



Educational Gerontology

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/uedg20>

Using Partial Least Squares (PLS) in Predicting Behavioral Intention for Telehealth Use among Filipino Elderly

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Accepted author version posted online: 29 Apr 2014. Published online: 25 Jun 2014.

To cite this article: Michael Joseph S. Diño & Allan B. de Guzman (2015) Using Partial Least Squares (PLS) in Predicting Behavioral Intention for Telehealth Use among Filipino Elderly, *Educational Gerontology*, 41:1, 53-68, DOI: [10.1080/03601277.2014.917236](https://doi.org/10.1080/03601277.2014.917236)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/03601277.2014.917236>

Educational Gerontology, 41: 53–68, 2015
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ISSN: 0360-1277 print / 1521-0472 online
DOI: 10.1080/03601277.2014.917236



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Despite the potential benefits of Telehealth (healthcare delivery at a distance), a digital divide among seniors remains prevalent with lesser attention on their acceptance as end-users of technology. Anchored on a theory of technology adoption, Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT), behavioral intention for Telehealth use among Filipino elderly was determined. The responses of technology-trained older adults ($n = 82$) were collected using a 12-item questionnaire adapted from Venkatesh, Morris, Davis, Gordon, and Davis (2003) on UTAUT. A Structural Equation Modeling was performed using Partial Least Squares regression for data exploration and model estimation. The study revealed that the UTAUT constructs, particularly effort expectancy ($\beta = 0.319$; $p = .000$), have yielded a significant influence on the behavioral intention of elderly to participate in Telehealth. Further, gender showed no moderating effect on these variables. Results of the study supported the espousal of UTAUT Model as an indispensable framework in empowering older adults using Telehealth.