Questioning if health apps benefit healthy people

By Natasha Singer, New York Times

Consumers looking to use their mobile devices to improve their health — or at least maintain their well-being — have tens of thousands of choices.

But if those consumers are already healthy, the apps won't necessarily do them any good, according to a new report in The BMJ, a British medical journal.

On Tuesday afternoon, for instance, the top 10 free health and fitness apps for iPhones included MyFitnessPal, a calorie counter and diet tracker; the FitBit activity tracker; Pacer, a pedometer and blood pressure tracker; and Period Tracker Lite, a menstrual-cycle tracker, according to data compiled by App Annie, an analytics firm.

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