

201947 Using SNOMED CT at Birdie to enhance safe living at home for older adults

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Summary

Birdie is a healthtech startup founded with a mission to help older people age vibrantly and with confidence in their own homes. Birdie are using SNOMED CT to enhance care, reduce medication errors and improve safety with real time digital reporting.

Audience

Technical , Policy/administration

Learning Objectives

1. How technology is being used to support older adults living in their own homes
2. How Birdie uses SNOMED CT based data such as the UK drug extension to improve safety using electronic MAR charts
3. Use of concept relationships to suggest activities that enhance care beyond comfort and pain management

Abstract

Birdie is a healthtech startup founded in London, UK in 2017 with a mission to help older people age vibrantly and with confidence in their own homes.

One approach Birdie has taken to achieving this mission is through faster and more accurate reporting of medication administration. In domiciliary care in the UK as many as one in three administrations results in a medication error, whether that be due to refusal, stock management, absent caregivers or service users. Paper-based reporting has historically meant that these errors may not be raised and actioned upon until weeks after the administration event.

Birdie provides an administration app for care managers to list the medications prescribed for individual care recipients, which is underpinned by the UK drug extension to SNOMED CT. Use of a standardised system of identifiers has reduced entry of prescriptions incorrectly by office-based care managers that could potentially have resulted in medication errors. Caregivers working from recipients' homes can report whether a medication has been administered in real time, using concept IDs to identify the drug.

In the future Birdie wants to make further use of SNOMED CT. Birdie is in a unique position of processing daily caregiver reports comprised of a mixture of machine-readable metrics and free text insights into well-being. Together with recording of administered medication this could provide a rich base of evidence into the efficacy of care.

The inherent interoperability of concept IDs could allow more services such as prescription reordering from the push of a smartphone button; integration with primary care electronic patient records so General Practitioners could review the implementation of care plans outside of traditional consultations.