Cleveland Clinic Children's – an integral part of Cleveland Clinic is one of America's leading and largest providers of comprehensive pediatric care.

The V3+ framework will enable better patient-centered research in pediatrics and pediatric cardiology by creating a structure for the evaluation of sensor-based digital health technologies. This is a vital need in the field, given how new this all is for children!

— Animesh (Aashoo) Tandon, MD, MS
Director of Cardiovascular Innovation, Cleveland Clinic Children's

The opportunity

There are few wearable biosensors designed for children or people with congenital heart disease (CHD). However, there are many high-risk populations of children and those with CHD that might benefit from improved monitoring at home.

Cleveland Clinic Children's is designing a series of formative studies to understand:

- What should we be measuring for these patients at home?
- What is the "best" sensor to use for a given measurement (fit for purpose)?
- How should these sensors be designed to optimize engagement, thereby reducing missing data?
- How can these data then be made actionable, both for clinicians and for families?

The resource

Many of the questions Cleveland Clinic Children's is trying to answer are still unclear, especially for infants and children. They have engaged patients and carepartners (parents, families) of patients with CHD to understand how and why they have been using these technologies.

Cleveland Clinic Children's became involved in the V3+ project to help define how sensor-based digital health technologies (sDHTs) have been assessed in terms of human-centered design, human factors, and usability. Their current research aligns with the usability validation component of the V3+ framework, which embraces human-centered design to support the use of digital measures for clinical decision-making and resulting patient care.

Moving forward

The team is now planning multiple prospective studies in patients with CHD, in which they will investigate what factors make sDHTs the most "wearable," or have the best user-centered design, usability, etc., based on the findings of the prior publication and use of the V3+ framework to structure the study.