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WHERE MEDICINE & TECH CONNECT



By Rebecca Robbins, Casey Ross, & Erin Brodwin

Good morning, and thanks for reading STAT Health Tech. Before we get to the news, we wanted to invite you to join Casey for a virtual conversation he's hosting next Tuesday. Casey will be chatting about real-world evidence with Anne Heatherington of Takeda and Steven Kern of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. All STAT readers can [sign up here](#) to join the discussion, which will take place at 10 a.m. PT/1 p.m. ET on Tuesday Oct. 20.

Study of the week

AUTOMATED MONITORING OF FOOT ULCERS REDUCES HOSPITALIZATIONS

— Many studies seek to establish the accuracy of AI and wearables in identifying health problems before they get out of control. A [new paper](#) published in the BMJ takes it a step further by showing that a smart temperature mat — made by **Podometrics** to measure diabetic foot ulcers — actually cut hospitalizations by 50% among patients of **Kaiser Permanente**. The mat flags inflammation indicated by temperature change and prompts providers to follow up. The authors point out that the extent of the effect may be exaggerated by differences in illness severity during the study period, but it stands as a practical example of how technology can make a difference for patients.