

W.F. Chan, D.R. Philips, O.L. Siu. *A qualitative and quantitative study of information technology usage and quality of life among older persons in Hong Kong. Gerontechnology 2008; 7(2):91.* In a high technology era, rapid developments in information technology (IT) have the potential to transform the living of older persons. Aging tends to be associated with reduction of health and resources, which can be especially important in the adoption of new technology. However, the role of IT is becoming influential in our daily living though the digital services such as e-mail, e-banking and e-shopping. Therefore, older persons inevitably come across various IT-related products, especially computers and the Internet in their daily living. Moreover, quality of life of older persons is important for the achievement of successful ageing. This study will explore the relationship between IT usage and the quality of life among older persons in order to determine the main reasons why they use and how they learn about IT. The research findings will potentially contribute to the improvement of older persons' well being and attainment of successful ageing, especially in a rapidly ageing society such as Hong Kong. **Methods** The study employed combined techniques of quantitative and qualitative approaches. A purposive sample of twelve older persons was invited to participate in two focus group discussions (FGD). Nine in-depth interviews with key informants were then conducted with respondents from both professional and older persons' groups. A face-to face survey will be conducted by cluster sampling methods in early 2008. **Results and discussion** The results showed that older persons held a positive attitude towards IT usage. Moreover, an integrated model, which adopted the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)<sup>1</sup>, Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB)<sup>2</sup> and Innovation Diffusion Theory (IDT)<sup>3</sup>, has been formed by analyzing the FGDs, in-depth interviews and an extensive literature review, to understand the usage behavior of IT among selected older persons in Hong Kong.

#### References

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**Keywords:** ICT usage, quality of life, older adults

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