

Developing, disseminating and evaluating palliAGEDnurse app

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Background

Smartphone apps enable nurses to have point of care access for clinical information, evidence, tools and resources. Palliative care is a whole of the health responsibility and primary care is an important partner in providing care to those with needs associated with the end of life.

The purpose of the palliAGEDnurse app is to support nurses in accessing evidence-based information in any setting, assisting them to provide high-quality palliative care. The app was designed for all levels of nurses regardless of their experience with palliative care and addresses several key care processes: identifying end of life, advance care planning, case conferencing, and terminal care.

Aim

To examine the use and value of the palliAGEDnurse app.

Methods

Two studies were completed. The first study was a review of reach and usage. This analysis included details on downloads of the app and information on those accessing app content held on the apps platform directly via the web. The second investigated attitudes and views on the app through an online survey, focus group and phone interviews (Flinders Ethics SBREC 7449).

Findings

The palliAGEDnurse app was released in May 2016 and in the period until December 2016 there had been 1,580 times downloads of the app.

A total of 116 online surveys for the palliAGEDnurse app were submitted. The survey showed that most of those who had used the app found it guided their practice, was easy to use and that the framework and processes were useful. The most common reasons for using the app were planning for the terminal phase and understanding the palliative approach. The investigation also showed that a number of organisations had embedded palliAGEDnurse within their resources or processes.

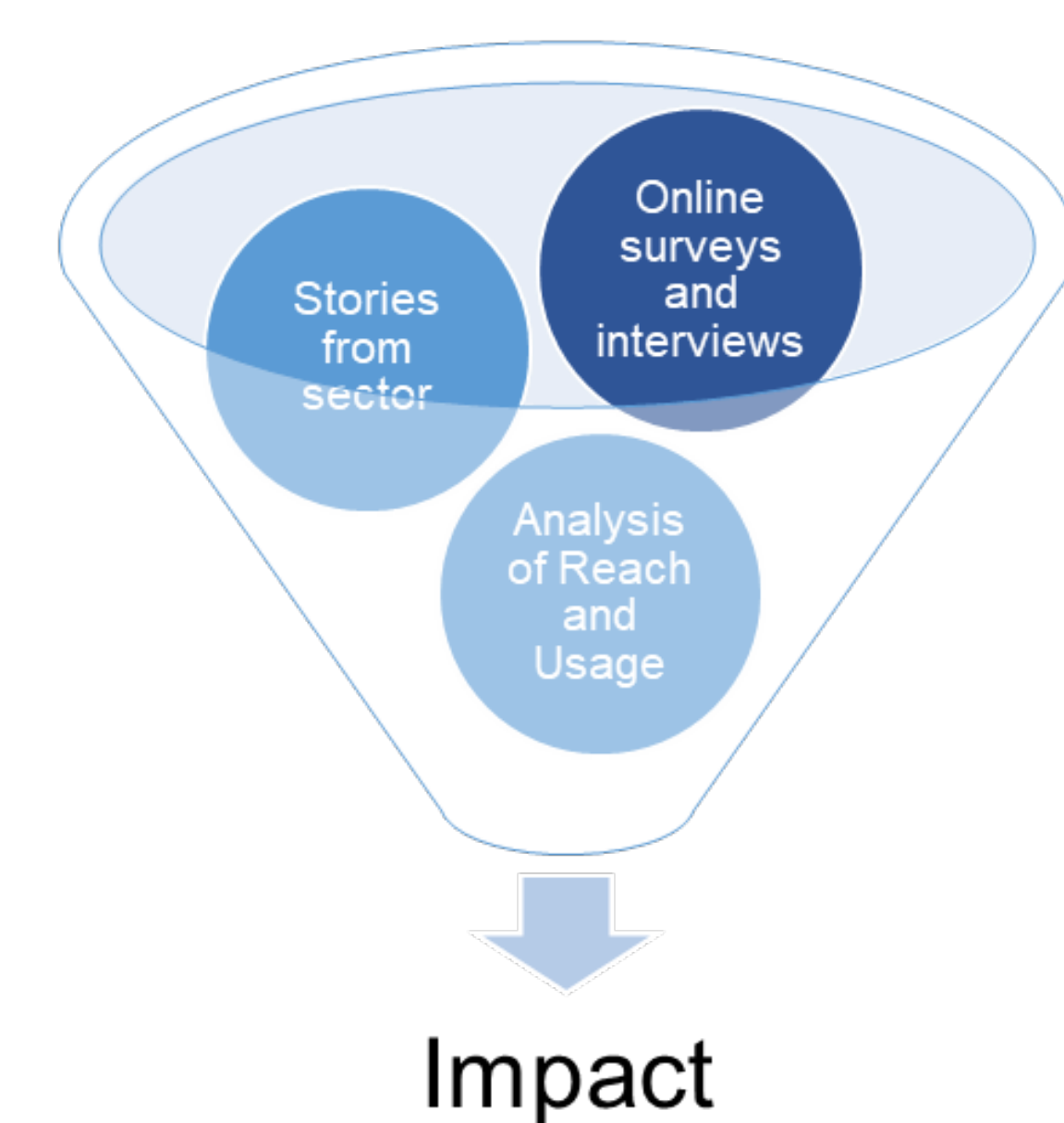
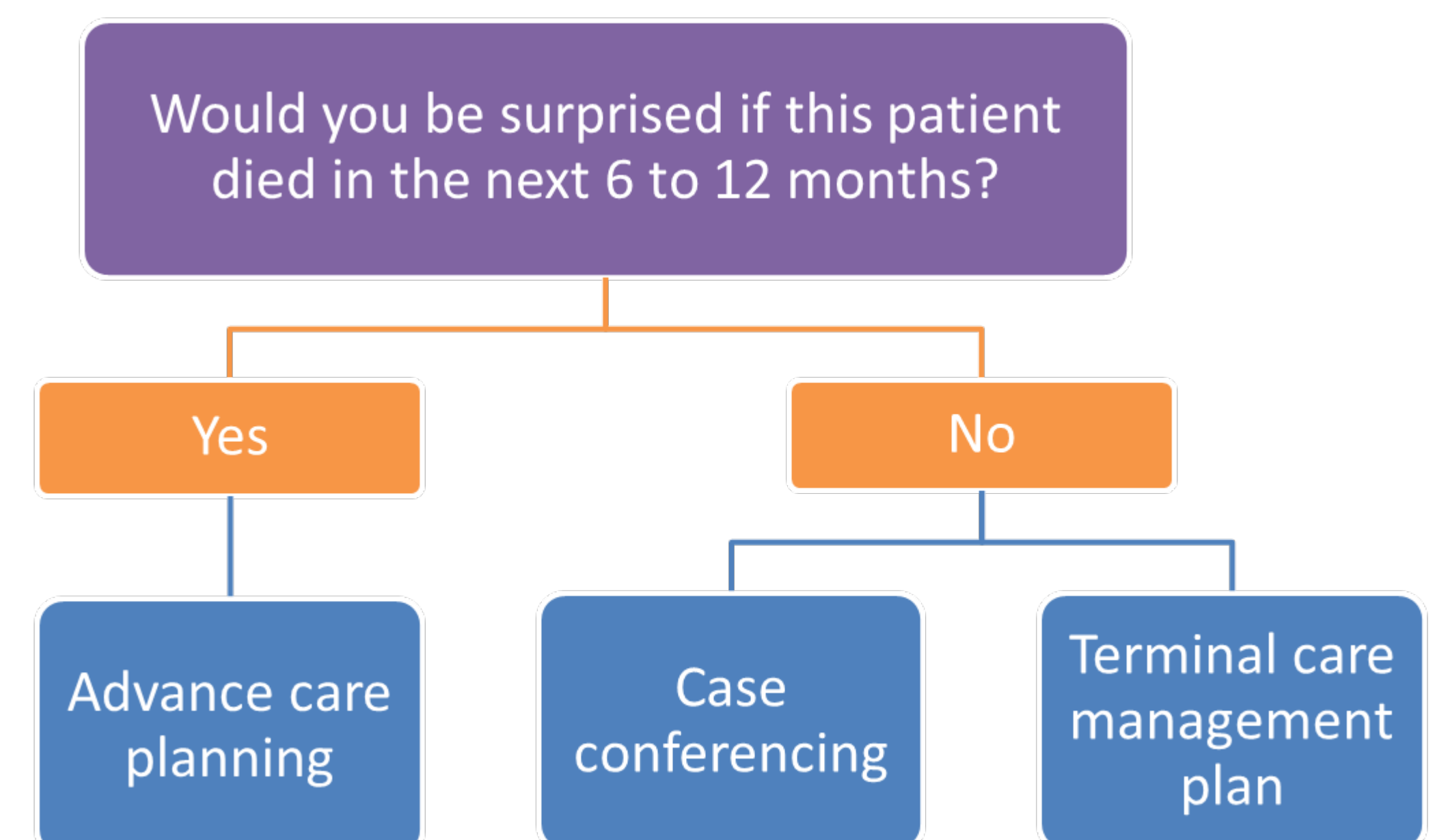
Discussion and Conclusions

The download figures for the apps were greater than originally anticipated suggesting a greater interest or need than had been anticipated. Organisations had also embedded the apps in their care providing a further indicator of value.

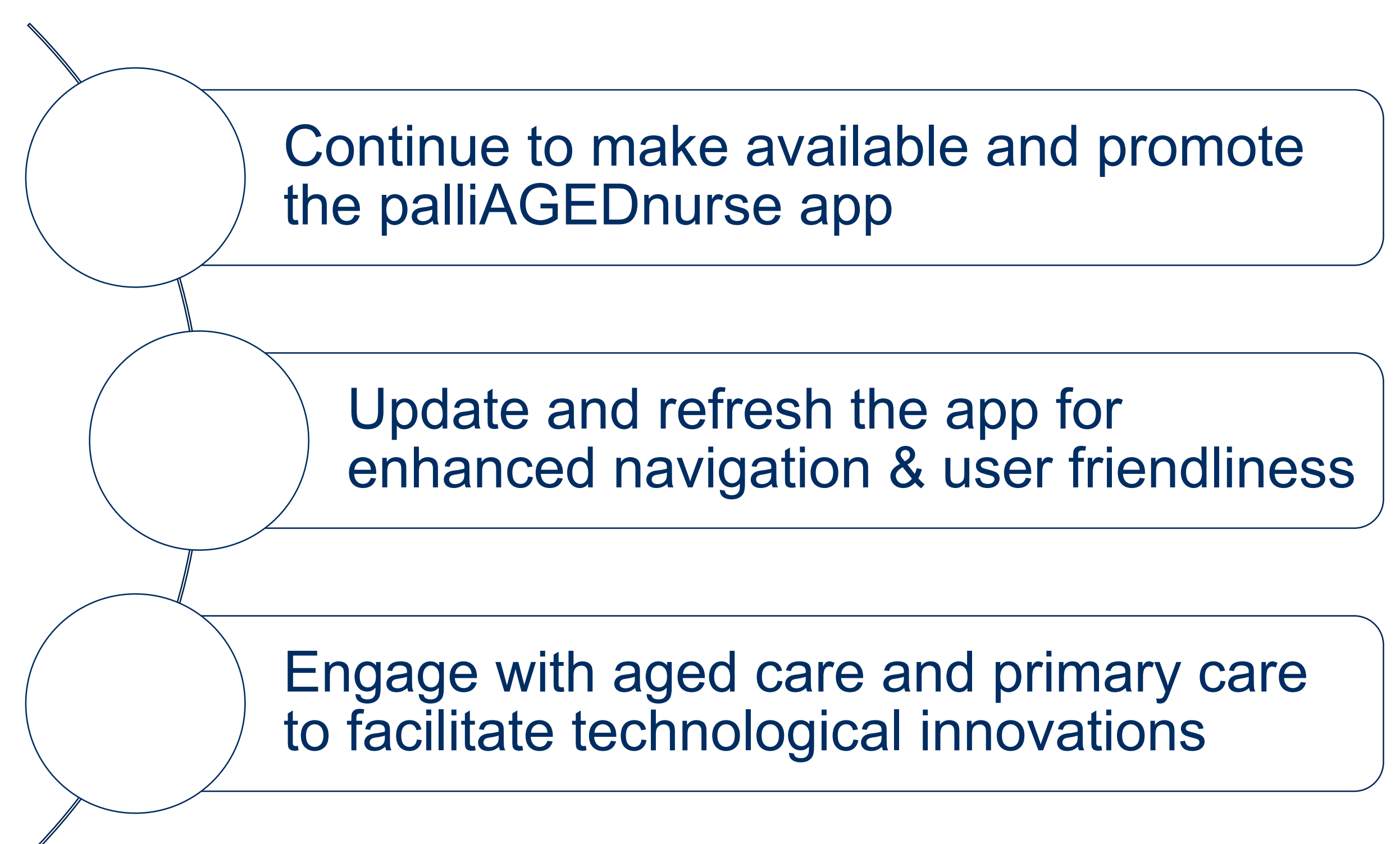
The surveys and the direct feedback highlighted that there are many factors in play which affect the utility of apps within the workplace. Reasons for smartphones not being useful at work can be grouped into two overarching themes: a) due organisation's rules, staff were not allowed to use smartphones at work or on the floor; and b) poor internet coverage resulting in patchy coverage or dead zones within the facilities make the use of apps redundant.

Finding out more

Visit the palliAGED website at www.palliAGED.com.au
Download information at <https://www.palliaged.com.au/tabid/4351/Default.aspx>



| | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neither Agree Nor Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree |
|--|-------------------|----------|----------------------------|------------|----------------|
| The palliAGED app guides my support of palliative care | 0 (0%) | 1 (3.2%) | 8 (25.8%) | 15 (48.4%) | 7 (22.6%) |
| palliAGEDnurse is easy to use and uncomplicated | 0 (0%) | 1 (3.3%) | 8 (26.7%) | 14 (46.7%) | 7 (23.3%) |
| The framework and processes present within the app are helpful | 1 (3.2%) | 0 (0%) | 3 (9.7%) | 21 (67.7%) | 6 (19.4%) |



palliAGED
PALLIATIVE CARE AGED CARE EVIDENCE

**INSPIRING
ACHIEVEMENT**