Reviewer's report

Title: The efficacy of the COACH prompting system to assist older adults with dementia through activities of daily living: An intervention study

Version: 1 Date: 20 June 2008

Reviewer: Ashok Bharucha

Reviewer's report:

This is an excellent paper focusing on an emerging trend in geriatrics, namely, the use of intelligent assistive technologies to mitigate functional disability of those with dementia. The authors have described their procedures in detail and highlighted the strengths and limitations of their approach well.

There are, however, multiple grammatical and typographical issues that need to be cleaned up ((page 5, 2nd paragraph: Sensors distributed throughout the house interact with applications... do you mean appliances?; page 6, para 2, "a" care recipient as opposed to "an").

The 2nd sentence on page 14 has mixed tenses... needs to be reframed either in the past or the present tense.

Page 29, para 2.. "this study has positively answered (as opposed to answers)."

What do the authors make of the fact that there was considerable within subject variability across trials?

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

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

Statistical review: Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

Declaration of competing interests:

No competing interests.