

App assesses severity, risk of respiratory illnesses during pandemic

May 21, 2020

Barbara A. Rath, M.D., Ph.D.

Article type: [Tech Tip](#)

Topics: [COVID-19](#), [Health Information Technology](#), [Infectious Diseases](#), [Respiratory Tract](#)

Editor's note: For the latest news on coronavirus disease 2019, visit

<https://www.aappublications.org/news/2020/01/28/coronavirus>.

To manage patients during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is vital to be able to consistently and accurately measure individual-level disease severity in relation to a patient's risk.

The Vienna Vaccine Safety Initiative (ViVI, <https://www.vi-vi.org>), a scientific think tank and nonprofit research organization, developed the ViVI Disease Severity Score Mobile App to support clinicians at the point of care. The ViVI Disease Severity Score is a prospectively validated, evidence-based disease severity score for influenza-like illness and acute respiratory infections that can be used in children and adults. The score captures both respiratory and non-respiratory signs and symptoms.

The app allows clinicians to assess severity and risk in patients with influenza-like illness and/or other acute respiratory infections in real time, such as in an emergency department or physician's office. It is sufficiently granular to measure the entire spectrum of disease — from absence of symptoms to mild to very severe. It can be used to assess infants and children. The app creates an actionable disease severity score, as well as a risk factor score, within two to three minutes using a series of yes/no questions.

Users can request access to the ViVI Disease Severity Score Mobile App at <https://score.vi-vi.org>. Once an account is established, users can download the app to iOS and Android devices for free and collaborate.

Dr. Rath is a member of the AAP Council on Clinical Information Technology.

If you would like to share a firsthand experience using technology, such as software, program, app, widget, etc., to improve patient care or practice management, email submissions of 250 words or less to Lisa Krams at lkrams@aap.org.

Related Content

- [Additional Tech Tip columns](#)

Copyright © 2020 American Academy of Pediatrics

