



EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Project ID: 36909

Project title: Digital Health Support for Ageing Populations in Malaysia

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You are invited to take part in this study. Please read this explanatory statement in full before deciding whether or not to participate in this research. If you would like further information regarding any aspect of this project, you are encouraged to contact the researchers via the phone numbers or email addresses listed above.

This is a student research project by Sharifah Rose Ee, who is a PhD student at the School of Arts and Social Sciences, Monash University Malaysia.

What does the research involve, and why were you invited for this research?

This research aims to investigate the perception, needs, challenges and motivations of community-dwelling older adults living with chronic conditions in Malaysia with regards to digital health technology. You are invited to take part in this study if:

- you are 60 years old and above, and residing in Malaysia
- you have a chronic condition that does not affect your cognitive and intellectual ability, and also not be highly dependent on medical care (eg. bedridden, unable to use a smartphone)
- you own a smartphone

The study will take place at a suitable location that is convenient for you and may take approximately 1.5 hours of your time. Upon getting your consent to participate in this research, you will first be asked to provide some background information about yourself. This will be followed by getting you to take me through your use of a mobile health (mHealth) application on your smartphone. After which, I will ask you some questions to get more insights on your thoughts on digital health technology. During this session, your mobile screen will be recorded as you navigate through the mHealth application and our conversation will be audio recorded. Rest assured that only the mHealth application that you are navigating on your mobile phone will be recorded.

You were invited to this research because you confirmed that you meet the participants' eligibility criteria. The confirmation will be obtained through the signed consent form.

Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research

Please note that the study involves audio recording of our conversation and the video recording of your mobile screen as you navigate through the mobile health application. Rest assured that only the mHealth application that you are navigating on your mobile phone will be recorded.

If you are agreeable to these arrangements and would like to participate, you will have to sign a consent form and return it to the research team. Participation in this research is entirely voluntary. However, you can withdraw at any stage of participation without any implications.

Possible benefits and risks to participants

Your participation and valuable input will contribute to the development of better digital health technologies. The study involves navigating through a mobile health application, which some participants might find frustrating. You can request to pause or opt-out at any time. Rest assured, participation will lead to nothing more than minor discomfort. There are no anticipated risks in participating in this study. Any information and experiences shared during the interview such as your name and contact information will be kept strictly confidential. No personally identifiable information will be included in any reports of this research.

Payment

You will receive a RM50 voucher at the end of the study as a token of appreciation.

Confidentiality and storage of data

Your name and contact details (eg. email and/or number) will be collected as part of the consent process. Our conversation during the study will be audio recorded. Before the start of the study, you will be assigned a pseudonym, which will be used throughout the study. This ensures that all raw data are de-identified. Data will be kept confidential and used only for a thesis and possible academic publications. Data will be kept secured in a password-protected storage device and in an encrypted cloud storage system by the research team.

Results

You can access the results via Monash University site and the student researcher's site after publication. You can also attend any of the academic platforms (eg. conferences or forums) where the results will be shared.

Complaints

Should you have any concerns or complaints about the conduct of the project, you are welcome to contact:

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Thank you,



Dr Tan Meng Yoe