

C. LE NAVENEC, S. HIRST. *Understanding the experiences of older adults who use health promotive technology: A research update. Gerontechnology 2010;9(2):299;*

doi:10.4017/gt.2010.09.02.147.00 **Purpose** Physical constraints need not keep older adults from participating in their communities. Now, thanks to the Internet and the World Wide Web, they can meet people and share experiences without ever leaving their homes. In addition, researchers are using sensors, computers, and communication technology systems, along with supportive health care services to monitor the health of older adults who are living at home. Early identification of these changes can prompt health care interventions that can delay or prevent serious health events for older adults. This paper presents a literature review, the objective of which was to provide better understanding of the experiences of older adults who use health promotive technology to promote aging in place. Knowledge of the experience of living with such technology is important in order to be proactive in providing quality nursing and health care. **Method** A meta-synthesis of studies was completed. Studies were retrieved via computerized literature searches, cross referencing from original and review articles, and a review of reference lists by two recognized gerontological nurses and a social worker. The inclusion criteria were as follows: reporting on the health promotive technology experience of an older member with; published in the English language; indexed between September 1999 and September 2009; and research (defined as containing a statement of the purpose and a description of methods and findings, regardless of whether such terms were used). Ongoing analysis was done using a matrix, and codes and categories were added, combined, or deleted. Underlying the analysis process was a series of questions: What types of research questions are being asked? Are the findings of the different studies similar? What are the themes emerging from the findings? What are the implications for health care practice? **Results & Discussion** The completed analysis provided enhanced understanding of the complexity of providing technological driven health promotive care to older adults living at home. The implications for educating health professionals working with older adult populations about health promotive technology is addressed, particularly the need to disseminate findings from the voluminous literature on this topic.

Keywords: health promotive technology, older adults

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