
Research Ethics Protocol For Research With Human Participants New Applications

Please refer to the [UNBC Policy on Research Involving Human Participants](#) prior to completion and submission of this application. Reviews are conducted according to the principles and spirit of the [Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans 2014 \(TCPS2\)](#). If you have questions about or require assistance with the completion of this form, please contact the Office of Research at (250) 960-5852 or reb@unbc.ca.

SECTION A – TYPE OF APPLICATION

- ☒ **This Application is Minimal Risk (Please review the [Research Risk Assessment Guidelines](#) and complete the [Risk Matrix](#) on Page 2 of this Application)**
Please complete sections [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), and [D](#) and the [Supporting Document Checklist](#). **Incomplete applications will not be processed.** Please submit the completed and signed application electronically to reb@unbc.ca. Please allow 2 weeks from submission for a response from the REB.

- ☐ **This Application is Above Minimal Risk**
Please complete sections [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), and [D](#) and the [Supporting Document Checklist](#). **Incomplete applications will not be processed.**
For submissions made September to June, please submit **8 copies** of all documents to the Office of Research, Room 2018 (2nd floor, Administration Building). Applications above Minimal Risk will not be reviewed during the months of July or August. Please allow 2 weeks from the submission deadline for a response from the REB.

- ☐ **This Application is a Joint Research Project Involving the Northern Health Authority and is Minimal Risk (Please review the [Research Risk Assessment Guidelines](#) and complete the [Risk Matrix](#) on Page 2 of this Application)**
Please complete sections [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), and [D](#) and the [Supporting Document Checklist](#). **Incomplete applications will not be processed.** Please submit your completed and signed application electronically to reb@unbc.ca. Please allow 2 weeks from submission for a response from the REB.

Submit **1 copy** of both documents and attachments to the [Northern Health Research Review Committee](#) (ResearchCommittee@northernhealth.ca). Please note that submission deadlines for the Northern Health Research Review Committee are different than UNBC's deadlines and can be found by clicking [here](#).

- ☐ **This Application is a Joint Research Project Involving the Northern Health Authority and is Above Minimal Risk**
Please complete sections [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), and [D](#) and the [Supporting Document Checklist](#). **Incomplete applications will not be processed.**
For submissions made September to June, please submit **8 copies** of all documents to the Office of Research, Room 2018 (2nd floor, Administration Building). Applications above Minimal Risk will not be reviewed during the months of July or August. Please allow 2 weeks from the submission deadline for a response from the REB.

Submit **1 copy** of both documents and attachments to the [Northern Health Research Review Committee](#) (ResearchCommittee@northernhealth.ca). Please note that submission deadlines for the Northern Health Research Review Committee are different than UNBC's deadlines and can be found by clicking [here](#).

Does Your Project Meet the Standard of Minimal Risk Research?

The following matrix will help you judge whether or not your project meets the TCPS2 definition of minimal risk. Please locate your research protocol in the matrix by ranking both the vulnerability of your research participants and the risks involved in participating in your project on a scale of Low, Medium, High (see [Research Risk Assessment Guidelines](#)).

| Risk Matrix | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| B) Participant Vulnerability | A) Research risk | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium | <input type="checkbox"/> High |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low | <i>Delegated</i> | <i>Delegated</i> | Full board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medium | <i>Delegated</i> | Full board | Full board |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High | Full board | Full board | Full board |

Justification for Risk Assessment (optional)

The box below offers you the opportunity to elaborate on the level of risk you have assigned the study. This box provides an important way of justifying your risk assessment, especially if you feel that your study might be considered sensitive and risky to an outsider, but you have evidence to suggest that it is not. If you choose not to avail yourself of this option, please simply write N/A.

This study discusses use of technology which is not a controversial situation. Initial surveys will be completed online and participants will be able to complete or not complete the survey as they prefer. Recruitment will involve posters and radio and will rely on participants choosing to contact the researcher to join the study. Focus group discussions will be structured and focus completely on digital technology use which is a non-sensitive topic. These discussions are not expected to generate negative outcomes for participants.

- If your study includes a low or medium level of research risk and a low vulnerability population, it is eligible for delegated review.
- If your study includes a low or medium vulnerability population and a low level of research risk, it is eligible for minimal risk review.
- If your study falls anywhere else on the matrix it must be submitted for full board review.

SECTION B – APPLICANT INFORMATION (Please complete all sections that apply)

| | | | |
|---|------------|---------------------------------|--|
| i. Principal Investigator: • For students, please include the name of your Supervisor below | | Dr. Shannon Freeman | |
| Program/Department/School: • Identify institution if not at UNBC | | School of Health Sciences, UNBC | |
| Phone Number: | 2509605154 | Email: | shannon.freeman@unbc.ca |
| Supervisor's Name: | | | |

Please append additional pages with co-investigators' names, if necessary

| | | | |
|--|---------------|---|--|
| ii. Co-Investigator(s): | | Dr Hannah R. Marston | |
| Program/Department/School: • Identify institution if not at UNBC | | Centre for Research in Computing, Open University Computing | |
| Phone Number: | +447815507547 | Email: | Hannah.Marston@open.ac.uk |

SECTION C – RESEARCH PROJECT DETAILS

1. Project Dates:

Expected Project Start Date:*

* This date should be *after* REB Approval is received

August 3, 2015

mmm-dd-yyyy

Expected Project Completion Date:**

** REB Approval is for 12 months at a time. Renewals will have to be sought if the project duration will be longer than 12 months.

July 31, 2016

mmm-dd-yyyy

2. Title of Project

TILL - Technology in the later life Project - Perceptions of technology use and privacy by adults aged 70+ years in the present and future

3. Type of Project

Undergraduate

☐ Research (including Honours Thesis)

☐ Classroom Project (Undergraduate student)

Graduate

☐ Research (including Thesis/Dissertations/Projects)

☐ Classroom Project (Graduate student)

Post Doctoral

☒ Research

Faculty

☐ Research

☐ Classroom Project (Faculty)

Other

Please explain: [Click here to enter text.](#)

4. Source of Funding

Please refer to [TCPS2, Article 7.4](#), for more information on Financial Conflicts of Interest.

EPSRC – UK (Monetize Me) Grant Number: 25190

5. For projects that have external funding, have you submitted a Grant and Contract form to the Office of Research?

- ☐ Yes Date submitted: [Click here to enter a date.](#) or S# (if known): _____
- ☒ No
- ☐ n/a

6. Purpose of Research: Describe the purpose of the proposed project. State the hypotheses/research questions to be examined. The rationale for doing the study must be clear.
(Max. 300 words)

Technology use has grown across the age cohort of baby boomers (currently 50-69 years) and many studies have published the effects of technology use for health improvement in this cohort and younger groups. However little is known about the uses of technology on a day-to-day basis, including the perceptions and privacy issues, that adults in later life (70+ years) experience and the barriers and enablers which result in their technology use or not. It is estimated the ageing population in the 21st Century will reach unprecedented figures: the fastest growing populations are persons aged 85+ years and the highest proportion are older adults aged 65+ years (ONS, 2013). Although academics are focusing their attention to seeking innovative approaches to aid independent living via integrated technologies relating to the onset of ageing, there is, however, little knowledge and understanding of technology use by adults aged 70+ years. Gaining this information is crucial to facilitate this preparation.

Accordingly, this project has the following objectives:

1. To understand and ascertain the different types of technologies employed presently by persons aged 70+ years;
2. To examine how persons aged 70+ years perceive technology
3. To examine how technology has impacted on their health, quality of life, and well-being;
4. To ascertain what/if any privacy concerns persons aged 70+ years may have when using their technology devices;
5. To ascertain what (if any) usability issues/concerns persons 70+ years have encountered and what could be utilized to provide realistic solutions; and
6. To capture what type of technology persons 70+ years foresee in their future, and what they identify could/should be developed to enhance their health, quality of life, and well-being in later life.

7. **Summary of Methods:** Please describe all formal and informal procedures to be used. Describe the information to be collected, where and how it will be obtained and how it will be analyzed. Please include a description of your own role in the research and that of any of your team members. (Max. 500 words)

In this explorative study, we expect to conduct 4 focus groups; 2 in each country – 1 rural, 1 suburban

Focus groups are often used in commercial marketing research for testing new products. They have also been used when testing political campaigns and programmes, medical planning and discussing health policy programmes and more generally the qualitative social sciences – investigating attitudes, preferences and values.

The focus groups will involve:

- A maximum of 10 participants aged 70+ years per group,
- There will be 1 focus group conducted in each of the areas and will be recruited from either a rural or suburban area: (England (Milton Keynes), Wales (Swansea/Cardiff), Canada (Prince George, British Columbia & Regina, Saskatchewan),
- Participants will be asked to complete an online survey (see attached) prior to undertaking the focus group and consent will be needed prior to completion.
- The focus groups will be recorded and moderated.

Themes to be discussed in the focus groups will include:

- Demographic (Age and gender)
- Types of devices used – Hard and/or software
- Frequency/length of use
- Privacy preferences and attitudes
- Areas for discussion
 - What do you use your collected information for?
 - How long have you been doing it?
 - What choices have you made in terms of hardware, software etc.?
 - What do you see as the advantages and disadvantages of what you do (including privacy issues)?
 - Do you share your data, if so how and who with etc.?
 - What is your attitude to sharing your data, e.g. who do you trust/not trust etc.?
 - Barriers and enablers to using technology in different environments (suburban/rural) and in general

Findings from the *TILL* project aim to improve understanding of what drives technology use/perceptions, privacy concerns for enhancing the health, quality of life, and well-being in addition to ascertaining the future needs and requirement for adults aged 70+ years.

The length of the focus group will be approximately 1-2hours. This will also include a debrief and any questions which participants have.

8. How will participants be recruited? Please specify *both* how potential participants will be identified *and* (if applicable) the means by which they will be contacted. Please also append a copy of any recruitment materials (e.g. posters, letters, and media advertisements, etc.). (Max. 300 words).

Recruitment for these focus groups will be conducted in each country and through networks that have been established. The research will include participants who live in rural and suburban areas and who use digital technologies (hard/software).

Networks that will be used to recruit participants:

1. Age UK MK centre
2. Age Cymru & Older People's Strategy Forum(s) across Wales
3. University of Regina Life Long Learning Centre
4. Prince George Council of Seniors (Prince George, BC, Canada) & via a local seniors radio program (93.1 Senior Moments Radio Show)

All recruitment documentation, consent forms and information sheet will be provided to participants and after communicating with the Swansea partner, Dr. Musselwhite noted, in line with previous projects within the department of a similar nature, that all participants will be asked if they require a translated version of all documents and also if necessary the focus group(s) can also be conducted in Welsh. Due to limited funds of this project, translation will be carried out if necessary through use of internal staff once it is known how many people require the translated documents. (Please see – Information Sheet and Consent form attached)

Information flyers will be distributed at the respective recruitment centres (see above), in all instances, where appropriate, full consent will be sought and confirmed with the management of the respective organizations.

All participants across the respective sites will be asked to either telephone or email the respective researcher to sign-up for the project. In the case of the UNBC site, a mailing list script, flyer, and poster will be given to the Prince George Council of Seniors for posting and inclusion in their monthly newsletter, and a poster will be given to local radio hosts who will share this information with their listeners. Interested participants will e-mail Dr. Shannon Freeman who will follow up to arrange the focus group.

A 'mailing list script' will be produced to form the part of recruitment through mailing lists which will be distributed by the Prince George Council of Seniors. All partners are members of local/regional/national/ageing organizations and the use of a mailing list for example to recruit through the Older People's Forum (Wales) will be utilized. (Please see – mailing list script, flyer and poster attached)

All participants will be provided with a consent form (attached) on the day of the focus groups. The form will be explained to participants and following explanation participants will be asked to sign the form. All participants will be provided with a separate form detailing their consent for their records. In regards to consent for completing the online survey, the participants will be asked to give their consent prior to completing the survey, via a check box accessible on the screen.

Participants will have up to 7 days from completing the online survey to notify the respective researcher of their withdrawal from the study.

9. Please append a complete copy of the research project proposal, including any interview protocols, questionnaires, or other research instruments (e.g. focus group scripts, participant screening tests, etc.) to be used in the study.

Attachments:

- ☐ Research Project Proposal
- ☐ Data Collection Forms/Protocols (please list):
(As per [TCPS2, Article 10.5](#), in studies using emergent design in data collection, final versions of questionnaires or interview schedules **must** be submitted to the REB as soon as they become available)

- ☒ Other (please specify):
The full ethics proposal including all project documents submitted to the Open University in the UK as well as their ethics clearance documents are attached.

10. What institutions or jurisdictional settings below may be involved in this research? (Please tick all that apply and **attach all necessary consents** pertaining to each of these research locations.) Please refer to [TCPS2, Chapter 8](#) for more information on Multi-Jurisdictional Research.

- ☒ University of Northern British Columbia
- ☒ Other university, college or institution of higher education (please specify)

University of Regina, Canada; Swansea University, UK; Open University, UK

- ☐ Primary or secondary school (please specify)

- ☐ Hospital, clinic or other medical facility (please specify)

- ☐ Government office (please specify)

- ☐ International (please specify)

- ☐ Prisons (please specify)

-
- ☐ Aboriginal (First Nations, Inuit or Métis) community or territory (please specify below).
Please refer to [TCPS2, Chapter 9](#) for more information on Research Involving the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples of Canada.
-

- ☐ Yukon or Northwest Territories (please specify)
-

- ☐ Other (please specify)
-

11. **Conflict of Interest:** Do any of the researchers conducting this study occupy multiple roles with respect to potential participants (e.g. acting as both a researcher and a therapist, health care provider, caregiver, teacher, advisor, consultant, supervisor, manager, student, employer, etc.) that may create a real, potential, or perceived conflict of interest that could affect the integrity of the research? Please refer to [TCPS2, Article 7.4](#) for more information on Researchers & Conflicts of Interest.

- ☐ **Yes** Please provide details in the space below (Max. 150 words).
- ☒ **No**

- 12. Describe how any conflicts of interest identified above will be avoided, minimized or managed.**
(Max. 150 words)

☒ Not applicable

- 13. Will the researcher(s), members of the research team, and/or their partners or immediate family members receive any personal benefits (for example a financial benefit such as remuneration, intellectual property rights, rights of employment, consultancies, board membership, share ownership, stock options etc.) in connection with this study?**

☐ **Yes** Please describe the benefits below. (Do not include conference and travel expense coverage, possible academic promotion, or other benefits which are part of the conduct of research generally). (Max. 150 words)

☒ **No**

- 14. If applicable, describe any restrictions regarding access to or disclosure of information (during or at the end of the study) that the financial sponsor of this project has placed on the investigator(s). (Max. 150 words)**

Not applicable

15. Possible Risks:

a) Please indicate all potential risks to participants as individuals or as members of a community that may arise from this research:

- i. Physical risks (e.g. any bodily contact or administration of any substance):** ☐ Yes ☒ No
- ii. Psychological/emotional risks (e.g. feeling uncomfortable, embarrassed, or upset):** ☐ Yes ☒ No
- iii. Social risks (e.g. loss of status, privacy and/or reputation):** ☐ Yes ☒ No
- iv. Legal risks (e.g. researcher's obligation to report certain unlawful activities):** ☐ Yes ☒ No

b) Please briefly describe each of the risks noted above and outline the steps that will be taken to manage and/or minimize them. (Max. 300 words)

No anticipated risks

16. Possible Benefits:

- Describe any potential direct benefits to participants from their involvement in the project
 - Describe any potential benefits to the community (e.g. capacity building)
 - Comment on the potential benefits to the scientific/scholarly community or society that would justify involvement of participants in this study
- (Max. 300 words)

The TILL project website (<http://tillproject.weebly.com/>) will facilitate prospective/recruited participants to obtain information regarding contact details; overview of informed consent and data privacy issues, project partners and updates/dissemination. A Facebook page/group and Twitter account has been created (@Tech In Later Life) to allow prospective participants and individuals who are interested in this area of research to keep up to date with the project.

17. Will participants be competent to give consent? Please refer to [TCPS2, Chapter 3, Section C](#) for more information on the Consent Process and [TCPS2, Chapter 4, Section B](#) for more information on Research Involving Children, the Elderly and Participants Who Lack the Capacity to Consent for Themselves.

☒ **Yes**

☐ **No** (e.g. Children and cognitively impaired people.) How will the issue of consent be addressed? In the text box below give us a brief summary. (Max. 150 words)

18. Will consent be obtained from each participant either in writing or recorded? Please see [TCPS2, Article 3.12, Chapter 5, Section D](#) and [Article 10.2](#) for information.

☒ **Yes** Please attach a copy of the Consent Form and (if applicable) the Information Letter to be distributed to participants. Each participant must receive one copy of the signed consent form. Note: A *Consent Form and/or Information Letter Checklist* are available at <http://www.unbc.ca/sites/default/files/sections/research/checklist.pdf>, as well as a [Sample Information Letter/Consent Form](#). If Consent is to be obtained verbally, please explain the process for administering and recording that consent.

☐ **No** Please provide justification below for why consent will not be obtained (Max. 150 words).

19. Will participants be compensated? Please refer to [TCPS2, Article 3.1](#) for information on Incentives.

- ☐ **Yes** How? In the text box below provide us with a brief summary.
(If providing an honorarium, please indicate the approximate amount.) (Max. 150 words)
- ☒ **No**

20. Does the project involve any deception? Please see [TCPS2, Chapter 3, Section B](#) for information on Departures from General Principles of Consent.

- ☐ **Yes** Justify the use of deception and indicate how disclosure and/or debriefing will be addressed. (Max. 150 words)
- ☒ **No**

21. **How do you propose to distribute results to participants?** (Max. 150 words) (e.g. Will you be providing the opportunity to have your thesis and/or summary report mailed or emailed to participants, or informing participants that your thesis will be available in the library?) Please see [TCPS2, Article 4.7](#) (section on Equitable Distribution of Research Benefits) for more information.

We expect to produce a participant report which will be circulated to those participants who choose to be notified.

In terms of social media use, a project website (<http://tillproject.weebly.com/>); a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Till-Technology-in-Later-Life-Project/433146906866252?sk=timeline>)

and a Twitter page ([@TechInLaterLife](#)) have been created for the purpose of highlighting the project, reporting updates and allowing interested parties to follow the progress of the project.

This information will also be provided to the recruited participants and the general public (e.g. Twitter) and will allow individuals, groups, academics, NGOs etc. the opportunity to follow the project.

22. **Will Research Assistants and/or Transcribers be hired for this project?** Please see [TCPS2, Chapter 5](#) for information on Privacy and Confidentiality

- ☒ **Yes** Please attach a [Confidentiality & Non-Disclosure Agreement](#)
☐ **No**

Please note that should the need arise there is potential for transcribers to be hired. In this case, transcribers would be hired for this project, contracted by the Open University UK. The Open University UK (where the principle investigator is affiliated) agreement regarding confidentiality/non-disclosure would be sought at time the contract is signed between the professional transcription service company and the University. Therefore, the agreement regarding confidentiality and non-disclosure would not be a separate agreement and instead be included as part of the contract. At time of writing this application, the co-investigator at UNBC has no access to these contracts.

23. **Will any research contract(s) be signed in connection with this project?**

- ☐ **Yes** Please attach a copy of the research contract (in addition to the Grant and Contract form).
Note: It is the researcher's responsibility to ensure that there are no conflicts between the research contract and the information provided to research participants in the project information/consent forms.
☒ **No**

SECTION D – SIGNATURES

All researchers participating in the project must sign below in order for this application to be processed and reviewed.

As the Principal Investigator on this project, my signature confirms that I will comply with the Tri-Council Policy Statement and all University of Northern British Columbia policies and procedures governing the protection of human participants in research, including but not limited to, ensuring that:

- the project is performed by qualified and appropriately trained personnel in accordance with REB protocol;
- no changes to the REB cleared protocol or consent form/statement are implemented without notification to the REB of the proposed changes and receipt of the subsequent REB clearance;
- significant adverse effects to research participants are promptly reported to the REB; and
- a renewal application is submitted to the REB for continuation of the study beyond the initial 12 month approval period.

As a **Student Researcher**, in addition to the above, my signature also confirms that I am a registered student in good standing. My project proposal has been reviewed and cleared by my advisory committee (where applicable), and my REB application has been reviewed and approved by my supervisor. If my status as a student changes, I will inform the REB. *For all students, the signature of a Faculty Supervisor is also required.*

Signature of Principal Investigator:  Date: July 10/2015

Signature of Co-Investigator(s): _____ Date: _____

As a **Faculty Supervisor**, I certify that the information provided in this application is complete and correct, and I certify the scientific merit of the research project.

I understand that as principal **Faculty Supervisor**, I have ultimate responsibility for the conduct of the study, the ethical performance of the project and the protection of the rights and welfare of human participants. I agree to comply with the Tri-Council Policy Statement and all University of Northern British Columbia policies and procedures governing the protection of human participants in research, including, but not limited to, ensuring that:

- the project is performed by qualified and appropriately trained personnel in accordance with REB protocol;
- no changes to the REB cleared protocol or consent form/statement are implemented without notification to the REB of the proposed changes and receipt of the subsequent REB clearance;
- significant adverse effects to research participants are promptly reported to the REB;
- a renewal application is submitted to the REB for continuation of the study beyond the initial 12 month approval period.

Signature of Faculty Supervisor: _____ Date: _____

☐ I have reviewed and approved this REB application.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT CHECKLIST

Please indicate which of the following supporting documents are appended to this application (please add extra lines where necessary). Please ensure that all documents are **clearly labeled**, that all pages are **clearly numbered**, and attach them in the order in which they are listed below.

- ☒ Other REB approvals
- ☐ UNBC Institutional consents (e.g. Provost / Program / Department / School)
- ☐ Consents from Aboriginal groups or organizations
- ☐ Other consents (please specify) _____
- ☐ Research contract(s) _____
- ☒ Participant information letter(s)
- ☒ Participant consent form(s)
- ☐ Research assistant/transcriber confidentiality agreement(s)
- ☒ Participant recruitment materials (e.g. posters, letters, email scripts, etc.)
- ☒ Questionnaires or survey instruments
- ☐ Research proposal
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

***Applicants are reminded that research with human subjects
cannot be undertaken prior to
obtaining approval by the Research Ethics Board
per [TCPS2, Article 6.11](#)***

Please allow 2 weeks from the submission deadline for a response from the REB.

However, please note that applications submitted in July and August will be assessed subject to the availability of REB members, and as such the REB cannot guarantee a specific turn around time for the review process.

Please find attached the following documents;

- 1. REB approval from Open University UK**
- 2. Full research application for ethics submitted to Open University UK**
- 3. Participant study information sheet**
- 4. Canadian Version of the Research Survey**
- 5. Recruitment Flyer**
- 6. Recruitment Poster**
- 7. Script for mailing lists**

Appendix 1: REB approval from Open University UK



From Dr Duncan Banks
Chair, The Open University Human Research Ethics Committee
Email duncan.banks@open.ac.uk
Extension 59198

To Hannah R. Marston, Computing

Subject *"TILL - Technology in the later life Project - Perceptions of technology use and privacy by adults aged 70+ years in the present and future"*

HREC Ref HREC/2015/2028/Marston/1
AMS ref
Submitted 18 June 2015
Date 26 June 2015

Memorandum

This memorandum is to confirm that the research protocol for the above-named research project, as submitted for ethics review, has been given a **favourable opinion** by the Open University Human Research Ethics Committee. Please note that the OU research ethics review procedures are fully compliant with the majority of grant awarding bodies and their Frameworks for Research Ethics.

Please make sure that any question(s) relating to your application and approval are sent to Research-REC-Review@open.ac.uk quoting the HREC reference number above. We will endeavour to respond as quickly as possible so that your research is not delayed in any way.

At the conclusion of your project, by the date that you stated in your application, the Committee would like to receive a summary report on the progress of this project, any ethical issues that have arisen and how they have been dealt with.

Regards,

Dr Duncan Banks
Chair OU HREC

Appendix 2: Full research application for ethics submitted to Open University UK



For office use only:

| | |
|--|--|
| HREC reference no.: | |
| Date a response is required from the reviewer: | |

HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (HREC) PROFORMA

Open University research involving human participants or materials has to be reviewed and where appropriate, agreed by the HREC. To apply to HREC, please complete and email this proforma to research-rec-review@open.ac.uk. You will need to attach any related documents such as a consent form, information sheet, a questionnaire, consent form, or publicity leaflet, so that the HREC Review Panel has a full application. Ensure that if you have more than one group of participants, that the relevant documents for each research group are included. Omitting relevant documents may result in a delay to the review and approval process. No potential participants should be approached to take part in any research until you have received a response from the HREC Chair.

If you have any queries about completing the proforma please look at the Research Ethics website, in particular the FAQs - <http://www.open.ac.uk/research/ethics/faq-questions-inline> which includes sample documents and templates. You can also contact the [HREC Chair](#) or [Secretary](#).

The submission deadline for applications is **every Thursday at 5.30pm** when they will be assessed for completeness and then sent to the HREC Review Panel. Once an application has been passed for review you should receive a response within 15 working days.

All general research ethics queries should be sent to Research-Ethics@open.ac.uk.

Please complete all the sections below – deleting the inserted instructions.

Project identification and rationale

TILL - Technology in the later life Project - Perceptions of technology use and privacy by adults aged 70+ years in the present and future

Abstract

Technology use has grown across the age cohort of baby boomers (currently 50-69 years) and many studies have published the effects of technology use for health improvement in this cohort and younger groups. However little is known about the uses of technology on a day-to-day basis, including the perceptions and privacy issues, that adults in later life (70+ years) experience and the barriers and enablers which result in their technology use or not. It is estimated the ageing population in the 21st Century will reach unprecedented figures: the fastest growing populations are persons aged 85+ years and the highest proportion are older adults aged 65+ years (ONS, 2013). Although academics are focusing their attention to seeking innovative approaches to aid independent living via integrated technologies relating to the onset

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of ageing, there is, however, little knowledge and understanding of technology use by adults aged 70+ years. Gaining this information is crucial to facilitate this preparation.

Accordingly, this project has three objectives:

1. To understand and ascertain the different types of technologies employed presently by persons aged 70+ years;
2. To examine how persons aged 70+ years perceive technology
3. To examine how technology has impacted on their health, quality of life, and well-being;
4. To ascertain what/if any privacy concerns persons aged 70+ years may have when using their technology devices;
5. To ascertain what (if any) usability issues/concerns persons 70+ years have encountered and what could be utilized to provide realistic solutions; and
6. To capture what type of technology persons 70+ years foresee in their future, and what they identify could/should be developed to enhance their health, quality of life, and well-being in later life.

Project personnel and collaborators

Principal Investigator:

Dr Hannah R. Marston Open University Computing

Co-Investigators:

Dr Charles Musselwhite, Centre for Innovative Ageing, Swansea University, Wales

Dr. Shannon Freeman, School of Health Sciences, University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, BC, Canada

Dr. Rebecca Genoe, Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina, SK, Canada

Dr. Cory Kulczycki, Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina, Regina, SK, Canada

Dr. Ingrid Eysers, Independent Gerontologist, CRaNe (Care Research Network) (www.crane.net.eu)

Investigators

Give names and institutional attachments of all persons involved in the collection and handling of individual data and name one person as Principal Investigator (PI). Research students should name themselves as Principal Investigator and it is a requirement that a brief separate supervisor endorsement is sent to Research-Rec-Review@open.ac.uk to support the application. This needs to be received with the application or shortly after, as the application cannot be processed without it (see [note for supervisors](#)). Please include the relevant HREC reference number.

Principal Investigator/
(or Research Student):

Dr Hannah R. Marston Open University Computing

Co-Investigators:

Other researcher(s):

Dr. Charles Musselwhite, Associate Professor, Centre

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for Innovative Ageing, Swansea University, Wales, UK

Dr. Shannon Freeman, School of Health Sciences,
University of Northern British Columbia, Prince
George, BC, Canada

Dr. Rebecca Genoe, Associate Professor, Faculty of
Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina,
Regina, SK, Canada

Dr. Cory Kulczycki, Faculty of Kinesiology and Health
Studies, University of Regina, Regina, SK, Canada

Dr. Ingrid Eyers, Independent Gerontologist, CRaNE
(Care Research Network) (www.crane.net.eu)

Primary Supervisor (if applicable):

Research protocol

Literature review

Initial research highlights the importance of understanding the role technology use by persons aged 70+ years on a regional level in the UK (through the International Longevity Centre – UK (ILC-UK)) and in the USA (e.g. The Pew Research Centre). These are limited studies and those that have been published are several years old (e.g. Zickuhr & Madden, 2012; Orlov, 2011; Berry, 2011; Sinclair, 2010; Roberts, 2009; Lloyd, 2007). However, with the phenomena of ageing societies nationally and worldwide, technology can and is playing a part in facilitating ageing in place, and to aid physical health impairments (see Marston & Smith, 2012). Previously, studies have focused on adults in the baby boomer cohort (currently 50-69 years) with specific remits (e.g. Fall prevention). Yet, to the knowledge of the PI and CO-Is, there is little work that has focused on understanding the perceptions of technology used on a daily basis, including health logging applications, in particular aimed at persons aged 70+ years from a multinational comparative perspective. Statistics commonly indicate persons in this age group and above are one of the fastest growing segments in the population (ONS, 2013), yet to date information and understanding of these cohorts remains limited. To the knowledge of the investigators, this work would be the first of its kind, encompassing persons aged 70+ years, recruited from 3 different countries, undertaking a mixed methods approach primarily to examine the role utilization of technology may have on participants health, quality of life, and well-being.

References

- Berry, R. (2011). Older people and the internet, Towards a 'system map' of digital exclusion. The International Longevity Centre - UK
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- Marston, H.R., & Smith, S.T., (2012). Interactive videogame technologies to support independence in the elderly: A narrative review – Games for Health Journal, 1(2): 139-152. doi:10.1089/g4h.2011.0008.
- Lloyd, J. (2007). Retirement Capital and Online Social Networking. The International Longevity Centre - UK
- Orlov, L.M. (2011). Technology Survey Age 65 to 100, Extending Technology Past the Boomers. Linkage
- Roberts, S. (2009). The Fictions, Facts and Future of Older People and Technology. The International Longevity Centre - UK
- Sinclair, D. (2010). Technology and Care. Can the web transform social care? The International Longevity Centre - UK
- Zickuhr K., & Madden, M. (2012). Older adults and internet use. For the first time, half of adults ages 65 and older are online. Pew Research Center.

Methodology

Outline the method(s) that will be employed to collect and analyse data. Any related relevant documents, such as interview or survey questions or a participant information sheet should be sent with the completed proforma. If there is more than one group of participants, then separate consent forms and participant information sheets should be provided. If for any reason any of this is not possible please contact the HREC Secretary (research-rec-review@open.ac.uk).

In this explorative study, we expect to conduct 8 focus groups; 2 in each country – 1 rural, 1 suburban

Focus groups are often used in commercial marketing research for testing new products. They have also been used when testing political campaigns and programmes, medical planning and discussing health policy programmes and more generally the qualitative social sciences – investigating attitudes, preferences and values.

The focus groups will involve:

- A maximum of 10 participants aged 70+ years per group,
- There will be 1 focus group conducted in each of the areas and will be recruited from either a rural or suburban area: (England (Milton Keynes), Wales (Swansea/Cardiff), Canada (Prince George, British Columbia & Regina, Saskatchewan), North Rhine Westphalia & Lower Saxony (Germany))
- Participants will be asked to complete a survey (see attached)
- The focus groups will be recorded and moderated.

Themes to be discussed in the groups will include:

- Demographic (Age and gender)
- Types of devices used – Hard and/or software
- Frequency/length of use
- Privacy preferences and attitudes
- Areas for discussion
 - What do use your collected information for?
 - How long have you been doing it?
 - What choices have you made in terms of hardware, software etc.?
 - What do you see as the advantages and disadvantages of what you do (including privacy issues)?
 - Do you share your data, if so how and who with etc.?
 - What is your attitude to sharing your data, e.g. who do you trust/not trust etc.?
 - Barriers and enablers to using technology in different environments (suburban/rural) and in general

Findings from the *TILL* project aim to improve understanding of what drives technology use/perceptions, privacy concerns for enhancing the health, quality of life, and well-being in addition to ascertaining the future needs and requirement for adults aged 70+ years.

Participants

Give details of the population targeted or from which you will be sampling and how this sampling will be done. Give information on the diversity of the sample.

Recruitment for these focus groups will be conducted in each country and through networks that have been established. The research will include participants who live in rural and suburban areas and who use digital technologies (hard/software).

Networks that will be used to recruit participants:

1. Age UK MK centre
2. Age Cymru & Older People's Strategy Forum(s) across Wales
3. University of Regina Life Long Learning Centre
4. Prince George Council of Seniors (Prince George, BC, Canada) & via a local seniors radio program

All recruitment documentation, consent forms and information sheet will be translated into German, for those participants been recruited in Germany.

(Please see – Information Sheet and Consent form attached)

Recruitment procedures

Information flyers will be distributed at the respective recruitment centres (see above), in all instances, where appropriate, full consent will be sought and confirmed with the management of the respective organizations.

All recruitment information will contain details of a project website where participants can 'Sign-up'. The website is hosted on OU servers and will adhere to data protection guidelines.

We will then contact the potential participants to arrange the focus group.

(see flyers and posters attached)

A 'mailing list script' will be produced to form the part of recruitment through mailing lists.

A presentation (if necessary/required) will be held to the prospective participants in each area.

(Please see – mailing list script, flyer and poster attached)

Consent

Give details of how valid consent will be sought and attach copies of information sheet(s) and consent form(s), as applicable. Give details and a timeframe of how participants can withdraw consent and what will happen to their data in such a case (see [FAQ number 14](#) on the Research Ethics website for a guidance document and template).

All participants will be provided with a consent form (attached) in their respective language on the day of the focus groups. The form will be explained to participants and following explanation participants will be asked to sign the form. All participants will be provided with a separate form detailing their consent.

Location(s) of data collection

Give details of where and when data will be collected with an explanation of why the research needs to be conducted in the chosen setting or location. If it will take place on private, corporate or institutional premises, indicate what approvals are gained/required.

Comment [AB1]: Why a separate form – isn't enough to give them a copy of the same form they signed?

The focus groups will take place at the following places:

- **England** – AGE UK MK centre: Peartree Centre, 1 Chadds Lane, Milton Keynes MK6 3EB, United Kingdom
- **Wales** – Older People's Strategy Forum(s) across Wales & Age Cymru. The focus group will be held at local community centre/church halls.
- **Canada (Regina)** – Centre for Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina
- **Canada (Prince George/BC)** - School of Health Sciences, University of Northern British Columbia, Canada
- **Germany** – SeniorenZentrum Krefeld, Senioren Zentrum Rehden

The research will take place within community centres and/or university campus in the respective countries. The approval for using private premises has been granted by the individual centres in the respective countries.

Schedule

Time frame for the research and its data collection phase(s).

In this explorative study, the focus groups are expected to take place during the months of June/July 2015 and data transcription and analysis will be undertaken immediately after data collection. For each area, a maximum of 10 participants will be recruited. If for example, there are only 6 or 7 recruited this will run as 1 focus group, BUT if there are 10 participants, then the focus group will be split into 2 groups of 5 participants.

Data collection:

Quantitative data will initially be collected by an online survey provided to participants via a link. By providing an online version of the survey, for questions which the participants need to skip this will then be automatically executed. However, copies of the survey will be available at the focus group allowing for participants who have not completed the survey to complete while waiting for the focus group to commence. Finally, a self-addressed envelope can be provided to participants who are unable to complete the hard copy and online version of the survey. In regards to informed consent this will be completed by the participant when they arrive for the focus group. Informed consent for completing the online survey will be available to the participant and prior to completing the survey.

Qualitative data will be collected in the form of a focus group. The research team will have decided upon a series of suitable themes for questioning. It is expected that the time this whole process will take is between 1-2hrs. The focus group will be digitally recorded on digital recorders.

Data analysis:

Quantitative data analysis will be undertaken using the software program SAS (Statistical Analysis System). Qualitative data will be transcribed and the German transcripts translated. NVivo will be used to thematically analyse the data collected and transcribed in the transcripts.

Key Ethics considerations

Published ethics and legal guidelines to be followed

Detail which guidelines will be followed by the researchers.

We will follow the Open University code of ethics. We will also refer to the code of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Code of Ethics (1992).

Data Protection and Data Security

If your research involves the collection of information about individuals you will need to register your project with the University's Data Protection Coordinator - please confirm that this has been done. Also provide details of the procedures and schedule (including dates) to be followed re: storage and disposal of data to comply with the Act. Any requirements by a funding body should also be given. Please note the OU guidance via the [FAQ number 7](#) and FAQ number 8 for OU [information security](#) guidance. Indicate the earliest and latest date for the destruction of original data if that is required – or any archiving arrangements that have been agreed/permitted/required and ensure this is also indicated in the project schedule. For guidance on what to keep, for how long and where to keep it, visit the Research Data Management intranet pages <http://intranet6.open.ac.uk/library/main/supporting-ou-research/research-data-management> or contact the RDM mailbox (rdm-project@open.ac.uk).

The PI, Dr. Hannah R. Marston has notified the University's Data Protection Coordinator about the TILL project. All data collected will comply with the regulations.

Recompense to participants

Normally, recompense is only given for expenses and inconvenience, otherwise it might be seen as coercion/inducement to participate ([see FAQ 12 for guidance](#)). Give details of any recompense to participants.

Recompense will include refreshments and biscuits, and any travel/parking costs that might be incurred to attending the focus group(s). Receipts will be submitted once the focus groups have concluded.

Deception

Give details of the withholding of any information from participants, or misrepresentation or other deception that is an integral part of the research. Any such deception should be fully justified.

No deception is foreseen.

Risk of harm

Detail any foreseen risks to participants or researchers (e.g. home visits) and based on a risk assessment, the steps that will be taken to minimise/counter these (a Project risk assessment matrix is available at [FAQ number 15](#)). If the proposed study involves contact with children or other vulnerable groups, please confirm that the requirements of the Disclosure and Barring Service have been met and give the relevant reference number and period covered or each person involved in the research ([FAQ number 10](#)).

Little or no risk is foreseen, focus groups will be held at the respective community centres and recruitment will take place primarily through mailing lists, and contacts which have been initialized during previous studies/networking events and working groups.

Debriefing

Give details of how information will be given to participants after data collection to inform them of the outcomes of their participation and the research more broadly.

We expect to produce a participant report which will be circulated to those participants who choose to be notified.

In terms of social media use, a project website (<http://tillproject.weebly.com/>); a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Till-Technology-in-Later-Life-Project/433146906866252?sk=timeline>) and a Twitter page (@TechInLaterLife) have been created for the purpose of highlighting the project, reporting updates and allowing interested parties to follow the progress of the project.

This information will also be provided to the recruited participants and the general public (e.g. Twitter) and will allow individuals, groups, academics, NGOs etc. the opportunity to follow the project.

| |
|---------------------------|
| Project Management |
|---------------------------|

Research organisation and Funding

Please provide details of the principal funding body (internal or external). If your project is part of a current or successful externally funded bid, enter your Award Management System (AMS) reference number below. For further guidance contact your Faculty Research Administrator (FRA) or refer to the [Research Support website](#).

AMS reference number: **Funded by EPSRC**
25190 (Monetize Me)

Other project-related risks

Indicate how research risks are to be limited by anticipating potential problems. If appropriate, please refer to the insurance cover provided by the Open University ([FAQ number 13](#)).

The research will take place at the respective community centres/university campus and little risk is expected. Possible injury from fall or trip does of course remain, but every conceivable element of risk potential will be removed. It is expect participants will be sitting in focus groups for 1-2 hours maximum. There is no risk to the individuals during the recruitment process as this will be undertaken primarily through mailing lists/forums and through previous contacts made at the respective centres.

Benefits and knowledge transfer

State how the research may be of general benefit to participants and society in general (100 words maximum).

Journal and conference papers will be disseminated.

The TILL project website will facilitate prospective/recruited participants to obtain information

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

regarding contact details; overview of informed consent and data privacy issues, project partners and dissemination. A Facebook page/group and Twitter account has been created (@Tech In Later Life) to allow prospective participants and individuals who are interested in this area of research to keep up to date with the project.

CONFIDENTIAL

Declaration

I declare that the research will conform to the above protocol and that any significant changes or new ethics issues will be raised with the HREC before they are implemented.

I declare that I have read and will adhere to the following two OU documents:

- [OU Code Of Practice For Research and at the Open University](#)
- [OU Ethics Principles for Research involving Human Participants](#)

<http://www.open.ac.uk/research/ethics/index.shtml>

In order to conform to OU governance guidelines, brief information on OU research **approved** by the HREC will be added to the [Research Ethics website](#). The HREC will assume that you agree that the following data from your research can be made public via the website unless you tick the box below:

| HREC reference number | Project title | Faculty | Approval date | Type of HREC approval |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------|---------------|-----------------------|
|-----------------------|---------------|---------|---------------|-----------------------|

☐ No, I do not wish for details of my HREC approved research to be publicised.

Name:

Hannah R. Marston

Unit/Faculty:

CRC/Faculty of Mathematics, Computing & Technology

Telephone

Hannah.Marston@open.ac.uk

E-mail

Hannah Marston

Signature(s)

(this can be the typed name(s) of investigator(s) if an electronic copy is submitted (which is preferred))

2015

Date:

End of project final report

Once your research has been completed you will need to complete and submit a final report to the HREC. A copy of the template can be found on the Research Ethics website at <http://www.open.ac.uk/research/ethics/human-research/human-research-ethics-review-process-and-proforma#final-report>.

March 2017

Proposed date for final report:

Appendix 3: Participant study information sheet

Research study information sheet

You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide whether to take part, here is some information about it.

Project title

TILL: Technology In Later Life - <http://tillproject.weebly.com/>

Researchers

United Kingdom

Dr. Hannah R. Marston. 07815507547; Email: Hannah.Marston@open.ac.uk

Centre for Research Computing, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA

Dr. Charles. Musselwhite, Email: c.b.a.musselwhite@swansea.ac.uk

Centre for Innovative Ageing, Swansea University, Wales, UK

Canada

Dr. Rebecca Genoe. University of Regina, Telephone: Email: Rebecca.Genoe@uregina.ca

Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina, 3737 Wascana Parkway, Regina, SK, S4S 042, Canada

Dr. Cory Kulczycki. University of Regina, Telephone: 306-585-4841, Email: Cory.Kulczycki@uregina.ac

Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina, 3737 Wascana Parkway, Regina, SK, S4S 042, Canada

Dr. Shannon Freeman. University of Northern British Columbia. Telephone: Email: Shannon.Freeman@unbc.ca

School of Nursing, University of Northern British Columbia, 3333 University Way, Prince George, BC, V2N 4Z9, Canada.

Funders

About this study

Technology use has grown across the age cohort of baby boomers (currently 50-69 years) and many studies have published the effects of technology use for health improvement in this cohort and younger groups. However little is known about the uses of technology on a day-to-day basis, including the perceptions and privacy issues, that adults in later life (70+ years) experience and the barriers and enablers which result in their technology use or not. It is estimated the ageing population in the 21st Century will reach unprecedented figures: the fastest growing populations are persons aged 85+ years and the highest proportion are older adults aged 65+ years (ONS, 2013). Although academics are focusing their attention to seeking innovative approaches to aid independent living via integrated technologies relating to the onset of ageing, there is, however, little knowledge and understanding of technology use by adults aged 70+ years. Gaining this information is crucial to facilitate this preparation.

Project Objectives: There are 4 objectives to this study

1. To understand and ascertain the different types of technologies employed presently by persons aged 70+ years and how this type of technology has impacted on their lives to enhance their quality of life and well-being
2. To ascertain what/if any privacy concerns they may have when using their technology devices
3. To ascertain what/if any usability issues/concerns persons 70+ years have encountered and what could be utilized to provide realistic solutions
4. To speculate what type of technology these persons foresee in the future, and what could/should be developed to enhance quality of life/well-being

If you have questions about the research you may email the principal investigator, **Dr. Hannah R. Marston** at the Centre for Research in Computing at the Open University or contact the researcher in your area (please refer to the previous page for list of researchers in each area).

Confidentiality

Taking part in a research study involves giving information to the researcher, which may be answers you give to questions about your data collecting and monitoring. You have the right to expect that your personal details will be kept secure and confidential and neither you nor your organisation will not be identifiable in any reports or articles we write.

Data collection/ Privacy

If you (the participant) agree to take part in the research you will be emailed a link to an online questionnaire. Prior to completing the questionnaire you will need to give your consent. This will be available by checking the box provided on your computer screen.

Initial data collection will be collected by a 3rd party program/server and can be accessed to be completed by the participant through a given link, once the participant has confirmed to take part in the project.

Once participants have completed the survey online, participants should delete their cookies/browser history to remove the IP address from displaying that they have accessed the survey.

- Instructions for deleting cookies:

To **delete cookies** in the desktop. Open the desktop, and then tap or click the Internet Explorer icon on the taskbar. Tap or click the Tools button, point to Safety, and then tap or click **Delete** browsing history. Select the **Cookies** and website data check box, and then tap or click **Delete**.

Your contact details or personal information this data will be stored securely in accordance with the UK Data Protection Act 1988 and the relevant European Data Protection legislation.

Data Storage:

Personal data will be stored for a maximum of 4 years.

Anonymised data will be stored via Institution Research Data Management Open Archive.

Focus Group Outline

The focus groups will involve:

- A maximum of 10 participants aged 70+ years per group,
- There will be 1 focus group conducted in each of the areas and will be recruited from either a rural or suburban area: (England (Milton Keynes), Wales (Swansea/Cardiff), Canada (Prince George, British Columbia & Regina, Saskatchewan),
- Participants will be asked to complete an online survey (see attached) prior to undertaking the focus group and consent will be needed prior to completion.
- The focus groups will be recorded and moderated.

Themes to be discussed in the groups will include:

- Demographic (Age and gender)
- Types of devices used – Hard and/or software
- Frequency/length of use
- Privacy preferences and attitudes
- Areas for discussion
 - What do you use your collected information for?
 - How long have you been doing it?
 - What choices have you made in terms of hardware, software etc.?
 - What do you see as the advantages and disadvantages of what you do (including privacy issues)?

- Do you share your data, if so how and who with etc.?
- What is your attitude to sharing your data, e.g. who do you trust/not trust etc.?
- Barriers and enablers to using technology in different environments (suburban/rural) and in general

Findings from the *TILL* project aim to improve understanding of what drives technology use/perceptions, privacy concerns for enhancing the health, quality of life, and well-being in addition to ascertaining the future needs and requirement for adults aged 70+ years.

The length of the focus group will be approximately 1-2hours. This will also include debriefing the participants and any questions which you have.

Focus Group Location^[HM1]

The environment which the focus group(s) will take place vary depending on the site. Below is a list of where the respective focus groups will take place:

- Milton Keynes (England) – Age MK Centre
- Swansea/Cardiff (Wales) –
- Regina (SK, Canada) – University Campus
- Prince George (BC, Canada) – University Campus^[HM2]

At the end of the study

The results of the study will be used to write an account of the findings. Combined results **from the 4 study sites (focus groups & survey)** will be used to write a broader account. Some of the results may be used for case studies, teaching and academic papers.

The main outputs from the research will comprise articles in relevant academic journals and magazines, entries on Open2.net, academic journal articles and conference papers.

Social Media Use

If you wish to keep up to date with the progress of the *TILL* project then you can follow the project via 3 outlets:

Twitter: [@TechInLaterLife](#)

Website: <http://tillproject.weebly.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Till-Technology-in-Later-Life-Project/433146906866252?sk=timeline>

De-briefing

At the end of the focus group(s) participants will be debriefed. Additionally, participants will be able to request a project report via an email to the respective individual running the focus group (Hannah Marston, Charles Musselwhite, Cory Kulczyck or Shannon Freeman)

Withdrawal

You will have up to 7 days from completing the online survey to notify the respective researcher of your withdrawal from the study.

Consent form (Participants Copy)

Project title: Technology & the later life

Agreement to participate

I, (print name)

agree to take part in this research project.

1. I have had the purposes of the research project explained to me.
2. I have been informed that I may refuse to participate at any point by simply saying so. Participation is voluntary and I am free to withdraw from the research any time. I am free to refuse to answer questions. Withdrawal can be notified within 7 days of taking part in the survey to the respective researcher.
3. I have been assured that my confidentiality will be protected as specified in the information leaflet and all of my details will be anonymised.
4. I agree that the information that I provide can be used for educational or research purposes, including publication.
5. The group discussion will be audio-recorded. However, I have the option to decline the recording. I can request destruction of recordings where I appear up to two weeks after it is made. Withdrawal can be notified within 7 days of taking part in the group discussion to the respective researcher.
6. I understand that if I have any concerns or difficulties I can contact (the appropriate name will be used depending upon the country)
7. **UK** - England: Hannah Marston, Hannah.Marston@open.ac.uk / 07815507547
UK - Wales: Charles Musselwhite, c.b.a.musselwhite@swansea.ac.uk / 01792 518696
Canada - Regina: Cory Kulczyck, Cory.Kulczycki@uregina.ca / 306-585-4841
Canada - Prince George: Shannon Freeman, Shannon.Freeman@unbc.ca

I assign the copyright for my contribution to the researcher for use in education, research and publication.

Signed: Date:

Consent form (Project Copy)

Project title: Technology & the later life; what's it all about?

Agreement to participate

I, (print name)

agree to take part in this research project.

1. I have had the purposes of the research project explained to me.
2. I have been informed that I may refuse to participate at any point by simply saying so. Participation is voluntary and I am free to withdraw from the research any time. I am free to refuse to answer questions. Withdrawal can be notified within 7 days of taking part in the survey to the respective researcher.
3. I have been assured that my confidentiality will be protected as specified in the information leaflet and all of my details will be anonymised.
4. I agree that the information that I provide can be used for educational or research purposes, including publication.
5. The group discussion will be audio-recorded. However, I have the option to decline the recording. I can request destruction of recordings where I appear up to two weeks after it is made. Withdrawal can be notified within 7 days of taking part in the group discussion to the respective researcher.
6. I understand that if I have any concerns or difficulties I can contact (the appropriate name will be used depending upon the country)
7. **UK** - England: Hannah Marston, Hannah.Marston@open.ac.uk / 07815507547
UK - Wales: Charles Musselwhite, c.b.a.musselwhite@swansea.ac.uk / 01792 518696
Canada - Regina: Cory Kulczyck, Cory.Kulczycki@uregina.ca / 306-585-4841
Canada - Prince George: Shannon Freeman, Shannon.Freeman@unbc.ca

I assign the copyright for my contribution to the researcher for use in education, research and publication.

Signed:

Date:

Appendix 4: Canadian Version of the Research Survey

Technology use by populations

We would like to know some basic details about your use of various technologies; social networking habits and sharing of information

Section A: Technology Use

- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| Q1 | Have you used a computer? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Q2 | Do you own a computer | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Q3a | Please state what type of computer do you own | <input type="checkbox"/> Apple Mac <input type="checkbox"/> PC/Microsoft Window <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
| Q3b | Where do you use a computer? (please check all that apply) | <input type="checkbox"/> At own home <input type="checkbox"/> At a friend's house <input type="checkbox"/> At a adult child's house <input type="checkbox"/> At a public building (e.g. library, community centre) |

***If you answered NO to Q3a, then please skip Q4-Q7, and turn to page 3**

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| Q4 | How long have you used a computer? (please check 1 answer) | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 2 Years <input type="checkbox"/> For 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 month or less |
| Q5 | How frequently do you use a computer (please check 1 answer) | <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a day <input type="checkbox"/> About once a day <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a week <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a month <input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a month <input type="checkbox"/> I normally do not use a computer |
| Q6 | How many hours a week do you use a computer? (please check 1 answer) | <input type="checkbox"/> 0-1 hours <input type="checkbox"/> 2-5 hours <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 hours <input type="checkbox"/> 10+ hours <input type="checkbox"/> 11-20 hours <input type="checkbox"/> 20+ hours |
| Q7 | What do you usually use a computer for (please check all that apply) | <input type="checkbox"/> Word processing <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing <input type="checkbox"/> Email <input type="checkbox"/> Playing games <input type="checkbox"/> Internet (checking facts) <input type="checkbox"/> Internet (Social networking, e.g., Facebook) <input type="checkbox"/> Internet (banking) <input type="checkbox"/> Internet (purchasing) <input type="checkbox"/> Database/Spreadsheets |

- ☐ Recording data (health, finances)
☐ Other (please specify) _____

Q8 Please briefly write how you learned to use a computer & its software

Q9 Have you played games? ☐ Yes
☐ No

***If you answered NO to Q9, then please skip Q10a-Q16, and turn to page 5**

Q10 Do you own a video game console ☐ Yes
☐ No

Q11 Please state what type of game console(s) do you own? (if you own more than 1, please list all)

Q12 Do you have access to a computer that can be used to play games? ☐ Yes
☐ No

Q13 Do you own a handheld videogame console (e.g., Nintendo DS/ DS Lite/ Sony PSP) ☐ Yes
☐ No

Q14 Please check which kind of games you play ☐ Adventure
☐ Sport
☐ Exercise/fitness game
☐ Strategy
☐ Casual
☐ Shooter
☐ Role Playing
☐ Action
☐ Simulation
☐ Puzzle
☐ Other (please state)_____

Q15 Please list your favourite game(s) to play

Q16 How did you learn to play a videogame?

Section B: Internet use & Ownership

- Q17 Do you have the Internet at home ☐ Yes
☐ No

***If you answered NO to Q17, please skip Q18-Q22, and turn to
 Q 23 page 5**

- Q18 How much do you pay per month
 for your Internet (which may
 include TV and phone line)? _____

- Q10 How long have you used the Internet?
☐ More than 10 years
☐ More than 5 years
☐ More than 2 Years
☐ For 1 year or less
☐ 1 month or less (I've just changed)

- Q20 How frequently do you use the Internet?
☐ More than once a day
☐ About once a day
☐ More than once a week
☐ More than once a month
☐ Less than once a month

- Q21 Please check what you use the Internet for? (include all purposes)
- ☐ Record video
 - ☐ Facebook
 - ☐ Google+
 - ☐ Take a photograph
 - ☐ Instagram
 - ☐ Pinterest
 - ☐ Snapchat, What's app, Other (please specify)
 - ☐ Twitter
 - ☐ Spotify, Deezer, Other (please specify)
 - ☐ Kindle
 - ☐ Foursquare
 - ☐ Netflix, Other (Please specify)
 - ☐ Shazam
 - ☐ Games (please specify)
 - ☐ Reading
 - ☐ Make a call(e.g., Facetime, Viber, Skype)
 - ☐ Send a text message
 - ☐ Access the Internet (e.g., Yahoo, Google)
 - ☐ Upload a photo to a social media site
 - ☐ Online Banking

- ☐ Diary function
- ☐ Weather report
- ☐ Access news reports (e.g., CBC)
- ☐ Use the alarm
- ☐ Play games
- ☐ Access GPS/Maps
- ☐ Use as a note taker
- ☐ Access/ send email
- ☐ Access functional apps (e.g. Health, Trainline.com/ public transportation map – please specify)
- ☐ Other (Please specify)
- ☐ Email
- ☐ Online shopping
- ☐ Online banking
- ☐ Searching for information
- ☐ Booking holidays/flights
- ☐ Booking events
- ☐ Watching television
- ☐ Streaming content
- ☐ Downloading content
- ☐ Other _____

Q22 Please write how you learned to use the Internet including your behaviours (e.g. online banking) _____

Section C: Digital Device Ownership & Social Networking

Q23 Do you own any of the following digital devices (please check all that apply)

- ☐ Mobile phone/Cell phone
- ☐ Blackberry
- ☐ Apple iPad
- ☐ Apple iPod
- ☐ Apple iPhone
- ☐ Kindle/e-book
- ☐ Tablet
- ☐ Fitbit
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____

Q24 From the above list of devices & what you have selected, please write which you use frequently _____

Q25 What activities do you use your digital device for? (please check all that apply)

- ☐ Record video
- ☐ Facebook
- ☐ Google+
- ☐ Take a photograph
- ☐ Use Instagram
- ☐ Pinterest

- ☐ Snapchat, What's app, Other (please specify)
- ☐ Twitter
- ☐ Spotify, Deezer, Other (please specify)
- ☐ Kindle
- ☐ Foursquare
- ☐ Netflix, BBC iPlayer, Other (Please specify)
- ☐ Shazam
- ☐ Games (please specify)
- ☐ Reading
- ☐ Make a call, use Viber, use Skype
- ☐ Send a text message
- ☐ Access the Internet (e.g., Yahoo, Google)
- ☐ Upload a photo to a social media site
- ☐ Online Banking
- ☐ Diary function
- ☐ Weather report
- ☐ Access news reports (e.g., CBC)
- ☐ Use the alarm
- ☐ Play games
- ☐ Access GPS/Maps
- ☐ Use as a note taker
- ☐ Access/ send email
- ☐ Access functional apps (e.g., Health, Trainline.com/ public transportation map – please specify)
- ☐ Other (Please specify)

***If you do not use social media, then please skip Q26-Q32 and turn to Q33 on page 7**

- | | | |
|-----|---|--|
| Q26 | How long have you been using social networking sites? (please check one answer) | <input type="checkbox"/> More than 10 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 years <input type="checkbox"/> More than 2 Years <input type="checkbox"/> For 1 year or less <input type="checkbox"/> 1 month or less (I've just changed) |
| Q27 | How frequently do you use social networking sites? (please check one answer) | <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a day <input type="checkbox"/> About once a day <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a week <input type="checkbox"/> More than once a month <input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a month |
| Q28 | Please check why you use social media sites | <input type="checkbox"/> To stay connected with friends <input type="checkbox"/> To stay connected with grand/children <input type="checkbox"/> To share information that I am interested in with friends/family <input type="checkbox"/> To share photographs with friends/family <input type="checkbox"/> To organize events <input type="checkbox"/> To partake in events/groups that I am interested in <input type="checkbox"/> To keep up to date with the latest news <input type="checkbox"/> To express my opinions and views <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____ |

Q29 Please check who introduced you to social networking? ☐ Spouse/partner
☐ Adult child
☐ Grandchild
☐ Friend

Q30 Have you introduced anyone to social networking sites or apps? ☐ Yes
☐ No

Q31 Please check who you introduced to social networking sites or apps to? ☐ Spouse/partner
☐ Adult child
☐ Grandchild
☐ Friend

Q32 What type of social media site or app did you introduce that person to?

Q33 Does anyone else access your digital devices? ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

Q34 Which device(s) do they have access to?

Q35 Please check who accesses your device(s) ☐ Spouse/partner
☐ Adult child
☐ Grandchild
☐ Friend

Q36 What they use your device for?

Section D: Purchasing habits

Q37 Have you ever bought any of the following digital devices? ☐ Mobile phone
☐ Blackberry
☐ Apple iPad
☐ Apple iPod
☐ Apple iPhone
☐ Kindle/e-book
☐ Tablet
☐ Video game console
☐ A handheld game console (e.g., Nintendo DS/Lite
☐ Fitbit
☐ Other _____

Q38 What was your reason for buying these devices?

Q39 Where did you buy these devices? (please check all that apply)

☐ Supermarket
☐ A computer shop
☐ A shop in the mall or a plaza
☐ A rental shop
☐ Online (Amazon)
☐ Online (specific store – e.g., Best Buy)
☐ Other (please specify)_____

Section E: Life-logging/recording of data

Self-Logging – is a term where a person records a specific piece of information (e.g., mileage travelled in 1 day/holiday or a certain type of medication to be taken at a specific time or day)

Q40a We would like to know if you have previously or at present recorded this type of data. Please write what kind of items you have recorded in your daily life (past or present).

Life-logging is a term whereby, a person logs a variety of information on a daily basis relating to their physical activity. For example:

Betty is an 80 year old woman who enjoys the company of her children and grandchildren on a daily and weekly basis. She walks to her coffee shop where she can catch up with her friends and to church on a Sunday morning. Recently, Betty found out one of her grandchildren – Jake (20 years old) who is an avid runner has started to track his own physical activity through the use of a Fitbit device.

Betty was fascinated with the Fitbit and wanted to know more information about this device. Jake showed his grandmother the simple interface which displays the time, number of steps taken, and how it can easily be attached to a piece of clothing. Betty asked Jake to buy her a Fitbit and to setup the synchronization on to her desktop computer, so she could update her progress on a daily basis.

Since wearing her Fitbit, Betty has now started walking everywhere (pending weather). She still attends her coffee shop visits and weekly church services, but she also takes a walk after lunch and dinner, and she has started to share

her progress with her friends, explaining to them, why she is has started doing this and how unobtrusive the Fitbit is in her activities of daily living.

We are interested in your knowledge and perception of life-logging. We are asking the following question to gauge the understanding, needs, and requirements, knowledge of older adults in relation to recording of data or logging specific activities.

Q40b Do you undertake any self-logging in your life with a smart phone? ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

Q40c Do you undertake any self-logging activities with a tablet? ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

Q40d Do you undertake any self-logging activities with a PC? ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

Q40e Do you undertake any self-logging activities using a spreadsheet? (e.g. excel) ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

Q40f Do you undertake any self-logging activities using traditional methods (e.g. pen/paper) ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

If you answered YES to any of Q40b-f, please go to Q41. If you answered NO to any of Q40b-f go to Q43

Q41 If you use a digital format for life-logging activities. Have you installed any of these apps onto your digital device(s)? (please check all that apply) ☐ Runtastic
☐ Strava
☐ Fitbit
☐ Foursquare
☐ Pinterest
☐ Health Apps (please specify all)
☐ Work related Apps (please specify all)
☐ Social Apps (please specify all)
☐ Other (please specify all)

Q42 Have you heard of the following brands used for self-logging (please check all that apply) ☐ Fitbit
☐ Jawbone
☐ Samsung
☐ LG G
☐ Garmin
☐ No I haven't heard of any of the devices above
☐ Other (please specify all)

Q43 Would you consider taking up Quantified Self (QS)-logging? ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure

- Q44 If you answer YES to Q43 please check your reasons why
- ☐ Because it's fun
 - ☐ To build my confidence
 - ☐ Because I like sharing information
 - ☐ To inform others of my activities
 - ☐ To feel better
 - ☐ To have others' opinions
 - ☐ To make sure the recipient is thinking of me
 - ☐ To increase the amount of communication in friendship
 - ☐ Common interests
 - ☐ Start or continue conversations with friends
 - ☐ Other (please state)
- Q45 If you answer NO to Q343 please check your reason(s) why
- ☐ It is not informative
 - ☐ It doesn't make sense to me
 - ☐ It has not real impact on my life
 - ☐ I don't know how to use this technology
 - ☐ I wouldn't know how to share this information
 - ☐ People might laugh at what I am doing
 - ☐ Because it is embarrassing
 - ☐ Persons might perceive me as being weird
 - ☐ This activity could take up too much of my time
 - ☐ I think it might be too expensive
 - ☐ I wouldn't know where to buy the equipment from
 - ☐ Other (please specify)
- Q46 Do you know if any of your friends or family undertake self-logging activities
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Not sure

If you answer YES to Q46 please go to Q47

If you answer NO or NOT SURE to Q46 please go to Q51– Page 11

- Q47 Please check who self-logs their data
- ☐ Spouse/partner
 - ☐ Adult child
 - ☐ Grandchild
 - ☐ Friend
- Q48 For those who you know self-loggers, do they share their data/activity with you?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Not sure
- Q49 Do they share their data with you on a regular basis?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Not sure

If you answer NO to Q48 & 49 please go to Q54, Page 12

- Q50 How frequently do they share their data with you? (please check 1 answer)
- ☐ More than once a day
 - ☐ About once a day
 - ☐ More than once a week
 - ☐ More than once a month
 - ☐ Less than once a month
- Q51 Do you enjoy hearing this information?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Sometimes
 - ☐ Not sure

If you answer YES to Q51 please go to Q52

If you answer NO to Q51 please go to Q53

- Q52 If you answered **YES** to **Q51**
Please check why do you enjoy hearing this information?
- ☐ Because it's fun
 - ☐ Because I find this information informative
 - ☐ Because they like sharing information
 - ☐ To inform me of their activities
 - ☐ It motivate me to undertake physical activity
 - ☐ I can provide my opinion(s) about their progress
 - ☐ I can show my support to the recipient during this physical activity
 - ☐ Our communication has increased and improved our friendship
 - ☐ Common interests
 - ☐ Start or continue conversations with friends
 - ☐ Other (please state)
- Q53 If you answered **NO** to **Q51**
Please check why you do not enjoy hearing this information?
- ☐ It is not informative
 - ☐ It doesn't make sense to me
 - ☐ It has not real impact on my life
 - ☐ I don't undertake physical activity & it doesn't interest me
 - ☐ I might laugh at the person for not doing well
 - ☐ Because it is embarrassing
 - ☐ I have problems been motivated myself, I don't want to motivate others
 - ☐ I don't have the time to listen, read, watch or speak about this information
 - ☐ I have my own problems
 - ☐ Other (please specify)

Section F: Sharing Information

- Q54 Do you use digital devices to share information?
When using your digital
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ Sometimes
 - ☐ No

device(s), have you ever shared information (e.g. photo; exercise/ health data; personal feelings, websites?)

- Q55 Do you use traditional methods for sharing information? ☐ Yes
☐ Sometimes
☐ No

If you answer YES to Q54 please go to Q56

If you answer NO to Q54 please go to Q61 – page 14

- Q56 Which digital device(s) or traditional approaches you have used to share information on?

-
- Q57 When did you start sharing your information? (please check 1 answer) ☐ More than 10 years
☐ More than 5 years
☐ More than 2 Years
☐ For 1 year or less
☐ 1 month or less
- Q58 How frequently do you share your information? (please check 1 answer) ☐ More than once a day
☐ About once a day
☐ More than once a week
☐ More than once a month
☐ Less than once a month
☐ I normally do not share information

- Q59 Why are you sharing information? ☐ Because it's fun
☐ To build my confidence
☐ Because I like sharing information
☐ To inform persons of my activities
☐ To feel better
☐ To have others' opinions
☐ To make sure the recipient is thinking of me
☐ To increase amount of communication in friendship
☐ Common interests
☐ Start or continue conversations with friends
☐ Other (please state)

- Q60 What kind of information have you shared? (e.g., social networking sites; what's app, Viber or Twitter) ☐ Photographs
☐ Music (You tube; Spotify; Deezer)
☐ Status updates (e.g. How I'm feeling today)
☐ News articles
☐ Job advertisements

- ☐ Professional meetings (e.g. conferences)
☐ Salutations (e.g. Happy Birthday to a friend or new job)
☐ Personal health data (e.g. number of steps counted via a Fitbit)
☐ Physical fitness (e.g. running route)
☐ Other (please specify)
- Q61 Would you consider sharing information? (e.g. on Social media sites, specific health/app related websites)
 ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure
- Q62 What concerns do you have about sharing your information (please check all that apply)
 ☐ Information being stolen
☐ Others wouldn't be interested
☐ I don't know how to share this information
☐ It is my data and I don't want to share it
☐ Others might laugh at me
☐ Because it is embarrassing
☐ Sharing could make others evaluate me negatively
☐ Sharing could result in a loss of control over who knows this about me
☐ Sharing could result in an increase in telephone or mail solicitations from 3rd party companies
☐ Other (please specify)

Section G: Demographic Information

- Q63 What is your age? _____
- Q64 What is the annual household income _____
- Q65 Do you have private health insurance?
 ☐ Yes
☐ No

If you have answered YES to Q65 please go to 6

If you have answered NO to Q65 please go to Q67

- Q66 Would you consider wearing a Fitbit device if your insurance company agreed to provide you with a year discount for accessing your information?
 ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not sure
☐ Maybe, but I would like to know more information

- Q67 What is your sex? ☐ Male
☐ Female
- Q68 What is your marital status? ☐ Single
☐ Married/Living with partner
☐ Widowed
☐ Other
- Q69 Are you currently employed? ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Retired
- Q70 What level of education have you gained? (highest gained, please check 1 answer) ☐ Grade 8
☐ High school
☐ College
☐ Bachelors degree
☐ Master's degree
☐ PhD
☐ Other (please state)
- Q71 Who do you live with? ☐ Live alone
☐ With spouse or partner
☐ With adult child
☐ With grandchild
☐ With family, friend or acquaintance
☐ Other (please state)_____
- Q72 What type of community do you live in? ☐ Rural (<2500)
☐ Small town (2501-10000)
☐ City (10 000+)

Q73 How often do you engage in physical activity? (please select 1 answer)

| Never | Infrequent | Neutral | Once a day | More than once a day |
|-------|------------|---------|------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Q74 How do you rate your current health status (please select 1 answer)

| Very unhealthy | Somewhat unhealthy | Neutral | Somewhat healthy | Very healthy |
|----------------|--------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Thank you for completing the survey.

Appendix 5: Recruitment Flyer

Technology In Later Life (TILL) Project

1. *Are you a user of a PC, mobile telephone, the Internet, social media sites (e.g. Facebook) or do you play video games?*
2. *Do you record data about your daily activities (e.g. medication use/petrol consumption)?*
3. *Do you use pen/paper or a digital device such as Fitbit or Jawbone to record your daily activities?*
4. *Do you share your recorded daily activities with anyone (e.g. friends, family, or support networks)?*

If you answered YES to any of the above questions we want to hear from you!!

The Till Project (<http://tillproject.weebly.com/>) is led by the Open University (OU) in the UK & examines the use of technologies in the 21st Century & the management of personal activities from *photographs, holidays, experiences to health and fitness* by adults aged 70+ years

To sign up please contact <Researcher name here in respective country>.

<Email address or Telephone Number>



Technology In Later Life (TILL) Project

Is a multi-centred study led by Dr. H.R. Marston a research fellow at the Open University, UK & includes the following institutions:

Swansea University, Wales - Dr. C. Musselwhite

University of Northern British Columbia, PPG, - Dr. S. Freeman

University of Regina, SK - Dr. R. Genoe

North Rhine Westphalia & Lower Saxony, Germany - Dr. I. Eysers

The purpose of TILL is to gain a snapshot of technology use and behaviour by adults aged 70+ years in different environmental settings and continents.

It is envisaged that this data will form a baseline for further exploration & to understand how our older adults share their information with friends, family, & support networks.

We would like to hear from you if you use technology in your life &/or record your activities such as holidays, health/exercise experiences, medication use, & general technology behaviour.

Appendix 6: Recruitment Poster

Technology In Later Life (TILL) Project

1. *Are you a user of a PC, mobile telephone, the Internet, social media sites (e.g. Facebook) or do you play video games?*
2. *Do you record data about your daily activities (e.g. medication use/petrol consumption)?*
3. *Do you use pen/paper or a digital device such as Fitbit or Jawbone to record your daily activities?*
4. *Do you share your recorded daily activities with anyone (e.g. friends, family, or support networks)?*

If you answered YES to any of the above questions we want to hear from you!!

The Till Project (<http://tillproject.weebly.com/>) is led by the Open University (OU) in the UK & examines the use of technologies in the 21st Century & the management of personal activities from *photographs, holidays, experiences to health and fitness* by adults aged 70+ years

To sign up please contact <Researcher name here in respective country>.

<Email address or Telephone Number>



Appendix 7: Script for mailing lists

Script for mailing list – Technology & the later life; what's it all about?
(<http://tillproject.weebly.com/>)

Technology & the later life; what's it all about? Investigates how technology is used and owned by adults aged 70+ to enhance their activities of daily living. During the focus group, a series of questions will be asked to explore what types of technology devices are owned and to explore the perceptions of technology. Additional questions will be posed to explore participant's privacy concerns and use of sharing information through their technologies while posing where they see technology moving in the future (e.g. robots) and what needs and requirements they feel are needed.

This study is been conducted by Dr. Hannah R. Marston (principle investigator), Centre for Research Computing, the Open University, UK, Dr. Charles Musselwhite – Centre for Innovative Ageing, Swansea University, Dr. Shannon Freeman – School of Health Sciences, University of Northern British Columbia, Canada; Dr. Cory Kulczycki & Dr. Rebecca Genoe, Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies, University of Regina, SK.

We are currently seeking volunteers to participate in this study.

You will be asked to attend 1 focus groups comprising of a maximum of 10 persons. During the focus group session you will be asked to complete a consort form, actively engage with the group discussion which will be recorded for the purpose of data transcription and analysis and at the end complete a survey.

If you are interested in participating or have any questions about the study please email or telephone (the name would be replaced for the respective study country)

Dr. Hannah R. Marston at Hannah.Marston@open.ac.uk / 07815507547

Dr. Charles Musselwhite at c.b.a.musselwhite@swansea.ac.uk / 01792 518696

Dr Cory Kulczycki at Cory.Kulczycki@uregina.ca / 306-585-4841

Dr. Shannon Freeman at Shannon.Freeman@unbc.ca

This study has been reviewed and received ethics clearance through the Ethics Committee at the Open University, England, UK. Additionally, all respective sites have been granted ethical clearance by the respective ethics committee.