

Background

Patients with pediatric feeding disorders (PFDs) require frequent monitoring of their clinical status through anthropometric data and physical exams. The intervention assessed whether implementation of the Tytocare remote monitoring device improved satisfaction and reduced stress among caregivers of children with PFDs.

Purpose and Goals

Aim #1: Improve the perception of communication by 10% after implementing the Tytocare device.

Aim #2: Increase provider reports of effectiveness of virtual visits by 20% due to availability of anthropometric measurements.

Aim #3: Assess caregiver stress levels after introducing the Tytocare device.

Methods

Patients 2-7 years seen within the program in the past 9-months were recruited for participation.

Must communicate in English, Spanish, Portuguese, or Arabic.

Caregivers asked for initial feedback on telehealth visits then sent follow up surveys at 3- and 6-months after initial device use (adapted from Slusser et al., 2016).

Measured satisfaction with device use as well as caregiver stress levels (Perceived Stress Scale).

Results

- 79 patients opted into the program but only 27 completed the surveys.

Variable	Overall (n=27)
Age (years-mean, mode, range)	4 (2,5) {2,8}
Sex	
Male	14 (51.9%)
Female	13 (48.1%)
Ethnicity	
Hispanic or Latino	2 (7.4%)
Not Hispanic or Latino	24 (88.9%)
Missing	1 (3.7%)
Race	
White	12 (44.4%)
Black/African-American	4 (14.8%)
Asian	6 (22.2%)
Other	1 (3.7%)
Multiple Races	3 (11.1%)
Missing	1 (3.7%)

Table 1. Patient demographics of those completing the surveys

- 85% of caregivers were satisfied with their virtual appointment experience before and after implementation.

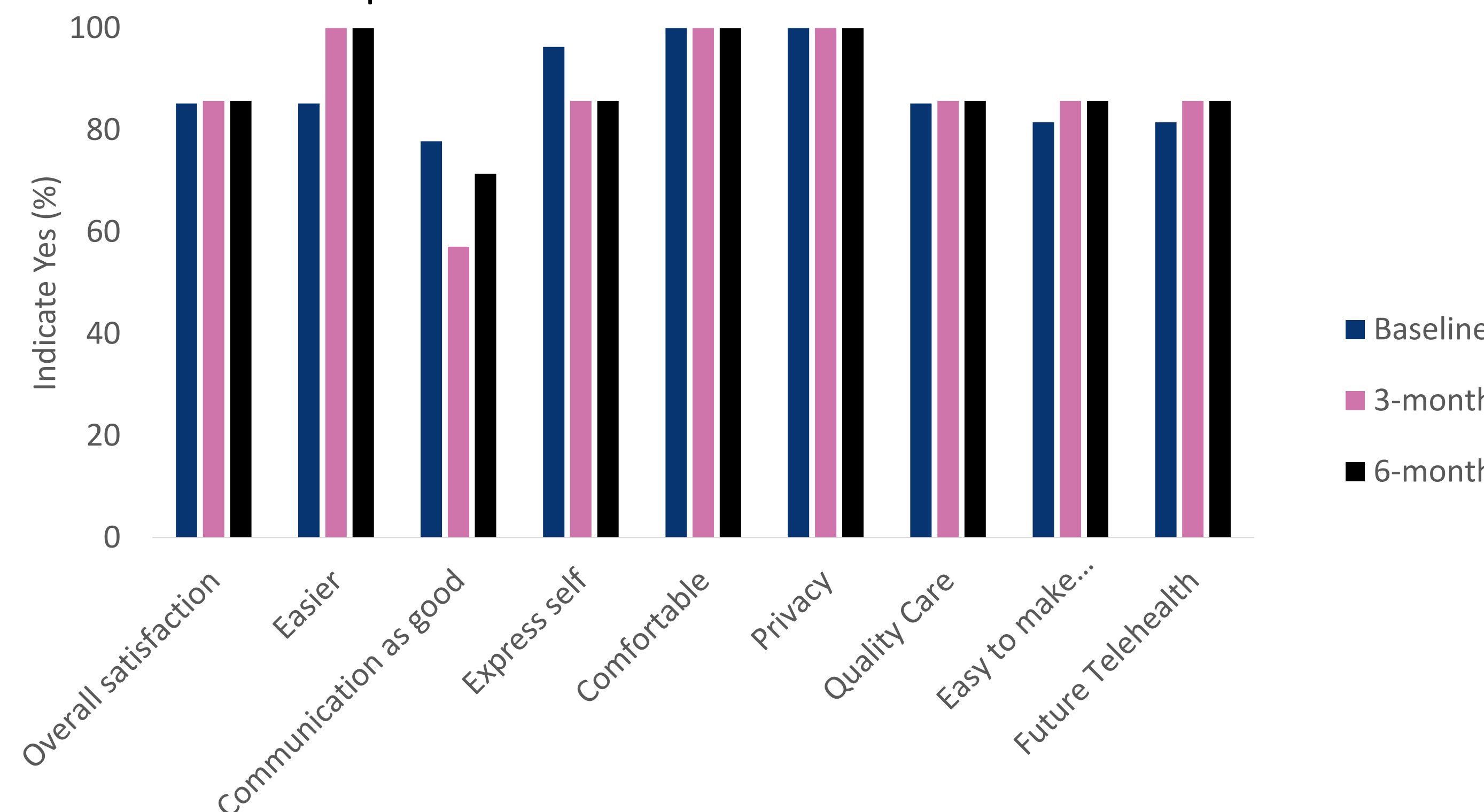


Figure 1. Caregiver satisfaction with telehealth services.

Conclusions

Both caregivers and providers indicated high levels of satisfaction with telehealth services prior to and after implementation of the Tytocare devices.

Ancillary devices can be useful in collecting physical exams & anthropometric data. However, half of providers indicated their patient did not utilize the devices.

Implications/Next Steps

Patients want to continue to utilize telehealth services, but to have appropriate anthropomorphic data available for the visit, the following is needed:

- Devices must utilize equipment that is appropriate to patient's age & development.
- Data must be easily transmittable, even in areas with limited internet availability.
- Beneficial when results are directly integrated into the medical record.

Reference List



Acknowledgments

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