Reviewer’s report

Title: Exploring the Usability of a Videophone Mock-up for People with Dementia and their Significant Others

Version: 2
Date: 16 January 2014

Reviewer: Shameka Cody-Humphrey

Reviewer’s report:

Communication barriers in people with dementia are important issues that warrant further research. Your videophone intervention can potentially improve quality of life in people with dementia.

Major Compulsory Revisions: none
Minor Compulsory Revisions

1). Avoid use of abbreviations (e.g., “SO”) that are not commonly used. The abbreviations disrupted the flow of the paper and made it difficult for me to focus on the content.

2). Many of your ideas clashed due to lack of punctuation. Proper usage of commas in a series can help separate the ideas. See page 3, first paragraph. “This led to detailed information of cognitive, physical, and psychosocial challenges that…..”

3). Punctuation is needed after transitions, and to separate independent clauses. See page 4 in the first section that describes the phases of the Inclusive Design.

4). Use transitions between paragraphs and ideas to guide readers through the paper.

5). There were times when you went back and forth using “persons,” “person with dementia,” “dementia participants,” and “participants” to refer to your sample. See page 8. Consider using one of these to help reduce confusion for the reader.

6). Consider revising phrases such as “interviews were conversational,” “memory investigation unit,” and “abstract actions” to clarify meaning. See pages 3, 5 & 8.

7). Insert hyphens where needed (e.g., easy-to-use, telephone-related)

8). On page 4, “intuitive” may not be the right word to describe the products. Use simple phrases to help lay readers understand the manuscript.

9). There is good content throughout the paper; however, most of the information can be condensed. The content is too wordy and use of punctuation to combine sentences will help fix it.

10). The conclusion needs to be more sound and recap the main points presented throughout the paper. The last sentence made this section seem incomplete.
Level of interest: An article of importance in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests: I declare that I have no competing interests