

**CORNSOUP, an interactive service platform for older persons**

C-Y. LEE, H-H. LIN. **CORNSOUP, an interactive service platform for older persons: A usability pilot.** *Gerontechnology 2014; 13(2):234; doi:10.4017/gt.2014.13.02.416.00* **Purpose** A service-integrated healthcare device with a user-friendly interface can assist elderly people in easily obtaining health-related information. For personal healthcare management, we can use ICT technology to measure personal physiological values such as glucose values, and to transmit the associated data through the internet to a back-end medical care center organized by medical specialists. This type of technology has been applied to Parkinson’s disease patients<sup>1</sup>, diabetic children<sup>2</sup>, patients with heart palpitations<sup>3</sup> and dialysis patients<sup>4</sup>. This paper presents an interactive service platform for patients and the elderly. The services provided by this platform, on which these services run, are highly diversified based on different technological innovations as well as organizational architecture. **Method** Figure 1 shows CornSoup, an Android-based service platform that is embedded in a smart monitor with a touchscreen. To make a preliminary assessment of effectiveness, usability, usefulness, affective quality, and ethical issues relevant to our system, we conducted a small usability study for six elderly participants aged 62 to 68, four female and two male. The goal of this usability study was to evaluate the design and navigation of a new interactive application. **Results & Discussion** Table1 gives an overview of the number of tasks successfully solved, the tasks solved with help (help was defined for each task), and tasks not solved initially or at all due to exceeding the time limit. Difficulties for elderly people often arise in using and navigating through the information provided because the elderly are often less familiar with the conventions required to use small electronic devices. The CornSoup application has to consider the cognitive and physical limitations that many patients and elderly people experience (e.g. visual impairments).



Figure1. CornSoup service platform user interface

**References**

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Table 1. Overview of tasks in the usability test

Task	Solved	Solved with help	Not solved
T1: Open TV	5	1	0
T2: Download App	4	2	0
T3: Read newspaper	5	0	1
T4: Change newspaper resource	6	0	0
T5: Bookmark newspaper	5	1	0
T6: Select: Taipei weather	6	0	0