PACE Southeast Michigan Reports
Fall Reduction Using WalkWise

A pilot program at PACE Southeast Michigan provided WalkWise Smart Walker Attachments to participants that tracks their walker use at home, at the PACE day center, and in the community. Their use of WalkWise resulted in the detection of falls, early identification of medical concerns, improvements to therapy programs, and the cultivation of a positive mobility aid experience to improve fitness and prevent falls. The program focused on a sample population of 15 participants who use walkers.

“For the purposes of this pilot, we focused primarily on falls,” said Roger Anderson, PT, senior director of Operational Support and Innovation. “We compared falls from the first half of 2021 to the second half of the year while using WalkWise. We were pleased to observe a 43 percent reduction in total falls with the pilot group.”

“Knowing what’s going on in daily life is vitally important for care providers, and we’re delighted that PACE Southeast Michigan is using our technology to facilitate their incredible mission,” said Peter Chamberlain, CEO of WalkWise.

The therapy team at the PACE Southeast Michigan Sterling Heights center felt that WalkWise led to better communication with this high-risk group. During the program, other uses included the following:

- early detection of a fall due to the walker tipping over,
- awareness of fall risk due to excessive movement at night,
- detection of increased pain resulting in less walker use and more wheelchair use,
- ensuring physical safety of those that will not consistently pick up the phone, and
- discovery of walker non-compliance at home.

The therapy team was able to use this knowledge to provide more timely care interventions, encourage activity, and promote walker use.

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