A psychiatric hospital in Singapore approached Cogniant to develop digital measures for early detection of relapses in major depressive disorders using smartphone-based sensors. Given the wide variety of smartphones available, it was important for Cogniant to create guiding principles around verification and validation of its technology so they would be acceptable globally.

Cogniant used DiME’s V3 framework to evaluate the reliability of 7 different digital measures collected via smartphones.

Verification: They were able to identify activity as a key digital measure to reliably collect data over a long period of time based on comparison supervision performed at home and in-clinic.

Analytical validation: They also developed the algorithms on patient recruited dataset and compared them for accuracy against the at-home tests and external (45 participant) samples (analytical validation).

Clinical validation: They then evaluated the relationship between the calculated measure against the psychiatric assessment scale.

Using the V3 framework, Cogniant researchers were able to conclude that sensors, devices, and algorithms were sufficiently fit for the purpose to proceed with the clinical validity of their digital measure for detection of relapse in patients with major depressive disorders.

It also helped Cogniant develop internal validation processes and develop language to communicate with clients and partners.

“The V3 framework is our go-to framework for establishing usability and clinical validity of any new digital measure. With evolving local regulatory guidance, our study was a significant step forward to implement rigorous validation techniques in South East Asia.”

— Neeraj Kothari, Co-Founder & CEO, Cogniant