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Research Article

Age as an important predictor for digital health literacy: sectional evidence of internet users from an international multisite study in North America and EU countries

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates digital health literacy across North America and Europe to understand the sociodemographic factors influencing eHealth literacy, specifically the role of age. This international, multi-site population employed a convenience sample across nine countries (N = 1,314) between April 2020–2021, presenting significant insights and recommendations for eHealth transformations. Using the eHealth Literacy Scale, a validated self-rated instrument, respondents in North America showed higher (t₁₆₄₁ = 2.18, p-value = .03) eHealth literacy than those in Europe. Respondents from the UK showed the highest scores (34.48 ± 5.45), and those from Spain – the lowest (29.50 ± 6.40). Age had a significant (f_{1, 1202} = 3.73, p-value <.01)