Internet Access, Mental Health, and Wellbeing in the Context of Homelessness

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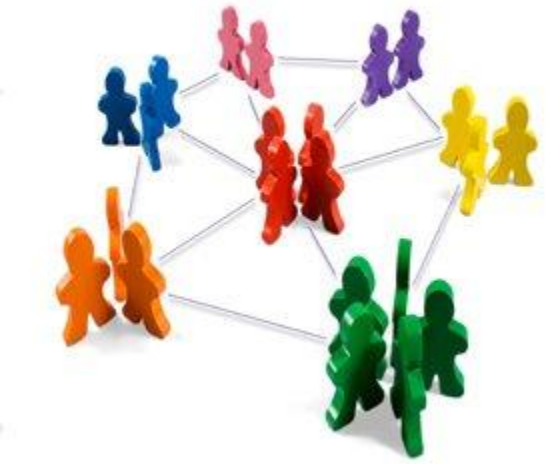
Introduction

- Health outcomes and people experiencing homelessness
- The digital divide
- Technology as intervention

Literature Review

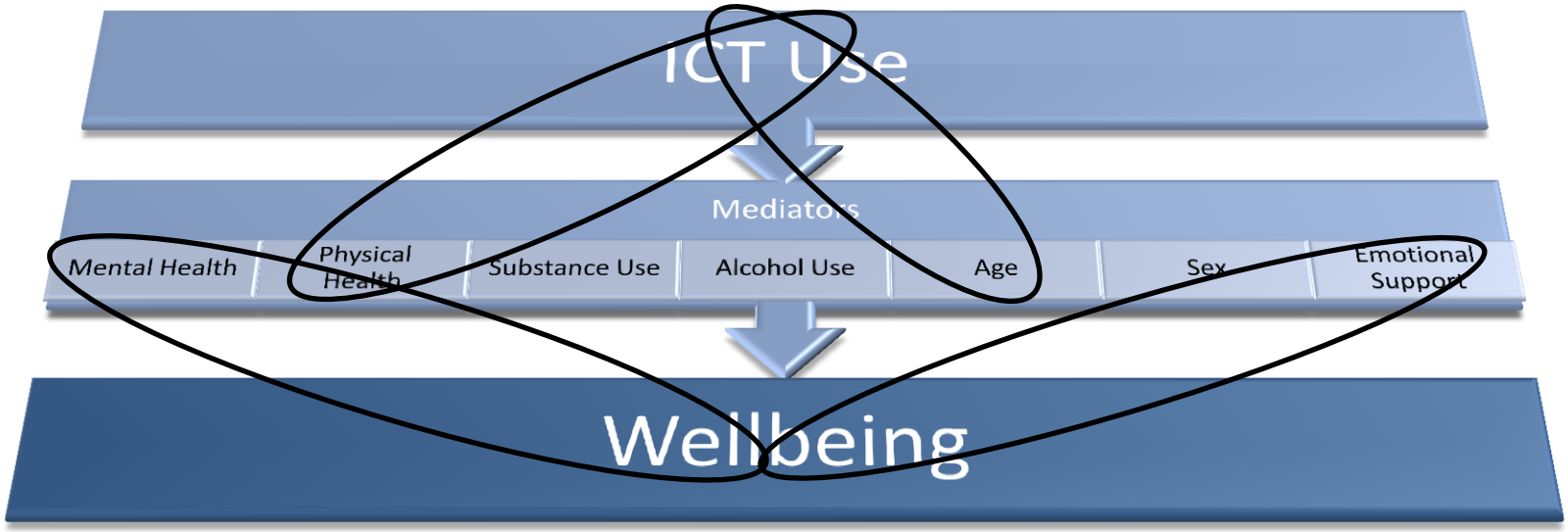
- High usage
- Social connections



Methods

- Cross-sectional survey
- 210 participants
- Multiple linear regression
- Relationship between internet use and wellbeing

Findings


ICT Use
Mediators
Mental Health
Physical Health
Substance Use
Alcohol Use
Age
Sex
Emotional Support
Wellbeing

Results

- No relationship between internet use and wellbeing in the context of homelessness
- Internet use related to age
- Wellbeing related to mental health and social support

Discussion

- Measurement of well-being?
- Measurement of type of use
- Negative social capital?

Conclusions

- Breaking down the digital divide is not sufficient to anticipate changes in wellbeing
  - Need to understand confounding variables
  - Need to better refine our interventions

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