

C. Oppenauer, I. Kryspin-Exner. *A multidisciplinary view to motivational aspects in gerontechnology*. *Gerontechnology* 2008; 7(2):180. Multidisciplinary research and models in the gerontology field are necessary for a profound knowledge and understanding of motivational processes in old people concerning their use of technologies and how to train and motivate old people to use technology. The aim of this essay is to discuss models from different disciplines in regard to the motivation of old people to use new technical devices or systems and which reasons might prevent these population group from benefiting from technical assistance. **Main part** First starting points of the Maslows' needs hierarchy¹ including criticism will be discussed. Further a important theory in the field of gerontology the Socio-Emotional Selectivity Theory by Carstensen² will show that motivational aspects are strongly connected with social and environmental conditions. More concepts from other fields such as organisational psychology and the field of management theories will be presented and useful considerations in the implementation, development and design of gerontechnology products will be demonstrated. **Discussion** Since in gerontechnology there is no satisfactory model used for motivation³ this essay tries to overcome this problem by discussing new aspects and models of diverse disciplines which could be useful for a better understanding of acceptance and use of technology in old age.

References

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