

L. JENNINGS, K. HADJRI, G. ABDELMONEM. **ICT-uptake in older peoples' home environments.** *Gerontechnology* 2012;11(2):296; doi:10.4017/gt.2012.11.02.373.00 **Purpose** This research will endeavour to learn from best practice in Europe while acknowledging that the perceptions of information and communication technologies (ICT) will vary according to different cultures and user groups. In terms of the meaning of the home environment to older people, we intended to create a more coherent body of research based on the context of the home, and to develop a contextual understanding of the meaning of home including the physical, spatial, social, personal, and technical aspects. In terms of ICT in home environments, the proposed research aims to discover the possibilities of ICT in enabling older people to age-in-place, and to define the factors influencing its acceptability within the home environment. The overall focus of the research is to offer guidance that would enable older people to age in place and to gauge their uptake of smart technologies that provide ambient assisted living. **Method** An extensive literature review on the meaning of home, ageing in place and ICT in the home environment of older people is being carried out<sup>1-2</sup>. Face-to-face semi-structured interviews will be conducted with two groups of older people on the island of Ireland – one living in mainstream housing, and the other living in smart homes – in order to investigate their understanding of the meaning of home, how they interact with their physical environment and ICT, and finally to assess their understanding and potential use and adoption of ICT at home. **Results & Discussion** This research will provide insight into the meaning of home and the challenges associated with ageing in place. It will also establish the principal factors influencing the uptake of technology into the home environment of older people. Results from this research will enable the development of guidance on how best to place these technologies into the home environment of older people to enable them age in place successfully.

**References**

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