Reviewer’s report

Title: Tea, talk and technology: patient and public involvement to improve connected health ‘wearables’ research in dementia.

Version: 0 Date: 29 May 2017

Reviewer: Richard Orme

Reviewer’s report:

The reviewer has worked in the field of assistive technologies for people with disabilities for 30 years. For more than a decade, he has also been a home visiting volunteer, helping older people with impaired sight with everyday technology issues. He has designed products for older people who prefer a simplified, easy to use technology solution for purposes such as email, web browsing or keeping a diary. He works with organisations all over the world that are using technology-based solutions for older people. He completed a masters dissertation on the subject of older people and technology. He believes there is a lack of published research in this field, particularly concerning people with impairments. This study was welcome, well written and interesting to read.

The methods adopted for the study were appropriate. These steps used could be used or adapted for research studies in other areas.

The researchers adapted their practice based on interim findings, such as purchasing tablets to enable more people to participate.

The important role of carers was acknowledged and they were involved in the research at different stages.

The Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) is an appropriate framework to help explore the factors affecting the acceptability of the devices.

The tables in the paper are well presented and add value to the text. In particular, table 3 provides a helpful summary of feedback and recommendations.

It was a little surprising that issues of dexterity were not apparent in the feedback, but perhaps this is covered under the device wearability theme.

The research area is important and topical. The objectives of the paper, to inform design and procurement decisions, and to produce general guidance, are valuable, and have been met.

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