

THE CASE FOR WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY IN LIFE INSURANCE

Growing Market



23%

U.S. mobile consumers own a wearable fitness device and 13% own a smartwatch



Wearable devices shipped Q1 2018, a 1.2% increase from the prior year



Companies now operate in the wearable computing marketplace

Measuring Mortality



Steps

Study: All-cause mortality hazard ratio reduced 6% for every 1,000 additional steps taken per day

Inactivity

People who sit 8+ hours per day, regardless of how much they exercise per week, exhibit higher mortality





Sleep

- Seven hours of sleep a night = lowest risk of all-cause mortality
- At five hours per night, mortality increased by 10%
- At nine hours per night, mortality increased by 14%

Emerging Metrics



Early detection

Monitoring heart rate and body temperature may provide early indication of illness

Study: Apple Watch's Cardiogram heart rate monitoring app predicted heart rate with 97% accuracy

Behavior monitoring

In the future, devices may be able to identify smoking behavior and perhaps even psychological changes to the body as the user smokes a cigarette



Bottom line: Wearables offer tremendous potential for the industry, but life insurers must take care to balance risk and rewards with every new development.

For a complete list of sources and an overview of current research, view the RGA white paper *Wearable Technology in Life Insurance*.