

# International research project on the acceptance of electronic Assisted Living Technology (eALT)

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## Introduction

There are many technologies that can help to support everyday life, but so far, electronic Assisted Living Technologies, or eALT have not made a major impact on the European market, although the demand is huge. 45 million people in the EU are dependent on assistance, and as the demographics change, enquiries for support in everyday life can only increase. In spite of the demand, the acceptance for ALT technologies is still relatively low. In Britain, only 15% of older people use a home emergency call system. In other European countries, the proportion of emergency call users is even lower. For example, in Germany, the proportion is less than three percent.

Such figures pose a question: **How can we raise the acceptance of technological support for everyday life?** Following this, the company Verklizan launched a trans-national and multi-disciplinary research project to investigate further. Researchers from the UK (Coventry University), the Netherlands, Spain and Germany will explore the important factors that have a positive or negative influence on the acceptance of ALT in Europe.

This questionnaire seeks to explore the views of important stakeholders regarding the enablers and barriers to eALT adoption. It doesn't matter how much or how little experience you have with eALT – we are looking for stakeholders with a variety of experience to inform our results.

## Why have I been chosen?

You have been chosen because you are a member of one of our four identified stakeholder groups:

- Companies that produce eALT technologies
- Organisations that provide eALT services
- Educational institutions
- Health and social care organisations

Therefore, you may have an interest in taking part in a questionnaire that explores enablers and barriers to eALT adoption by older people.

## What will happen if I decide to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not you want to take part in this research. If you decide to take part, please visit the following link to take part in a questionnaire:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8WS6PDT>

By clicking and completing and submitting your answers, you will be providing consent for your data (the answers you give) to be used as part of the research. If you change your mind about taking part whilst

completing the questionnaire, just click the 'X' in the top right hand of the computer window – your answers will not be recorded.

You will not need to provide any personal details or details about the organisation you work for – the questionnaire is anonymous. You will have the option to leave an email address to receive the results at the end of the questionnaire, but this will not be linked to the answers you provide, and will only be used to inform you of the results.

The time spent to complete the questionnaire is up to you, but we estimate it will take you about 10 minutes.

### **What are the advantages and disadvantages of taking part?**

The advantages of taking part are that you will be contributing to a study that seeks to explore the enablers and barriers with regards to eALT use. This knowledge may be useful for eALT stakeholders. No risks or disadvantages have been identified.

### **What will happen to the results of the evaluation?**

The results of the evaluation will be presented in a publicly available report. You will have the option to leave your email address at the end of the questionnaire if you wish to receive the report.

### **Who is organising and conducting the research?**

The evaluation is being organised and funded by Verklizan, and is being conducted by researchers at Coventry University, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, HU University of Applied Sciences, and Beuth Hochschule für Technik.

### **Who has reviewed the research?**

The research has been reviewed through the Coventry University Ethics Process.

### **Contact information**

If you would like further information about the evaluation, or have any questions, please contact the main researcher for the UK branch of the project:

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**Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet.**