

M.G.E.F. ANTONIETTI, A. BARAKAT, H.S.M. KORT. **Predictors for the use of remote telecare in older adults in the Netherlands.** *Gerontechnology* 2013; 12(1):55; doi:10.4017/gt.2013.12.1.001.00 **Purpose** e-Health technology can support older adults to age-in-place. Although the use of eHealth technology in older adults increases, they have more difficulties to learn to use this new technology than young adults¹. Knowledge of predictors for the use of eHealth products in older adults can improve the acceptance process of e-Health technology such as remote telecare (RTC) systems². The Centre of Research and Education on Aging and Technology (CREATE) has completed research to reveal predictors for technology use in older adults³. In this study we want to test if the predictors, found by CREATE and by observations from Dutch pilot studies, apply for Dutch older adults who live at home independently. The found predictors form the basis to develop a course for older adults to increase engineering literacy. **Method** A battery of modified validated questionnaires is used to measure the possible predictor items. The items tested are: demographic data, perceived health status, use of technology, motivation for self-reliance, perceived privacy and security, facilitators, usability, costs, cognitive ability and willingness to use RTC. An observation list is developed to measure technology related skills in the homes of the subjects. Subjects in this study are chronically ill people with the age of 65+ who live alone independently (n=120). Experience with video communication is not required. **Results & Discussion** From predictors found in earlier studies it is expected that age has the best predictive value for the use of RTC. Moreover it is expected that most of the tested items contain predictive value for the willingness to use RTC. Outcomes of this study give us a better understanding of where to focus on in the development of a course for older adults to use RTC and will contribute to a successful implementation of RTC for older adults in the Netherlands.

References

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