“HydraSense Non-Invasive Dehydration Monitoring”

David Sheridan, M.D., Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine

Dehydration is a commonly encountered problem worldwide. The most common cause of dehydration in young children is secondary to an acute illness. We plan to focus on two pediatric markets: (1) Developed countries and (2) under-developed countries. Why? Because the access to medical resources are vastly different and, in the case of under-developed countries, early identification has a major impact on mortality/morbidity. Goal: A simple, fast and effective way to determine whether a child is dehydrated and requires medical attention. The potential impact a device such as ours can provide is different based on the setting of use. In the United States, significant dehydration is relatively uncommon yet parents are often worried about it. When used at home, this simple device has the potential to decrease unnecessary medical visits significantly by telling parents their child is safe to stay home and trial oral rehydration. In the under-developed world there is significant impact on true morbidity and mortality. In these settings, children are dying every day and dehydration remains one of the leading causes. There are often providers with limited medical training in these resource-limited settings who are faced with a difficult decision of who to treat with IV fluids or transfer to higher levels of care. This device allows the identification of children with moderate-to-severe dehydration who would benefit from escalated care allowing earlier treatment and intervention that can save a life. The beauty of this device is that it is beneficial to both markets which increases the revenue potential.