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**National roll out of PainChek® with Dementia Support Australia (DSA)
follows successful pilot**

- The Dementia Support Australia (DSA) “*PainChek® in Practice*” pilot study from September 2017 to April 2018 confirmed improvement in behavioural problems of clients with dementia.
- PainChek® has now been rolled out nationwide across DSA’s 150 consultants caring for up to 5,000 people with dementia per annum.
- Findings of the pilot were presented in the international HammondCare Dementia Conference, Sydney during June 7th-8th in Sydney and are being submitted to a peer reviewed journal later this year.

The project initially commenced in two states, WA and SA in September and October 2017. DSA referred-clients (from residential and community aged care providers) with a behavioural problem(s) were followed over the course of service. From September 2017 to April 2018, 118 clients aged 57-98 years old with various types of dementias or cognitive impairments including Alzheimer’s dementia and vascular dementia were included in the project.

Pain was one of the most common contributing factors (53%) to these clients’ behaviours. In those with pain identified as a contributing factor and with medical history provided, 27 (84.4%) out of 32 clients had at least one painful condition - most commonly arthritis. There was also a significant positive clinical association between pain and clients’ behaviours. When pain was identified via PainChek® at the initial consultation and where subsequent pain-related recommendations were implemented, there was a significant improvement in their behavioral scores at the time of discharge from the DSA service. This means the pain-related behaviours of referred clients were accurately identified by PainChek® and subsequently led to behavioural improvements. This supports the usefulness of the tool across community and residential aged care settings.

“This technology allows consultants who have been called to assist with someone where behaviour impacts on their care to assess and identify if that person is in pain,” said Associate Professor Colm Cunningham who is the Director of the Dementia Centre for HammondCare. “The ability to communicate or be understood by caregivers can be impacted by someone living with dementia. When that person is in pain, it can sometimes be confused with aggressive behaviour when the reality is much different.”



The success of the project has led to the national roll out of PainChek® across six states (WA, SA, QLD, NSW, VIC, and TAS) from early May 2018. PainChek® is now a routine pain assessment tool embedded routinely within the workflow of DSA consultants. To date, more than 400 PainChek® assessments have been conducted by more than half of the DSA consultants across Australia.

The positive findings were presented by PainChek Ltd Research Scientist Mustafa Atee during the International HammondCare Dementia Conference, which was held in Sydney 7th- 8th June 2018. A large number of delegates representing various stakeholders including executives and clinicians, working in various settings (residential aged care, community aged care, hospitals), attended the presentation. The findings of the pilot are planned for submission to a peer reviewed journal later this year.

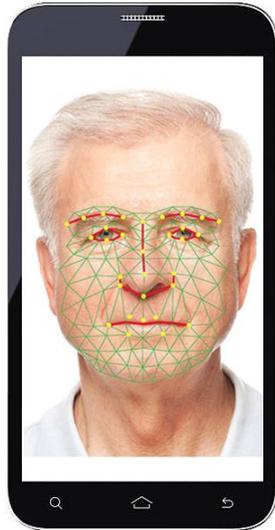
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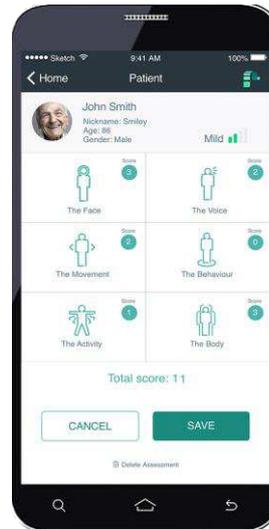
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The PainChek® Technology:

PainChek® uses cameras in smartphones and tablets to capture a brief video of the person, which is analysed in real time using facial recognition software to detect the presence of facial micro- expressions that are indicative of the presence of pain.



PainChek®artificial intelligence assesses facial micro-expressions that are indicative of the presence of pain



PainChek®six domains of pain assessment that calculates pain severity score

This data is then combined with other indicators of pain, such as vocalisations, behaviours and movements captured to calculate a pain severity score. Due to its speed, ease of use and its reproducibility, PainChek® will be able to be used to detect and measure a person's pain, and then further measurements can be used to monitor the effectiveness of pain management.

PainChek® will be rolled out globally in two phases: first, PainChek® which is designed for adults who are unable to effectively verbalise their pain such as people with dementia, and second, PainChek® for Children who have not yet learnt to speak.