ELDEX
ELDERCARE EXHIBITION & CONFERENCE ASIA

Will AI and Big Data help Singapore cope with its rapidly aging society?

- Providing remote treatment solutions and home-based services
- Predicting the need for mobility aids
- Reducing the reliance of trained healthcare manpower
- Reducing personal and government expenditure on healthcare

With more seniors suffering from chronic diseases, breakthroughs in Big Data and AI are expected to raise the productivity of healthcare workers and enable better remote provision of home-based care.

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- By one estimate, Singapore had a rapidly aging population with 13.6% aged 65 and above in 2018, equally 0.8 million people. In 2035, the percentage of the population above the age of 65 is forecasted to be at 31.74%.
- To cope with the population aging trend, the government is planning to increase the number of public nursing homes, bed and centers in Singapore.
- In 2017, the government targeted to increase healthcare spending by 10%. In spite of the improvement in the public healthcare system, the structural trend of rising wealth could continue to improve demand for better quality private healthcare.
- In addition, land scarcity and high property costs will be one major obstacle to build a significant amount of additional community or residential-based services going forward.
- The demand for home-based services in Singapore is also expected to rise in coming years, as senior residents prefer to live in their own homes among family members.
- Experts in Singapore believed that technology innovations is the key solution for older adults to age at home, especially AI and Big Data application in healthcare monitoring technologies, assistive living technologies and smart living technologies.
- Applying Big Data brings benefits to the elder care sector. It develops a remote treatment solution which allows nurses to monitor important indicators of many patients from afar. This also allows automatic prescription of medicines instead of traditional methods.

- Big Data also helps predict the necessity of mobility aids through analyzing posture information or making predictions about whether patients return for re-examination after being discharged from the hospital.
- With robotics and artificial intelligence, individual clinics, hospital departments, nursing home, and care facilities, can reduce the dependence of trained healthcare workforce by enabling the patients and their family on the care supported by timely input of information to patients and their families or continual monitoring of chronic disease and early warning of symptoms.
- By taking advantage of AI technology, Singapore expects to bring down personal and government spending on healthcare by improving compliance in leading a healthier lifestyle with input of vital data and treating diseases.

How will companies react to new technological trend in Singapore eldercare market?