

KTH ROYAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Digital technology use for home care: User perspective

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Age, life stage and digital technology use





Factors influencing digital technology use

Personal factors



	factors	factors
Attitudes towards technology	Financial resources	Corporate processes
Perceived usefulness and ease-of-use	Cultural resources	Macro-economic changes
Cognitivie abilities	Education level	Availability
Digital literacy and skills	Social relationships and networks	Accessibility
Self-efficacy	Household structure	Ownership

Socio-demographic

Socio-economic

Kuoppamäki, S. (2018). The role of age and life course stage in digital consumption. University of Jyväskylä, Finland.



Digital technology use among older adults

Survey for 55-79 year-old smartphone users in 2019 in Sweden (N=121)



I use my smartphone for ...

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Digital technology use for social connectedness

Exploratory factor analysis (EFA) and General Linear Model (GLM)

Connectednes s with personal relationships*	Connectedness with community**	Connectedne ss with society***
+ Finding out about current events + Looking up for practical information	+ Text messages and WhatsApp + Images, videos and Audio ++ Watching, TV, video ++ Findings out about events ++ Looking up for practical information	+ Looking up for practical information

- Smartphone use is positively associated with connectedness with community, and less associated with connectedness with personal relationships and society.
- Older adults who use their smartphone in a more versatile way report more social activities with community than respondents with less versatile digital activity.

* Contacts with friends and family

**Having social activities, Attending events, Sharing information

*** Attending voluntary activities



Kitchen technologies and independent living

- Cooking is a skill that consists of combining, mixing, processing and handling ingredients
- Technological systems for instructional guidance: 'Cooking Navi'[1], 'Smart VideoCooKing'[2], MimiCook' [3] 'Shadow Cooking' [4]
- Representational modalities for giving feedback on cooking: computer-enhanced cooking pans^[5], sensors to detect thermal information^[6], or monitor the skill level of the cook ^[7]
- Technological systems for social and experiential aspects of cooking: 'Living CookBook'[8], 'SmartKitchen' [9], 'Talking Bottle' [10]
- Adapting these systems in real-life is difficult: they are perceived invasive, distracting and difficult to use





Digital Kitchen and ageing-in-place

- Cooking is meaningful for older adults' ability to live in their own home, for connections, security and familiarity
- Age-related physical, cognitive and social changes may affect personal interests, needs, capabilities to cook a meal in a healthy and functional way
- 'Ambient Assisted Living Applications' [12]:
- 'Smart Kitchen' for persons with cognitive impariments [13]: Communal cooking with residents and their instructors in sheltered living facilities
- 'Messaging Kettle'[13]: Sharing the experience of cooking together through distance





Physical interaction with kitchen tools

1. Cutting and chopping



2. Opening the packages





2. Organisation and coordination of tasks

2.1 Switching and synchronising tasks



2.2 Monitoring tasks





Designing assistance in the kitchen

	Cooking task	Type of intervention
Operational assistance	Cutting and chopping	Provision of physical strength and dexterity
	Opening the packages	Maintenance, availability and selection of tools Assessment of abilities and difficulties
Instructional assistance	Switching between and synchronising tasks	Suggestion of alternative actions Coordination and temporal alignment of two simultaneous tasks
	Monitoring tasks	Tracking location of objects and their movements Tracking different tasks and their progression



Design propositions for assistive technologies

To support older adults' independent living, digital kitchen technologies should...



- Provide support in the maintenance, availability and selection of tools in a way that reinforces user's skills and competences
- Track and suggest alternative methods to perform tasks in a way that encourages user adaptability
- Suggest alternative actions and coordinate tasks in a way that it encourages user's participation
- Assess and re-assess the progression of tasks in a way that reinforces user's sense of security



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Thank you!

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