

## Mayo Clinic Minute

### How emojis help cancer research, treatment

Video	Audio
	Treating cancer patients, with all of their symptoms, can be complicated.
	But a Mayo Clinic study shows communicating how a patient is managing treatment may be as simple as a scale of emoji faces.
<b>CARRIE THOMPSON, M.D.</b> <b>HEMATOLOGY</b> Mayo Clinic	“The scale works really well, and that’s one of the things we wanted to determine was, is this something that is scientifically proven to say what we think patients are trying to say? And we found that it did and it works very, very well.”
	Dr. Carrie Thompson, a hematologist at Mayo Clinic, led the study.
	She says the research looked at how doctors could track their patients’ progress using an Apple Watch and an app on their phone.
	Patients could rate how they were feeling using a scale of five universally recognized emojis.
	“Medicine has gotten so complicated. So to have something that’s simple that breaks down the barriers of communication ... we all know emojis. We all know what various faces mean.”
	Dr. Thompson says simpler communication with emojis should lead to better care of patients.
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Ian Roth.