B. Boudin, J. Gaucher, J. Vezine. French adaptation of the Technology Acceptance Model Questionnaire. Gerontechnology 2010;9(2):267; doi:10.4017/gt.2010.09.02.132.00 **Purpose** Information and communication technologies (ICT) are playing an increasingly significant role in supporting healthcare for the elderly. ICT have great potential but satisfactory instruments in French to assess their acceptability are still lacking. Having such an instrument would allow Gerontechnology professionals to assess the relevance of their products and their dissemination opportunities. The Technology Acceptance Model[1] (TAM) is one of the most influential models of the acceptance process. We have chosen to translate Venkatesh's TAM questionnaire[2] and adapt it in French. In this study, we tested the French adaptation of the TAM questionnaire's internal reliability, and its construct validity using principal component analysis of a sample of elderly people. **Method** From Venkatesh's TAM questionnaire, we chose items from the two constructs 'Perceived Usefulness' (PU) and 'Perceived Ease of Use' (PEOU). These two have shown their relevance and this section allows us to reduce the length of the instrument in order to be adapted to elderly people. The original questions were translated in French and back translated into English[3]. When the questionnaire was considered correctly translated, it was submitted to a group of elderly people and gerontologist colleagues to assess its face validity. Two items were added to assess the Behavioural Intention to use the technology (BI). The questionnaire and a return envelope were given to the students of the 'University of the Third Age' during their registration. Of the 2140 questionnaires distributed, 352 participants returned the questionnaire. Of these, 210 were fully completed. **Results & Discussion** Respondents' age ranged from 31 to 89 years old (M=67.1; SD=7.9). The determinant coefficient, the KMO's test and the Bartlett's test of sphericity all supported factorability of the correlation matrix. Principal component analysis revealed the presences of at least two components with eigenvalues exceeding one. Items from the PU and BI loaded on the first factor and items from PEOU on the second one. The Cronbach's alpha for the first factor was 0.93 and 0.96 for the second one. To our knowledge, this is the first French study to test the reliability and validity of the TAM questionnaire with the elderly. These preliminary results are very encouraging and a second study is underway to test the acceptance of an emergency alarm among elderly users.

References

1. Davis F. Perceived Usefulness, Perceived Ease of Use, and User Acceptance of Information Technology. MIS Quarterly 1989;13(3):319-340
2. Venkatesh V, Morris M, Davis G, Davis F. User acceptance of information technology: toward a unified view. MIS Quarterly 2003;27(3):425-478
3. Hambleton R. The next generation of the ITC test translation and adaptation guidelines. European Journal of Psychology Assessment. 2001; 7(3):164-172

Address: Universite de Lyon, France; E: bertrand.boudin@univ-lyon2.fr