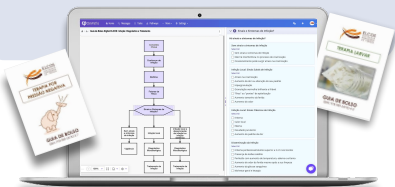# From Adoption to Adaptation: A One-Year Follow-Up on the Usability, Perception, and Adoption of **Digital Interactive Clinical Pathways** Among a Portuguese National Wound Care Society

Elaine H. Song MD PhD MBA, Catherine Milne APRN MSN CWOCN-AP CWOCNF, Tânia Santos MSc Nurse, Lourdes Muñoz-Hidalgo MSc Nurse, Kátia Furtado PhD Nurse, Tiffany Hamm BSN RN ACHRN CWS, Jeffrey Mize RRT CHT CWCA

INTRODUCTION

Clinicians often face information overload, making it challenging to keep up with evidence-based practices.[1,2] Traditional paper-based pocket guides, which quickly become outdated, have been a common tool for point-of-care decision-making.[1]

A Portuguese national wound care society* transformed their printed pocket guide library into nineteen interactive digital guides, featuring interactive clinical pathways, videos, checklists, and documentation templates. **This study evaluates the usability, satisfaction, and adoption of these pathways one year post-implementation.**

* ELCOS - Sociedade Portuguesa de Feridas (Portuguese Wound Society)
** Pathways Module, CliniPaths by Wound Reference, Inc., San Francisco, CA
*** CliniPaths by Wound Reference Clinical Decision Support Web-App, Wound Reference, Inc., San Francisco, CA

METHOD

The suite was introduced to 100 members of the society

Using the Design Thinking methodology[3]**, a suite** was developed using a module within a decision support web-application***

A year later, feedback using 4 Likert scale and 2 open questions was gathered. The following were assessed:

- Usability (how easy and often the guides are used)
- Perceived usefulness (how the guides aid in decision-making and promote best practices)
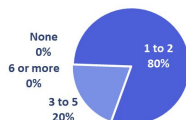- Overall perception/satisfaction (willingness to recommend)
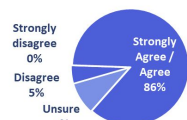
Data on usage of pathways were collected.

RESULTS

The suite, a cloud-based, mobile-responsive, HIPAA-compliant solution with nineteen interactive pathways, offers step-by-step clinical guidance and automatically generated documentation.

- Of the 22 members who completed the evaluation, the most frequently accessed pathways were "Leg Ulcers", "Wound Bed Preparation", and "Infection Management".
- 80% of clinicians used the pathways 1-2 times monthly, 86% found them helpful in clinical decision-making, and all would recommend them to peers.
- 5% reported difficulties in accessing the guides, prompting the Society to offer members 4 educational webinars with real clinical cases illustrating how to use each digital guide at the point-of-care.
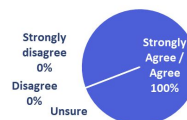

How many times per month do you refer to the guides?
None 0%
6 or more 0%
1 to 2 80%
3 to 5 20%

Are the guides helpful for decision-making?
Strongly disagree 0%
Disagree 5%
Unsure 9%
Strongly Agree / Agree 86%

Would you recommend to your colleagues?
Strongly disagree 0%
Disagree 0%
Unsure 0%
Strongly Agree / Agree 100%

CONCLUSIONS

The digital pathways demonstrated high usability and satisfaction among members, streamlining information dissemination and updates. They offer the society enhanced content management and distribution, enable in-depth data analysis, and facilitate the evaluation of interventions linked to improved real-world outcomes.

The suite's potential extends across various societies and organizations, with licensing options allowing other institutions to customize and adopt best practices and guidelines swiftly. This approach aims to standardize care, reduce healthcare costs, and enhance wound management outcomes.

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3. Ferreira FK, Song EH, Gomes H, Garcia EB, Ferreira LM. New mindset in scientific method in the health field: Design Thinking. Clinics. 2015 Dec 10;70(12):770–2.

FOR MORE ABOUT DIGITAL POCKET GUIDES

SCAN ME — CliniPaths
https://clinipaths.com

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Wound Reference, Inc., San Francisco CA & ELCOS, Portugal