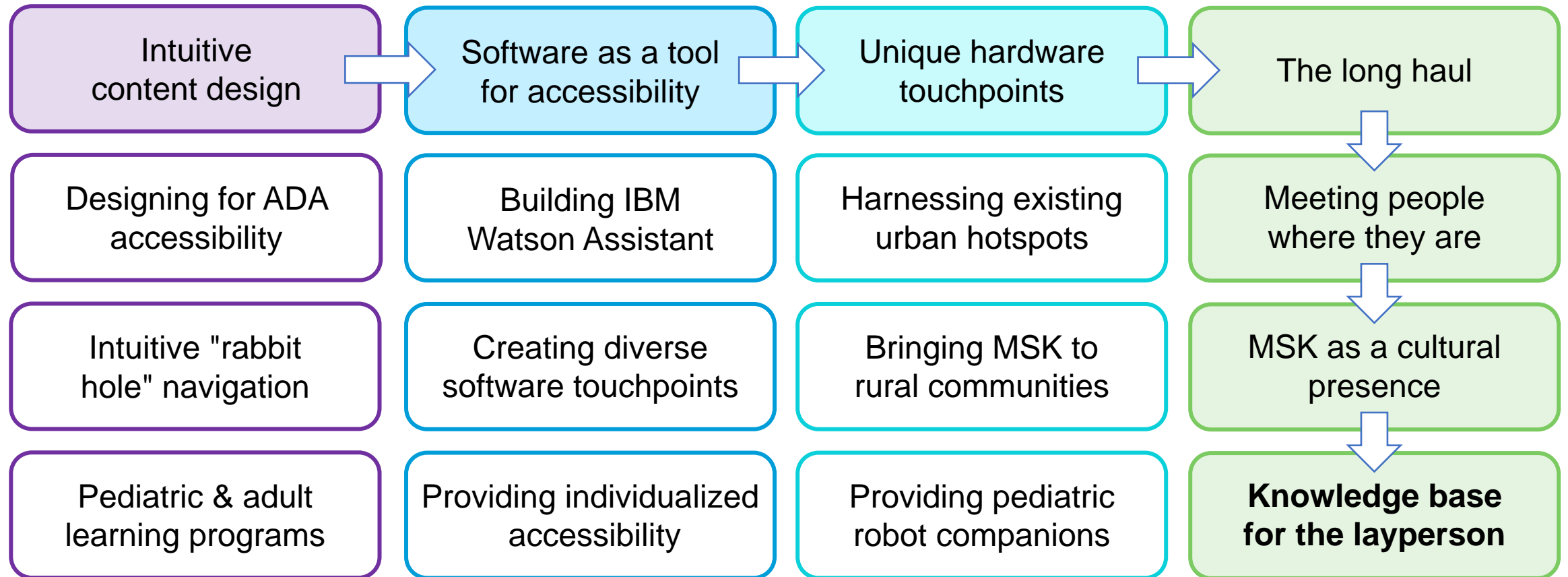
- Community centers, libraries, physician's offices with MSK print materials
- Expanding public transit advertising beyond NYC area through QR codes
- Eye-catching statistics that will resonate personally with a given population



How do we reach the "long haul"?

# Mapping the journey forward

What is feasible for MSK today? What are steps we need to take to reach the "long haul"?



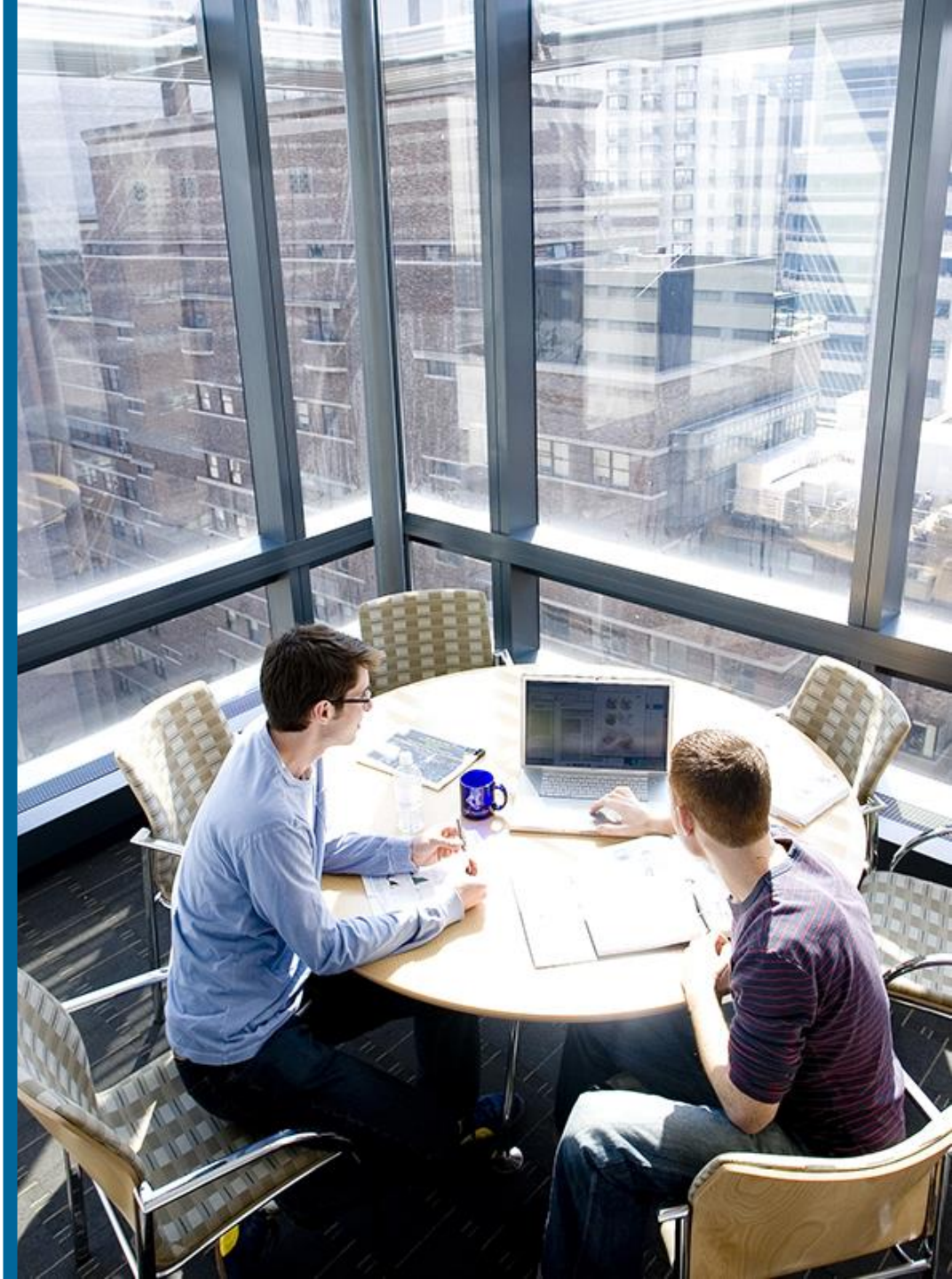
# Turning vision into action



Memorial Sloan Kettering  
Cancer Center

**DigiTs**

DIGITAL, INFORMATICS, TECHNOLOGY



Q&A



# Appendices

# Appendix A: Population Research and Demography

# Internet Access Figures

**Figure A1** (Pew Research Center, 2018):

<https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/fact-sheet/internet-broadband/>

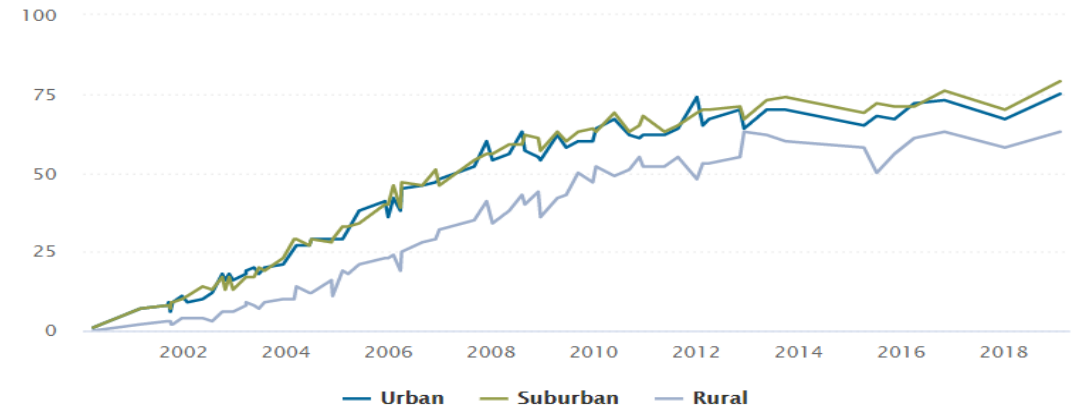
Demonstrates home broadband ownership is higher in suburban areas (79%) than urban and rural communities (75% and 63%, respectively). This informs our thinking of targeting hardware outreach (i.e. kiosks) towards these populations).

**Figure A2** (Pew Research Center, 2018):

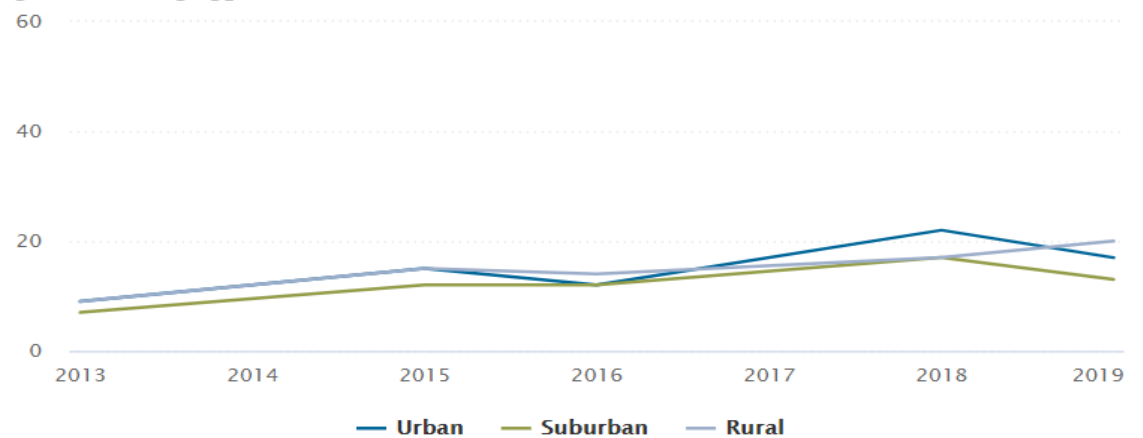
<https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/fact-sheet/internet-broadband/>

Demonstrates smartphone dependency is higher in rural and urban populations (20% and 17% respectively) than suburban areas (13%).

*% of U.S. adults who are home broadband users, by community type*



*% of U.S. adults who do not use broadband at home but own smartphones, by community type*



# More on Internet Access

**Figure A3** (Pew Research Center, 2019):

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/05/31/digital-gap-between-rural-and-nonrural-america-persists/>

Demonstrates home Wi-Fi and device ownership is considerably lower in rural communities.

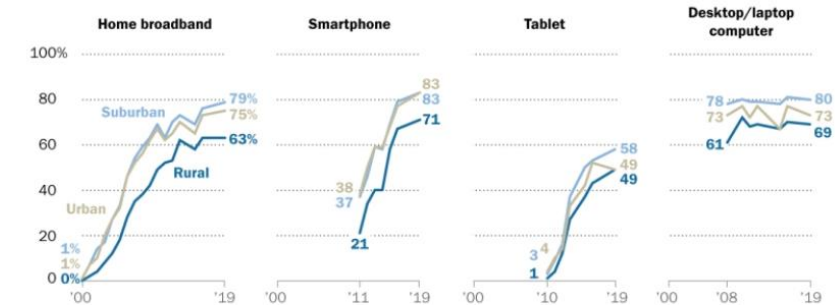
**Figure A4** (Pew Research Center, 2015):

<https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2015/12/21/home-broadband-2015/>

Nearly a third of Americans do not have broadband access, while roughly two-thirds (69%) of Americans claim that not having a home high-speed internet connection is a *major disadvantage* in getting health information or accessing other key information. Using smartphones and other platforms are important in reaching these consumers.

**Rural Americans have consistently lower levels of broadband adoption**

% of U.S. adults who say they have ...



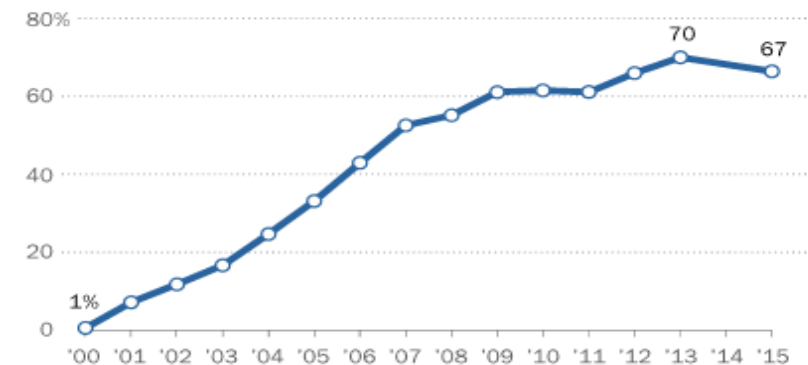
Note: Respondents who did not give an answer are not shown.

Source: Survey conducted Jan. 8-Feb. 7, 2019. Trend data from other Pew Research Center surveys.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

**Home broadband use has plateaued**

% of adults who are home broadband users



Source: Pew Research Center surveys

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

# Cancer Incidence

**Figure A5** (CDC, 2017):

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/p0706-rural-cancer-deaths.html>

CDC studies reveals rural communities face higher death rates for certain cancers (lung, colorectal, prostate, and cervical).

- Death rates were higher in rural areas (180 deaths per 100,000 persons) compared with urban areas (158 deaths per 100,000 persons). Cancer deaths in rural areas decreased at a slower pace, increasing the differences between rural and urban areas.
- While overall cancer incidence rates were somewhat lower in rural areas (442 cases per 100,000 persons) than in urban areas (457 cases per 100,000 persons), incidence rates were higher in rural areas for several cancers, including those related to tobacco use such as lung cancer and those that can be prevented by cancer screening such as colorectal and cervical cancers.
- While rural areas have lower incidence of cancer than urban areas, they have higher cancer death rates. The differences in death rates between rural and urban areas are increasing over time.

# Cancer Prevention Measures

**Figure A6** (CDC, 2019):

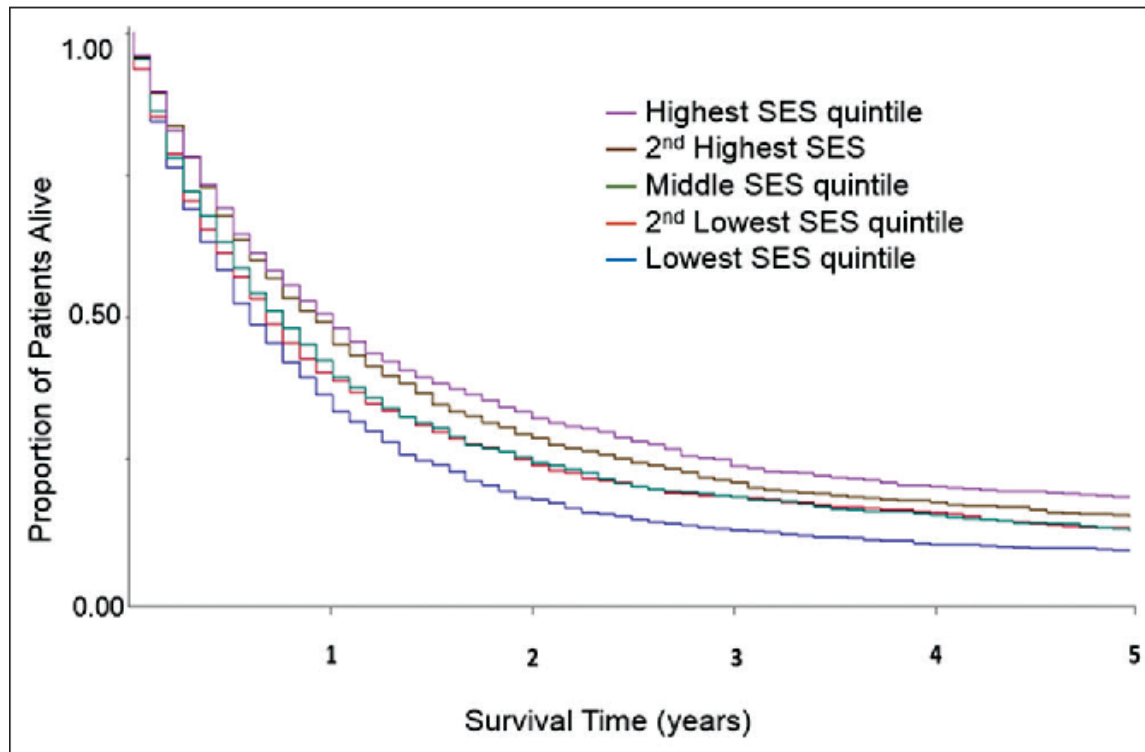
[https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2019/18\\_0446.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2019/18_0446.htm)

Data from a CDC study showing skin-cancer prevention behaviors amongst agricultural and construction workers. Sun-protection behavior score was calculated by using factors such as length of sun exposure, use of sunscreen and shade-seeking, and number of sunburns that were received. Numbers of workers are given as percentages.

Sun-protection behavior score	Farming, Fishing, and Forestry (n = 250)	Construction Workers (n=1,208)
3.0–4.0	12.2 (7.2–20.0) <sup>c</sup>	5.1 (3.4–7.4) <sup>c</sup>
2.0–2.9	33.0 (26.3–40.6)	17.6 (14.8–20.9)
1.0–1.9	37.0 (28.5–46.4)	47.7 (43.8–51.6)
0–0.9	17.8 (12.7–24.3) <sup>c</sup>	29.6 (26.0–33.6)



# Socioeconomic Status and Survival Rates



**Figure 3:** Univariate overall survival by socioeconomic status in patients with esophageal cancer in all stages ( $n = 6976$ ;  $P < 0.0001$ ). Data from California Cancer Registry 2004–2010 with follow-up through December 31, 2012

**Figure A7** (Journal of Carcinogenesis, 2017) <https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/The-impact-of-gender%2C-race%2C-socioeconomic-status%2C-A-Tran-Taylor/871ce7bab3b4e7a4bbac84ed170af13c65731c09>

Study linking higher income and socioeconomic status (SES) to increased proportion of patients alive after treatment.

# Appendix B: Current examples of content design

CHECK YOUR SYMPTOMS

FIND A DOCTOR

FIND A DENTIST

FIND LOWEST DRUG PRICES

SIGN IN

SUBSCRIBE

WebMD

HEALTH  
A-Z

DRUGS &  
SUPPLEMENTS

LIVING  
HEALTHY

FAMILY &  
PREGNANCY

NEWS &  
EXPERTS

SEARCH



# Doctors Most Likely to Get COVID-19 Vaccine When Available

News: Misinformation on Coronavirus Spreading Like Wildfire

More: Hydroxychloroquine No Cure for COVID-19



## Coronavirus in Context



Dr. Arturo Holmes II: How Scrubs Protect Against Discrimination



Dr. Phil Talks About Parenting During This Pandemic



Kenneth Cole on Destigmatizing Mental Health

[MyChart](#)

[REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT](#)

[DONATE TODAY](#)



For the safety of patients and employees, MD Anderson is restricting visitors at all of our locations. [Learn more.](#)

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS  
**MD Anderson**  
**Cancer Center**

[LOCATIONS](#) | [CAREERS](#)  | [CONTACT US](#) | [OUR DOCTORS](#) | [LANGUAGES](#) 

[PATIENTS & FAMILY](#) 

[PREVENTION & SCREENING](#) 

[DONORS & VOLUNTEERS](#) 

[FOR PHYSICIANS](#) 

[RESEARCH](#) 

[EDUCATION & TRAINING](#) 

[CANCER MOONSHOTS](#) 



**HONORED**  
to be #1  
in cancer care





What cancer patients, their families, and caregivers need to know about the [coronavirus](#).

Cancer Helpline  
800.227.2345 [Live Chat](#)

[Sign Up For Email](#)



[Español](#) | [More Languages](#)

[GIVE IN HONOR & MEMORIAL](#)

[DONATE](#)

[CANCER A-Z](#)

[STAY HEALTHY](#)

[TREATMENT & SUPPORT](#)

[NEWS](#)

[OUR RESEARCH](#)

[GET INVOLVED](#)

[OUR PARTNERS](#)

[ABOUT US](#)



# Help prevent six cancers with the HPV vaccine.

PROTECT YOUR CHILD

LATEST NEWS



[Coronavirus and Cancer](#)



[Start Cervical Cancer Screening](#)



[Join our Hashtag Challenge](#)



[Give in Honor or Memory](#)

COVID-19 is an emerging, rapidly evolving situation.

Expand for resources

# NIH NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Español

1-800-4-CANCER

Live Chat

Publications

Dictionary

ABOUT CANCER

CANCER TYPES

RESEARCH

GRANTS & TRAINING

NEWS & EVENTS

ABOUT NCI

search



NCI is the nation's  
leader in cancer  
research



Find a  
Clinical Trial







Search Mayo Clinic

- Request an Appointment
- Find a Doctor
- Find a Job
- Give Now
- Log in to Patient Account
- English
- Twitter Facebook YouTube

- PATIENT CARE & HEALTH INFO
- DEPARTMENTS & CENTERS
- RESEARCH
- EDUCATION
- FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS
- PRODUCTS & SERVICES
- GIVING TO MAYO CLINIC

Departments and Centers  
**Cancer Center**

**!** We're welcoming patients at Mayo Clinic  
 See our safety precautions in response to COVID-19.  
[Request an appointment.](#)



**Why Choose Mayo Clinic for Cancer Treatment**

[Show transcript](#)

**Overview**

More than 150,000 people with cancer come to Mayo Clinic each year. They find experts with extensive experience in the diagnosis and treatment of virtually every kind of cancer and the resources to provide excellent care tailored to their needs. Mayo Clinic doctors and researchers solve the most serious and complex medical questions, one person at a time. U.S. News & World Report consistently ranks Mayo Clinic among the top hospitals for cancer in the nation.

The Mayo Clinic Cancer Center is designated by the National Cancer Institute as a [comprehensive cancer center](#). This means the clinic's renowned physicians, researchers and scientists carry out team-based, patient-centered research to develop the latest technologies and treatments to address unmet patient needs. As a result, people who come to the clinic for cancer care have access to hundreds of clinical trials in all phases.

Mayo Clinic researchers share what they learn with other members of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network, a not-for-profit alliance of leading cancer centers dedicated to improving the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of care for cancer patients.

**Appointments**

Mayo Clinic accepts appointments in Arizona, Florida and Minnesota and at Mayo Clinic Health System sites.

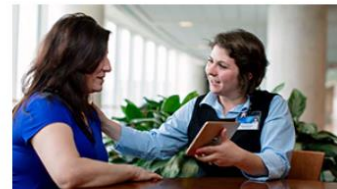
[Request an Appointment](#)

**Patient care**



**Request an appointment**

Contact Mayo Clinic by telephone or



**Cancer: An Overview**

Know what cancer signs and symptoms to



**Cancer treatment at Mayo Clinic**

December 24, 2019 / Sports Health & Fitness

## Lumps and Bumps on Your Body: When You Should Worry

Not every bump is worth losing sleep over



Finding a new lump or bump on your body would give most of us pause. After all, a lump can, in rare cases, mean cancer. But not every bump or lump should cause concern or worry.

The good news is that a majority of these lumps are harmless and not a cause for concern. A number of skin or medical conditions can cause lumps and bumps to appear on the surface or just below the skin.

### When not to worry

Lumps that are not a cause for concern have some distinctive characteristics.

One major marker is if you can connect the lump's appearance to a specific trauma or activity, says orthopedic surgeon [Nathan W. Mesko, MD](#). Athletes of all levels experience the occasional bump as a result of exercise, training, competition or other physical activity.

In that case, we recommend you follow the basic RICE method of rest, ice, compression and elevation," Dr. Mesko says. "If, over time, the lump or swelling improves, that's a reassuring sign that it is harmless and nothing to worry about."

Not-so-serious lumps usually are:

- Soft.
- Mobile, meaning it moves and changes form when you

#### HEALTH LIBRARY

##### SARCOMA

Overview

Diagnosis and Tests

Management and Treatment

## When more investigation is needed

In rare cases, an unexplained lump, bump or swelling can be a sign of a more serious issue beneath the skin.

Bumps that are cancerous are typically large, hard, painless to the touch and appear spontaneously. The mass will grow in size steadily over the weeks and months. Cancerous lumps that can be felt from the outside of your body can appear in the breast, testicle, or neck, but also in the arms and legs.

One type of cancerous lump that can form almost anywhere in the body is called adult soft tissue sarcoma. The soft tissues of the body include the muscles, tendons (the bands of fiber that connect muscles to bones), fat, blood vessels, lymph vessels, nerves and the tissues around joints.

Most frequently, though, adult soft tissue sarcoma develops in the legs, arms, chest or the area behind the abdomen called the retroperitoneum, says oncologist [Dale Shepard, MD, PhD](#).

"Adult soft tissue sarcoma is a disease in which malignant cells form in the soft tissues of the body," he says. "In the early stages, it rarely causes symptoms because the tumors often are located deep in the tissue."

Soft tissue sarcomas can grow to be quite large before causing symptoms because they often are embedded deep in the body, Dr. Shepard says.

Most commonly, soft tissue sarcomas feel like masses or bumps, which may be painful. If the tumor is in the abdomen, it may produce nausea or a sensation of fullness as well as pain, he says.

Adult soft tissue sarcoma is rare. Among adults, they represent less than 1% of all cancers, Dr. Shepard says.

It's important to talk with your doctor about any lumps that are larger than two inches (about the size of a golf ball), grow larger, or are painful regardless of their location.

"Tell your doctor about new lumps or other symptoms that cannot be explained or that don't go away in a few weeks," Dr. Shepard says.



cancer know the symptoms lump sports injuries

# Appendix C: IBM Watson and smart assistants

# Conversational Interface: Background

Digital transformation of the patient/physician experience

## Harnessing AI to reduce physician burnout

AI advancements can help reduce redundant work

- **General questions**
  - What are common side effects of Leukeran? Are they dangerous?
  - My doctor said I have low blood pressure. What does that mean?
  - I'm filling out a form. What does "medical record number" mean?
- **MSK questions**
  - Can I have visitors come in tomorrow at 5 p.m.?
  - Should I fast before tomorrow's surgery? Can I eat after my surgery?
  - Is this blood test covered by my insurance?
- **Patient-specific questions**
  - What were the results of my lab test? How long until they come back?
  - What immunizations do I have? Can I get a PDF of my history?
  - When is my next appointment?
  - Can I check my payment record?

For every **1** hour with a patient, physicians spend **2** at the computer.

More than **half** of physicians reported feeling burnt out.

Paperwork costs the health industry (conservatively) **\$4.6 billion** annually.

[Source](#)

# Conversational Interface: Cancer SOTA

Current advancements of chatbots in the cancer landscape

## A Chatbot Versus Physicians to Provide Information for Patients With Breast Cancer

- "A total of 142 patients were included and randomized into two groups of 71. They were all female with a mean age of 42 years (SD 19). The success rates (as defined by a score >3) was **69% (49/71) in the chatbot group** versus 64% (46/71) in the physicians group. The binomial test showed the **noninferiority** ( $P < .001$ ) of the chatbot's answers."
- Conclusion: "Artificial conversational agents may save patients with minor health concerns from a visit to the doctor. This could **allow clinicians to spend more time to treat patients** who need a consultation the most."
  - **Chatbots can accurately relay information and reduce physician burnout**

## One-Year Prospective Study of Conversations Between Patients With Breast Cancer and a Chatbot

- "A total of 4737 patients were included. Results showed that an average of 132,970 messages exchanged per month was observed between patients and the chatbot, Vik ... Patients regularly left **positive comments** and **recommended** Vik to their friends. The **overall satisfaction was 93.95%** (900/958). When asked what Vik meant to them and what Vik brought them, 88.00% (943/958) said that Vik **provided them with support** and helped them **track their treatment** effectively.
- Conclusion: "It is possible to obtain **support** through a chatbot since Vik improved the **medication adherence rate** of patients with breast cancer."
  - **Chatbots are effective at improving patient medication adherence and supporting patients emotionally**

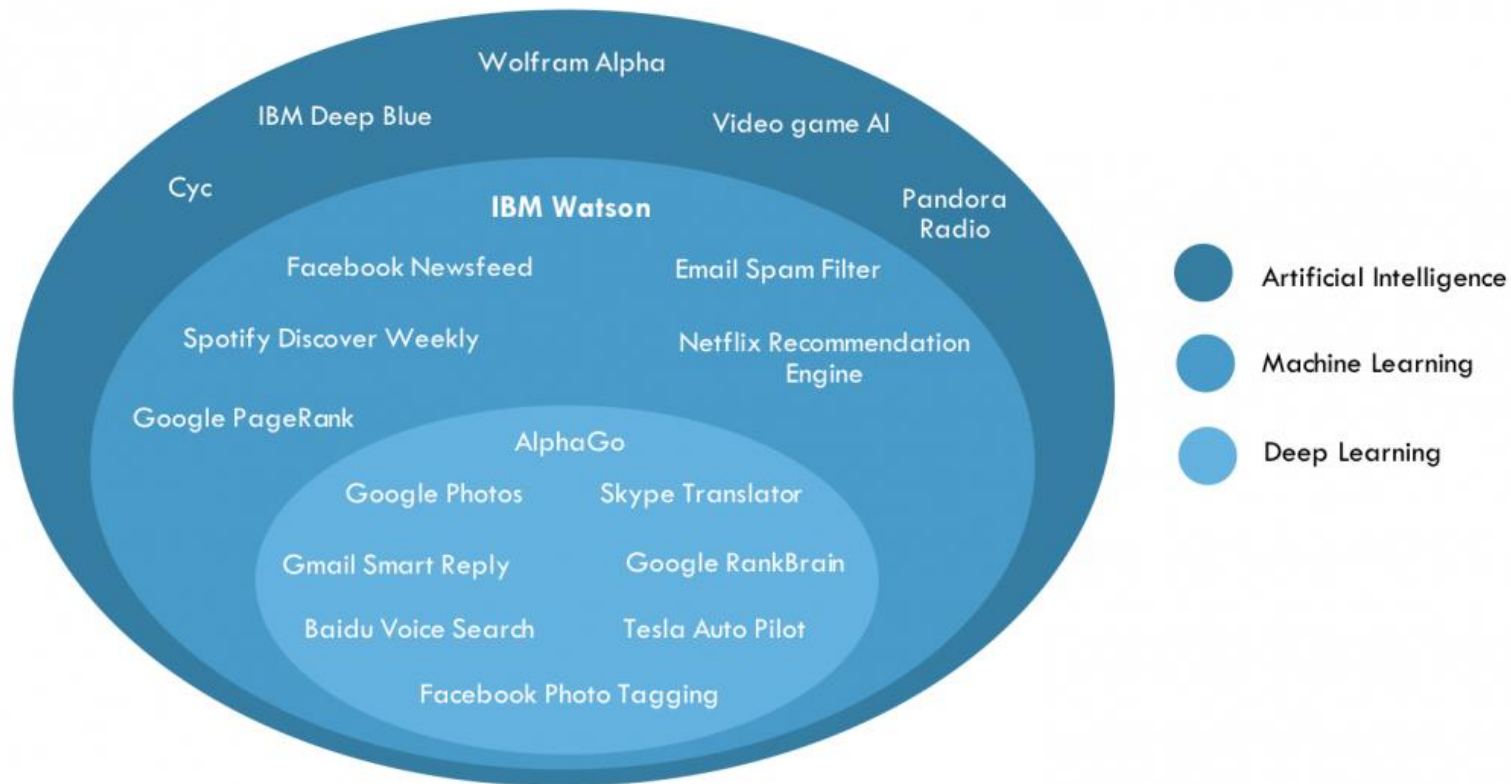
[Source](#)



# Conversational Interface: IBM Watson

Digital transformation of the patient/physician experience

## Artificial Intelligence Categories



Source: ARK Investment Management LLC

BankBot

I can help you schedule an appointment with one of our bankers.

Which date would be best for you? We need 24 hours notice for an appointment, the earliest would be tomorrow.

I can do tomorrow!

Great, Sat, Jun 13, 2020.

What time would you like to meet with our banker?

I can help you find a credit card to suit your needs. We have credit cards to build credit, provide rewards, and help you save money. What are you looking for most in a credit card?

Low interest rates

We have several credit cards with low interest and no fees.

Are you interested in rewards?

I can help you with credit card payments.

One moment while I retrieve a list of accounts.

Please select which credit card account you'd like to pay.

Card # 5624    Card # 5893    Card # 9225



# Conversational Interface: IBM Watson

Digital transformation of the patient/physician experience

- **IBM Watson Assistant**
  - Build, test, and deploy a bot or virtual agent across mobile devices, messaging platforms, or even on a physical robot
- **IBM Watson Discovery**
  - A cognitive search and content analytics engine for applications to identify patterns, trends, and actionable insights
- **IBM Watson Natural Language Understanding**
  - Analyze text to extract meta-data from content such as concepts, entities, keywords, categories, sentiment, emotion, relations, and semantic roles, using natural language understanding
- **IBM Watson Tone Analyzer**
  - Uses linguistic analysis to detect communication tones in written text
- **Node.js**
  - An asynchronous event driven JavaScript runtime, designed to build scalable applications

[Source](#)

# Conversational Interface: IBM Watson Assistant

Digital transformation of the patient/physician experience

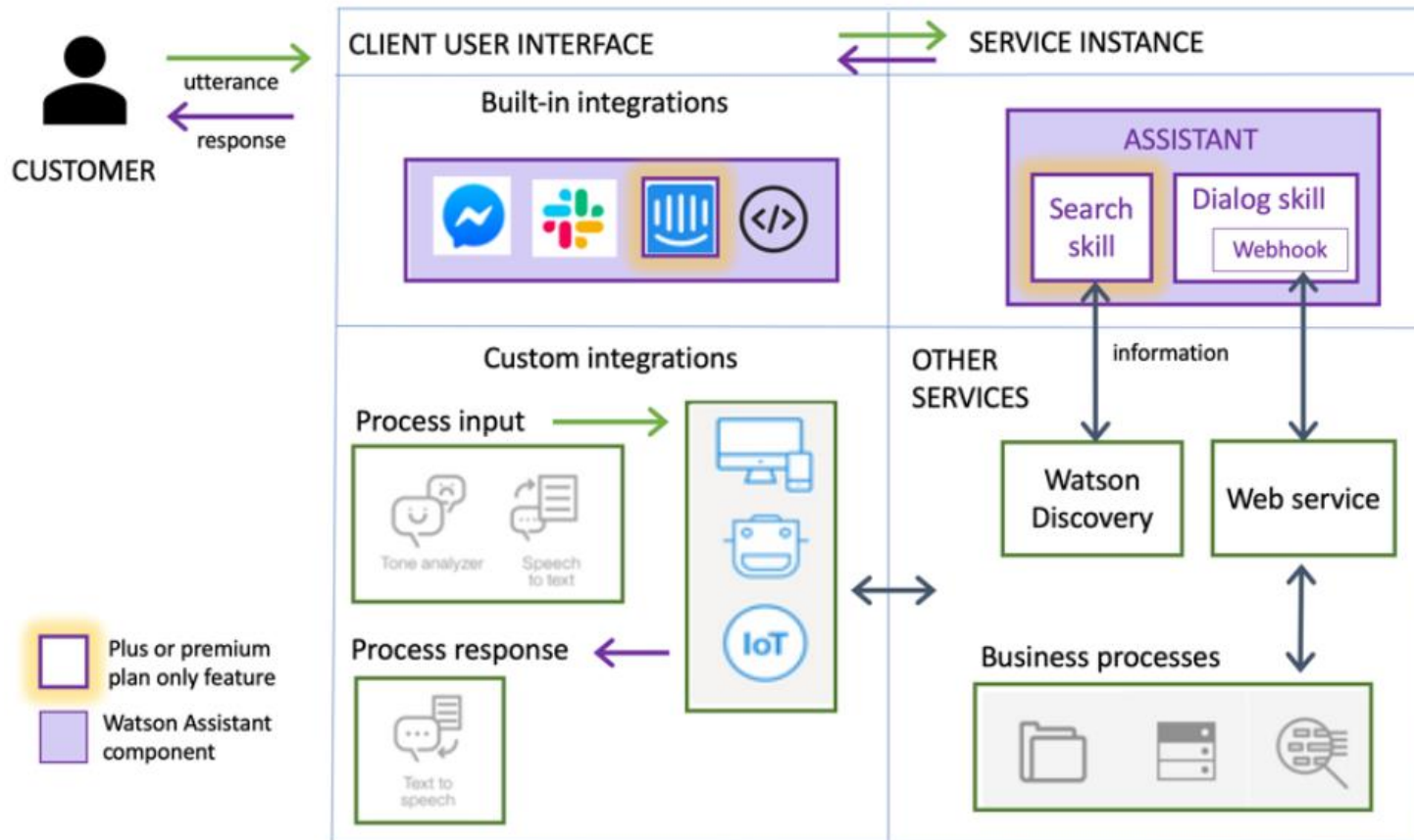


Figure 2: A typical approach used when deploying Watson Assistant

- Intents
- Entities
  - System entities
- Dialogues
  - Condition
  - Response
  - Slots

[Source](#)

# Appendix D: Kiosks

# Information on LinkNYC

## Features

- ❑ Free to user; open to public
- ❑ Multilingual support
- ❑ High-speed, encrypted WiFi
  - 'Gigabit' WiFi: over 100x faster than most public internet connections
  - For certain devices (some Apple devices), ability to connect to a private network
  - 'LinkNYC Free Wi-Fi': open network relying on server-based SSL security (secure links)
- ❑ Phone calls to anywhere in USA
  - Volume adjustable mid-call
  - Button for 911
- ❑ Device charging
  - 2 USB outlets below headphone jack
  - Connected directly to power source; cannot exchange data
- ❑ Tablet for maps & city services
  - Allows user to search for addresses, offers directions
  - Easy access to City Services (alternate side parking, construction schedules, register for IDNYC)
  - Voting information
- ❑ Sessions end after 30 seconds of idle time

# Information on LinkNYC

## Stats / Figures

- Currently 1779 active Links (as of July 7 2020)
- 8,461,839 subscribers as of 12/30/2019
- 2,251,215,052 cumulative sessions as of 12/30/2019

## Finances

- Funded entirely through advertisers, partnerships, and sponsorships
  - Generates millions for the City of New York
  - Able to target audiences using *anonymous* (nothing identifiable) information about how many users are connected to a certain Link at a given time
  - Local or large-scale advertisements
- Projected cost from 2014-2022: 200 million (250 in reality)
- Expected number of kiosks: 7500
- Estimated cost per unit: \$25,000-\$30,000 (\$140,000 in reality)
  - Does not include maintenance, utility, financing costs
- Assuming kiosks are built at a constant rate, each one would need to produce \$6,400 in revenue to break even

## Benefits

- Millions of NYC-ers don't have access to high-speed WiFi
- Creates 100+ jobs
- 21.3 million calls, 8.7 million users as of March 04 2020
- Provides voting information

## *Soofa*

- Boston start-up, seen in ATL Las Vegas, soon Miami-Dade
- Funded through local advertising, sponsors like Ford, T-Mobile
- Fully solar-powered, wirelessly connected
  - Sustainable, self-sufficient, only requires “4 bolts in the ground”
- Focuses on equal geographic distribution

Local Business	Community Influencer	Enterprise
Best suited for small businesses and organizations who want to reach a defined audience.	Best suited for businesses and organizations that want to maximize their reach to an audience.	Best suited for businesses and organizations who want to reach a large targeted audience with a strategic campaign.
<a href="#">TRY FOR FREE</a>	<a href="#">TRY FOR FREE</a>	<a href="#">CONTACT US</a>
\$99 per month*	\$499 per month*	Custom Pricing



## ARTICLE

# 2020 Kiosk Market Census Report: Record growth continues

The kiosk industry posted its third consecutive year of double-digit growth in 2019, according to the newly-released 2020 Kiosk Market Census Report. Kiosk sales jumped 17.9% in 2019, closely matching the growth rates of the previous two years, boosted by rising consumer acceptance of self-service technology.

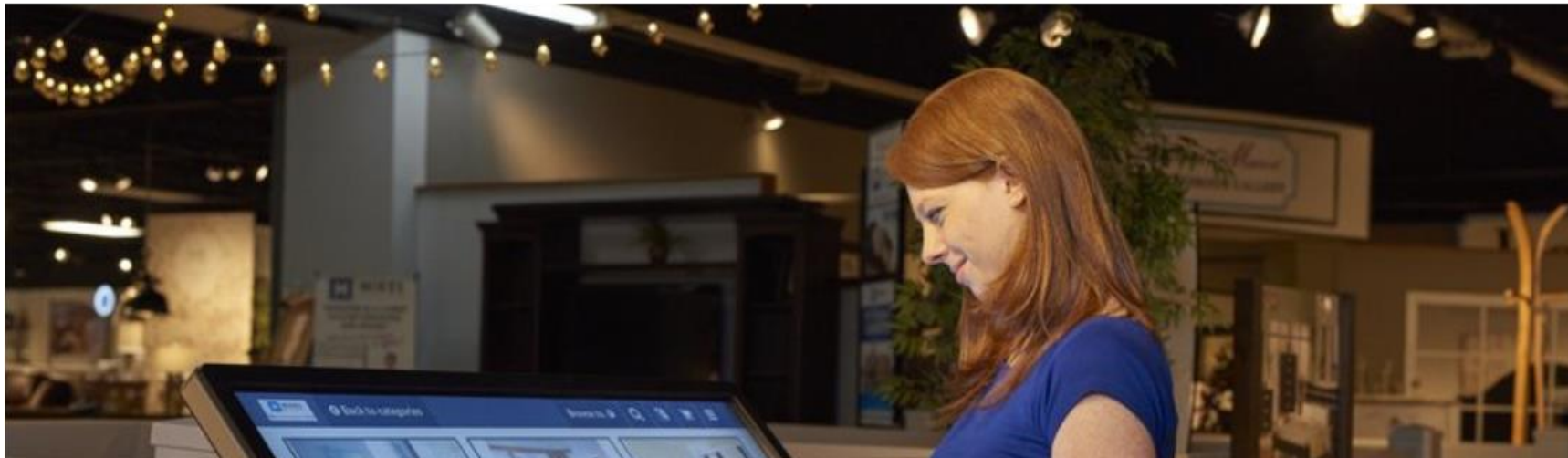


# Kiosk Market Trends

## COMMENTARY

### Kiosks help keep brick and mortar stores relevant as e-commerce expands

Interactive kiosks offer retailers a tool for allowing customers to join the e-commerce experience with in-store purchasing by allowing shop to shop for both the physical and online product offerings.



# "Community Kiosks"



 SIGN IN

 NPR SHOP

 DONATE NOW

 NEWS

 ARTS & LIFE

 MUSIC

 SHOWS & PODCASTS

 SEARCH

BUSINESS



## Understanding 'The Wal-Mart Effect'

January 31, 2006 · 6:03 PM ET

Heard on [All Things Considered](#)

 Listen

 PLAYLIST



Charles Fishman, author of *The Wal-Mart Effect*, talks about how Wal-Mart became the largest company in world history. He claims that the retail giant has such power that it affects everyone's daily lives, whether they shop at or do business with Wal-Mart.

# "Community Kiosks"

Source: <https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/fact-sheet/internet-broadband/>

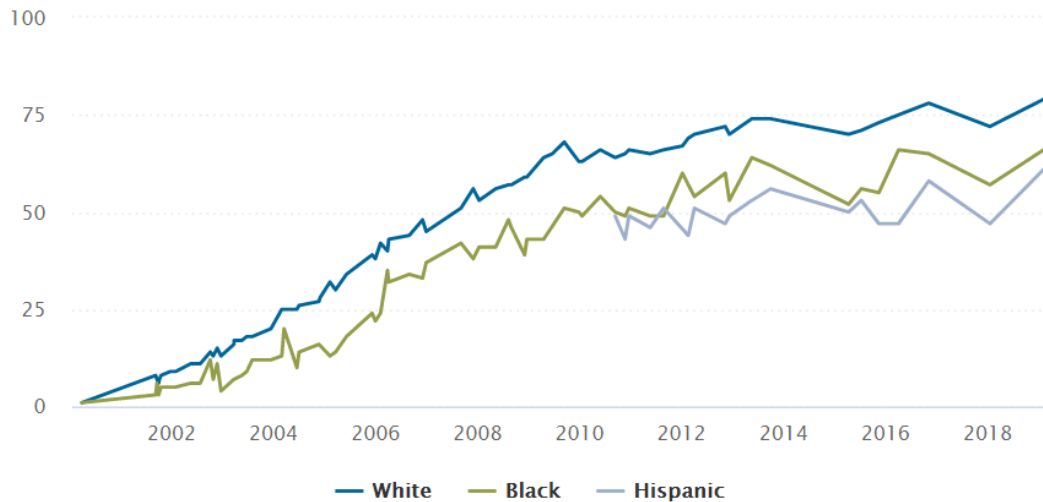
## Who has home broadband

As is true of internet adoption more broadly, home broadband adoption varies across demographic groups. Racial minorities, older adults, rural residents, and those with lower levels of education and income are less likely to have broadband service at home.

AGE RACE GENDER INCOME EDUCATION COMMUNITY

Chart Data Share Embed

% of U.S. adults who are home broadband users, by race



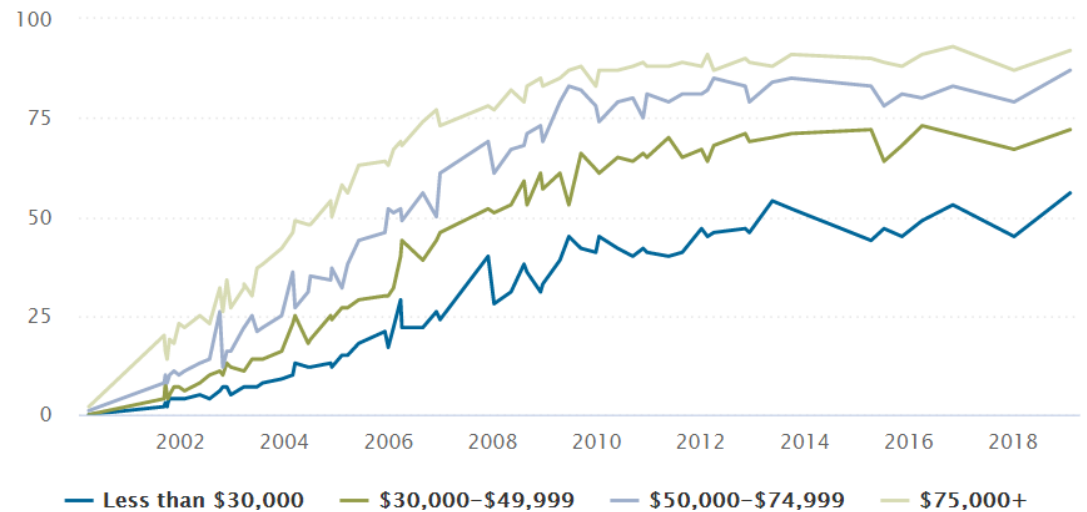
## Who has home broadband

As is true of internet adoption more broadly, home broadband adoption varies across demographic groups. Racial minorities, older adults, rural residents, and those with lower levels of education and income are less likely to have broadband service at home.

AGE RACE GENDER INCOME EDUCATION COMMUNITY

Chart Data Share Embed

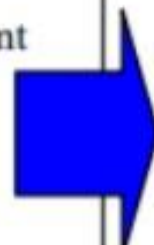
% of U.S. adults who are home broadband users, by income



# Appendix E: Competition

**Figure 3: WebMD Value Offering and Revenue Streams**

WebMD's Services	WebMD Sources of Revenue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Health news for the public</li><li>▪ Medical news for physicians</li><li>▪ Create/maintain current medical reference content</li><li>▪ Medical imagery, graphics, and animation</li><li>▪ Interface design</li><li>▪ Interactive applications</li><li>▪ Communities</li><li>▪ Live web events</li><li>▪ User Experience</li><li>▪ E-commerce</li><li>▪ Clinical informatics</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Subscription arrangements</i> (sponsorships, content syndication &amp; carriage fees)</li><li>▪ <i>Administrative services</i> (transaction fees)</li><li>▪ <i>Products &amp; Services</i> (Development / consulting / IT management services and software licenses)</li><li>▪ <i>Advertising revenues</i></li><li>▪ <i>E-commerce revenues</i></li></ul>



(Source: [www.WebMD.com](http://www.WebMD.com))



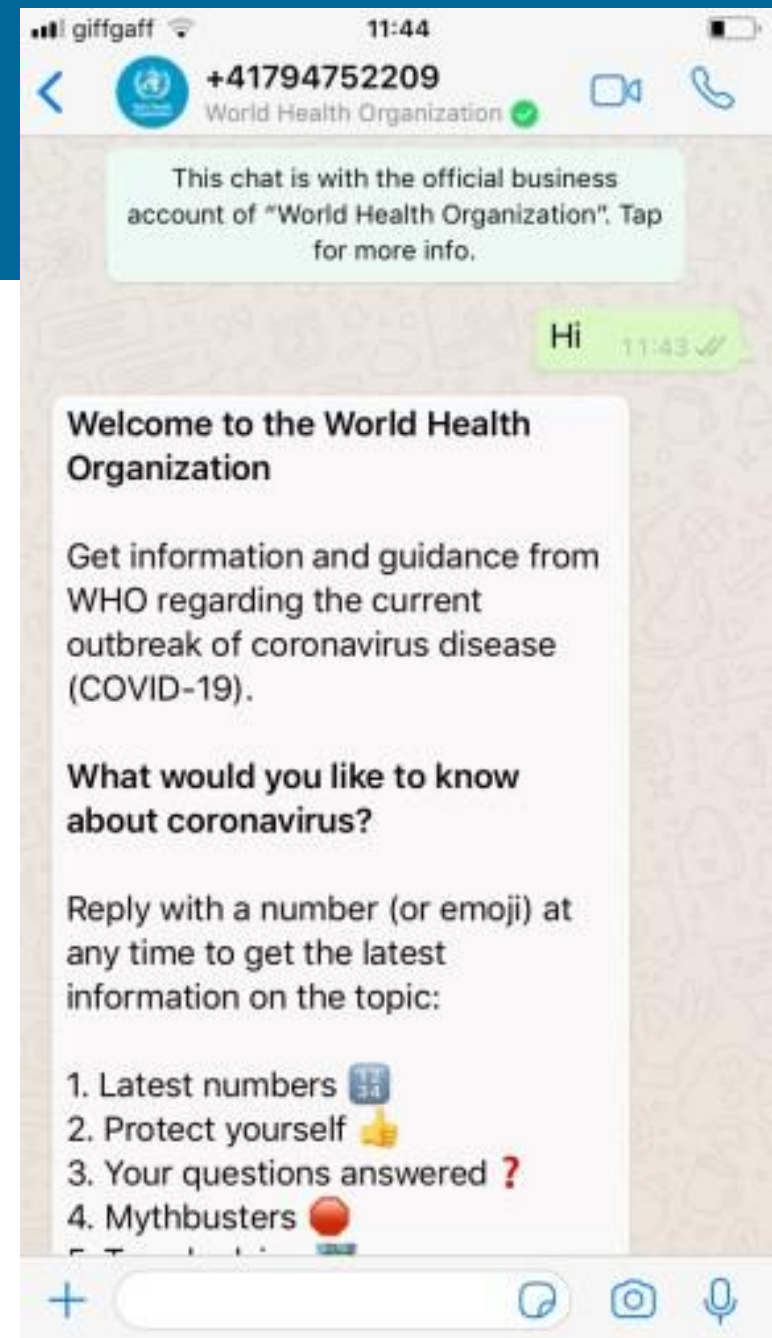
# Chatbots

## Voice-based interactions:

- Alexa
- Google Home
- Siri
- Google Duplex
- Alexa Skills

## Text-based messengers:

- Florence ([getflorencia.co.uk](http://getflorencia.co.uk))
- Molly ([sense.ly](http://sense.ly))
- Lark ([lark.com](http://lark.com))
- Koko ([itskoko.com](http://itskoko.com))
- Replica - A personal AI companion / friend



# Appendix F: Designing Accessible Websites

# Readability levels and web-safe fonts

Formula	What It Measures	How Each Can Best Be Used
Grade equivalent score: represents a student's ability level in comparison to students who were in the specific test's norming group		
<b>Flesch Reading Ease Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level</b>	• syllables per word and words per sentence	• appropriate for grades 3 to 12
<b>Fry Readability Graph</b>		• appropriate for elementary through college
<b>Gunning Fog Score</b>	• words per sentence and complex words (three or more syllables)	• often used for health care material and general business publications
<b>SMOG Index</b>	• complex words (three or more syllables)	• often used for health care material
<b>Coleman Liau Index</b>	• characters per word and words per sentence	• appropriate for grade 4 to college
<b>Spache</b>	• words per sentence and unfamiliar words (words not in Familiar Word List)	• appropriate for grades 1 to 3• highlights difficult words that need to be shortened/simplified
<b>Dale-Chall</b>	• words per sentence and unfamiliar words (words not in Familiar Word List)	• appropriate for grade 4 to 12 highlights difficult words that need to be shortened/simplified
Lexile measure: represents a student's level on a developmental scale of reading ability. Matches student with text at whatever level the student is reading.		
<b>Lexile</b>	• words per sentence and words against a frequency list- sentence length carries more weight than word frequency	• appropriate when working on texts with defined literacy levels

<https://blog.catchthesun.net/2016/03/ways-to-lower-the-reading-level/>

<https://www.hostinger.com/tutorials/best-html-web-fonts>

## What is a “Web Safe Font”?

Simply put, this term is used to describe a font that is universally installed across all devices. Since they are stored locally, your website should load faster when you use a web-safe font.

This will ultimately affect [SEO](#) as page loading speed is one of the factors taken into account when ranking pages on the SERP.

That's why we recommend using a web-safe font – to make sure your readers can view content easily and your website's performance is not negatively impacted.

Keep in mind that there are alternatives to website safe fonts, which usually share the same characteristics as popular typefaces. For example, the alternatives for the Sans Serif font like Helvetica are Acumin and Univers.

But unlike their web-safe counterparts, alternative fonts are often not prepackaged on all OS. That being said, you may want to use one of them because it may seem that a popular font is overused. Just remember that you might sacrifice the speed of your website in exchange.

Some favorites:

1. Arial
2. Times New Roman
3. Helvetica
4. Times
5. Courier New

# Readability in Healthcare

## How Do We Get There? Assessment of Readability

Go to: 

There are a variety of methods available to assess the readability of written materials. Ever since the introduction of various readability formulas during the early half of the twentieth century [31], these diagnostic tools have been widely adopted in areas ranging from insurance and legal documents to military manuals. However, there is no consensus as to which readability formula is best suited for assessing patient education materials. Some of the readability assessment tools used in the healthcare setting include the Flesch Reading Ease scale [22], Flesch-Kincaid Grade [22], Fry Readability Graph [11], McLaughlin's SMOG grading [40], Gunning Fog Index [22], Dale-Chall Readability formula [19], and Suitability Assessment of Materials [18] (Table 1). In general, it is preferable to use more than one readability method to improve the validity of the results. While some readability formulas are validated against various tests of comprehension, the most common being McCall-Crabbs criterion [31], there is no gold standard readability test. Furthermore, readability formulas use different comprehension levels to compute grade level. **The Flesch Reading Ease (FRE) score, the earliest of the commonly used tools to assess readability, gives a score on a scale ranging from 0–100, with 0 being unreadable and 100 being most readable [22]. It is based on the average number of syllables per word and the average number of words per sentence.** The Flesch-Kincaid grade is the most widely used tool to assess readability [2, 12]. It is a modified version of FRE scale. The Fry Readability Graph is favored by some experts, including the CDC, since it requires only three 100-word samples from different parts of the text instead of the entire document and the average number of syllables is noted. The results are then plotted on a graph, generating the grade level of readability [11]. This readability assessment tool is simple and can be applied manually without the need for computers and software. It is particularly well suited for lengthy patient education materials and can also be applied to Spanish text. Originally developed by McLaughlin in 1969, the SMOG formula is recommended by the National Cancer Institute [40]. This readability assessment tool is based on the number of polysyllabic (containing more than two syllables) words in a sample of 30 consecutive sentences. SMOG scores are one to two grades higher than results attained using some of the other readability formulas since it is based on 100% comprehension ability compared to a lower percentage. For instance, if a particular material has SMOG readability grade of 6, it means it will be comprehensible to all individuals with sixth-grade reading skills [31]. The Gunning Fog index is based on the average words per sentence and the percentage of polysyllable words [22]. The New Dale-Chall Readability formula was developed specifically for evaluating health education materials and has the highest validity when tested for reader comprehension [19, 50]. This formula calculates readability using not only the sentence structure but also the vocabulary noting the percentage of unfamiliar words in a written passage based on 3000

More work needs to be done to see what scale is the best to use—  
but it really comes down to testing the site on users and seeing how they are absorbing and engaging with our content

[https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3049622/#:~:text=The%20Flesch%20Reading%20Ease%20\(FRE,number%20of%20words%20per%20sentence.](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3049622/#:~:text=The%20Flesch%20Reading%20Ease%20(FRE,number%20of%20words%20per%20sentence.)

# Integrated touchpoints

## When They Buy, Customers Seek Ease, Seamlessness, and Consultants

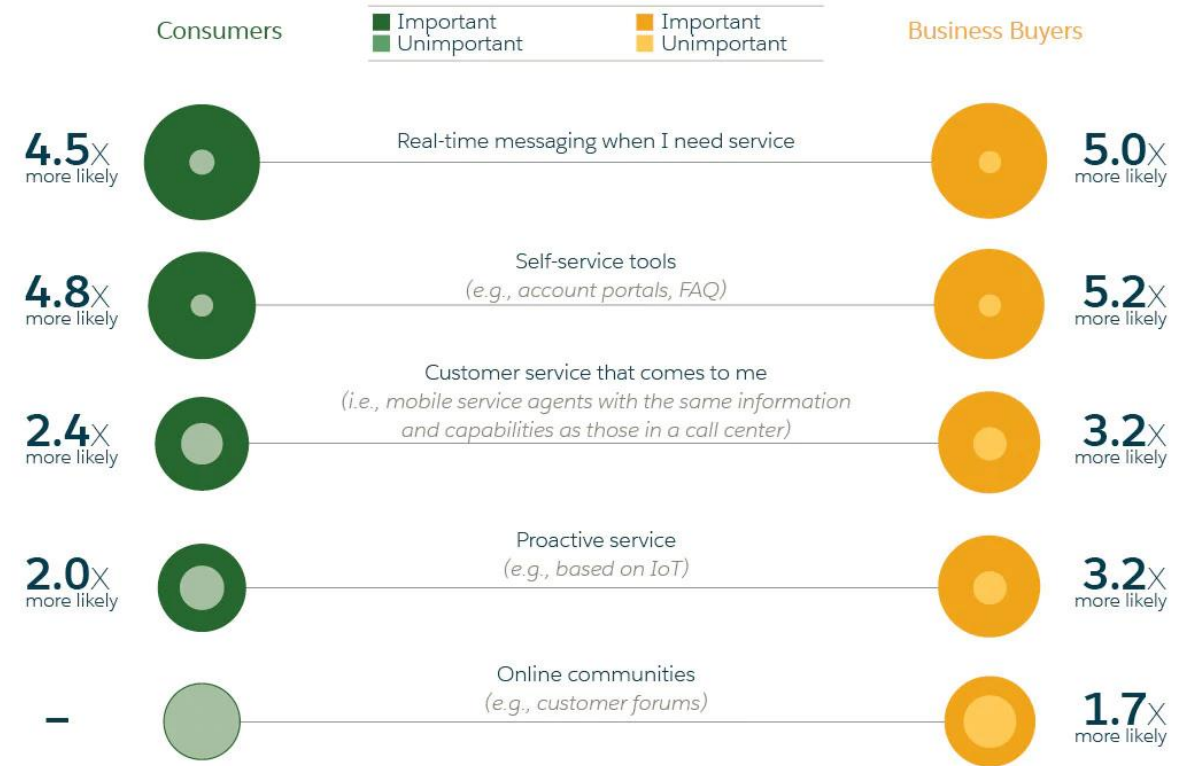
Likelihood of Customers Rating Each Quality as Important vs. Unimportant



Respondents were not required to rate a quality as important or unimportant. Data is based off respondents who elected to rate a quality as such. Not a complete list. See "State of the Connected Customer" report for more.

## After They Buy, Customers Seek Service Beyond the Call Center

Likelihood of Customers Rating Each Quality as Important vs. Unimportant



Respondents were not required to rate a quality as important or unimportant. Data is based off respondents who elected to rate a quality as such. Not a complete list. See "State of the Connected Customer" report for more.



# How we created personas

Table 2.

Sample of Interview Questions Used With Patients.

---

What do you experience as the most common barriers or challenges to getting seen in the clinic when needed?

What approaches have you found to be helpful in getting you in to see a provider more quickly or easily?

What approaches does your clinic use to help patients like you get patients seen more quickly?

When you [or your child] get ill and what kind of information do you feel you need to decide whether to go into the ER, or wait to be seen in the clinic?

Was there any time during the past 12 months when you put off getting medical care you thought you (your child) needed?

Have you ever had a time when you were unable to make an appointment?

Do you use technology in any way to get health information?

What sorts of technology do you currently use/would you like to use to help schedule clinic appointments?

If you could (wave your magic wand and) change one thing about your current clinic's access to care or care experience, what would it be?

---

Abbreviation: ER, emergency room.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5846905/>

- **Online Health Portal:** Jim has low vision and must zoom in to 200% in order to read text on his laptop. Unfortunately, when Jim zooms in on his doctor's portal, it's nearly impossible to read the results of his most recent blood tests.
- **Tablets and kiosks:** Monique is blind and frequents the walk-in clinic in her neighborhood for minor medical issues. The clinic recently upgraded their systems and now uses iPads to check in patients and collect information about their reason for visiting. Monique tries to turn on VoiceOver like she does on her personal iPad, but the speakers have been muted. She must fill out this information with the help of one of the medical assistants.
- **Insurance websites:** Jorge gets migraines triggered by bright light. He uses "dark mode" on his laptop and Android smartphone so the colors are reversed and there isn't bright white on the screen. Jorge needs to find a urologist. He tries to search his insurance website for one that takes his plan, but in dark mode, the contrast is so poor that he can't read anything. He doesn't want to have to call the 800 number and talk to a stranger about his medical needs, but he can't do it online.
- **Appointment scheduling:** Eileen uses voice-command software because arthritis makes it too painful to type or use a mouse. Unfortunately, her doctor's website does not accept her voice commands when she tries to pick a date and time for her next appointment.
- **Medical devices:** Arjun has sleep apnea which is managed via a CPAP machine. However, the screen on the device is too small for him to read. Since he lives alone, anytime he needs to adjust the humidity level on his machine, he needs to ask his Meals on Wheels delivery person to help.

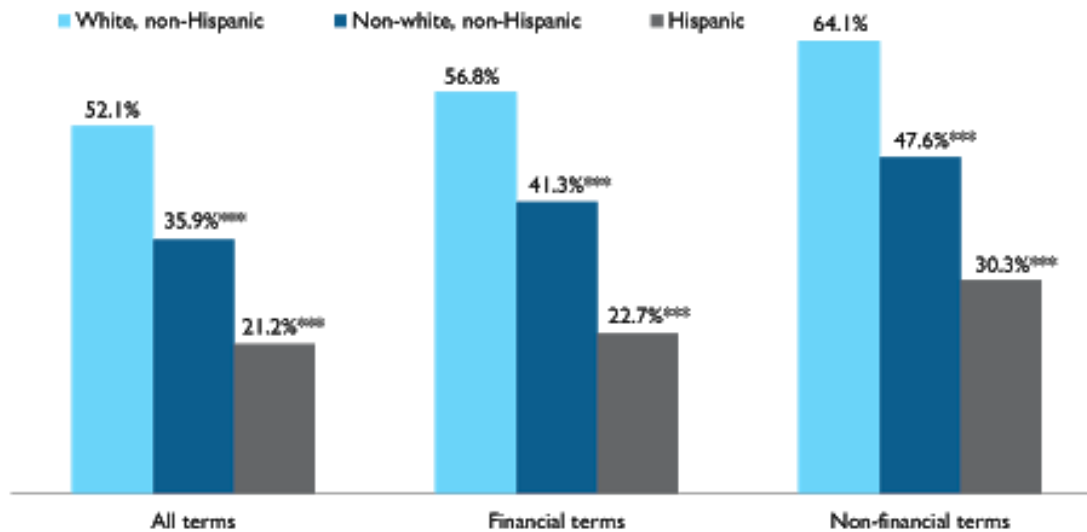
"Level access"



# Appendix G: Health literacy & accessibility

# Health literacy by race

**Figure 1. Confidence in Understanding Key Health Insurance Terms Among Racial and Ethnic Groups**



Source: Health Reform Monitoring Survey, quarter 2 2013.

Notes: Financial terms include premium, deductible, co-payments, coinsurance, and maximum annual out-of-pocket spending. Nonfinancial terms include provider network, covered services, annual limits on services, and excluded services.

\*\*\*\* Estimate differs significantly from the white, non-Hispanic group at the 0.01 level, using a two-tailed test. No estimates differed significantly at the 0.10/0.05 levels.

**Figure G1** (Health Reform Monitoring Survey, 2013)

<http://hrms.urban.org/briefs/literacy-by-race.html>

Due to socioeconomic disparities and language barriers, it is disproportionately harder for Hispanic Americans to understand health insurance terms that are vital to their care. This lack of health literacy has implications that disproportionately and detrimentally affects Hispanic groups in seeking and utilizing healthcare systems.