CORA Cork Open Research Archive
Cartlann Taighde Oscailte Chorcaí

Title	An exploration of the feasibility and acceptability of wearable technology in Parkinson's Disease: 255
Authors	Kenny, Lorna;O'Riordan, Clíona;Wilkinson, Tony;O'Sullivan, Mary;Agurjanovs, Janis;Tedesco, Salvatore;Sica, Marco;Crowe, Colum;Barton, John;Timmons, Suzanne
Publication date	2019-09-16
Original Citation	Kenny, L., O'Riordan, C., Wilkinson, T., O'Sullivan, M., Agurjanovs, J., Tedesco, S., Sica, M., Crowe, C., Barton, J. and Timmons, S. (2019) ' An Exploration of the Feasibility and Acceptability of Wearable Technology in Parkinson's Disease: 255', Age and Ageing, 48(Supplement_3), pp. iii1-iii16. doi: 10.1093/ageing/afz102.59
Type of publication	Article (peer-reviewed)
Link to publisher's version	https://academic.oup.com/ageing/article/48/Supplement_3/iii1/5570199 - 10.1093/ageing/afz102.59
Rights	© The Author(s) 2019. Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the British Geriatrics Society. All rights reserved. For permissions, please email: journals.permissions@oup.com
Download date	2026-11-16 07:43:59
Item downloaded from	https://hdl.handle.net/10468/10391



University College Cork, Ireland
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh

Age and Ageing 2019; **48:** iii1–iii16
doi: 10.1093/ageing/afz102.59
© The Author(s) 2019. Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of the British Geriatrics Society.
All rights reserved. For permissions, please email: journals.permissions@oup.com

Oral presentations

255 AN EXPLORATION OF THE FEASIBILITY AND ACCEPTABILITY OF WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY IN PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Lorna Kenny[1], Clíona O'Riordan[1], Tony Wilkinson[2], Mary O'Sullivan[2], Janis Agurjanovs[3], Salvatore Tedesco[4], Marco Sica[4], Colum Crowe[4], John Barton[4], Suzanne Timmons[1]
[1] *Centre for Gerontology and Rehabilitation, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland*
[2] *Parkinson's Association of Ireland, Cork Branch, Cork, Ireland*
[3] *Department of Accounting, Finance and Information Systems, Cork University Business School, Cork, Ireland*
[4] *Tyndall National Institute, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland*

Background: Wearable technology is increasingly used to diagnose, monitor and manage neurological disorders such as Parkinson's Disease (PD). This study aims to gain information about the views and needs of people with Parkinson's (PwP's) regarding wearable technology for monitoring the disease and assisting its management.
Methods: The study employed a mixed methods parallel design, wherein focus-groups and questionnaires were concurrently conducted with people with PwP's in Munster. Questionnaires and topic guides were developed with significant input from PwP's. The participants for focus-groups were purposively sampled for variation in PD stage, age (all >50 years) and sex. Questionnaire and focus-group results were analysed together, using a pragmatic triangulation protocol.
Results: Thirty-two questionnaires were completed by PwP's. Four semi-structured focus-groups were held (n=24 participants). Participants were overall positive about wearable technology in PD, and perceived benefits in wearable technology for improved management of symptoms. Wearables should be user-friendly, have an appealing design, and demonstrate clinical usefulness. Comfort and discrete design were emphasised for greater usability.
The value of sharing information between PwP's and health professionals for improved outcomes was highlighted. PwP's perceived that increased patient data in the form of reliable information from a wearable device may allow for more accurate management of PD. Participants also felt that a device could help increase physical activity, and potentially track compliance with medication. There was little focus on device safety and privacy/ownership of data. While participants anticipated that there may be challenges for some in wearing a device, they believed overall potential benefits would outweigh these.
Conclusion: Engagement of PwP's in the design of wearable technology is vital for the development of devices that improve the management of PD. This study will directly inform a multi-country feasibility study of wearable devices for older people, with a particular focus on the needs of PwP's.

Downloaded from https://academic.oup.com/ageing/article/48/Supplement_3/iii1/5570199 by guest on 07 August 2020