



PEARLS PITHS AND PROVOCATIONS

The story of an Interdisciplinary Research
Collaboration

30th April, 2012

Interdisciplinary and interfaculty team

- Nursing (Dr Christine Brown Wilson)
- Health Psychology (Prof.Chris Todd)
- Engineering (Prof. Krikor Ozanyan)
- Physics (Dr. Patricia Scully and Dr.Phyllis Fiadzomor)
- Care providers and people with dementia

**Using technology to promote
independence in people living
with dementia in supported
living environments**

Sept 2010-July 2011

Aims of the project

- To undertake a systematic review on 'smart technologies' used for people living with dementia in supported living environments
- To convene a one day event in partnership with DeNDRoN to promote collaboration with users and carers in the development of a proposal
- To convene an expert working group.

Pearls

- Working with well- respected academics from other disciplines and gaining a different perspective of research methods.
- The opportunity to apply technology research to real world problems in health care .
- Interaction with potential end-users of technology and gaining a better understanding of their needs

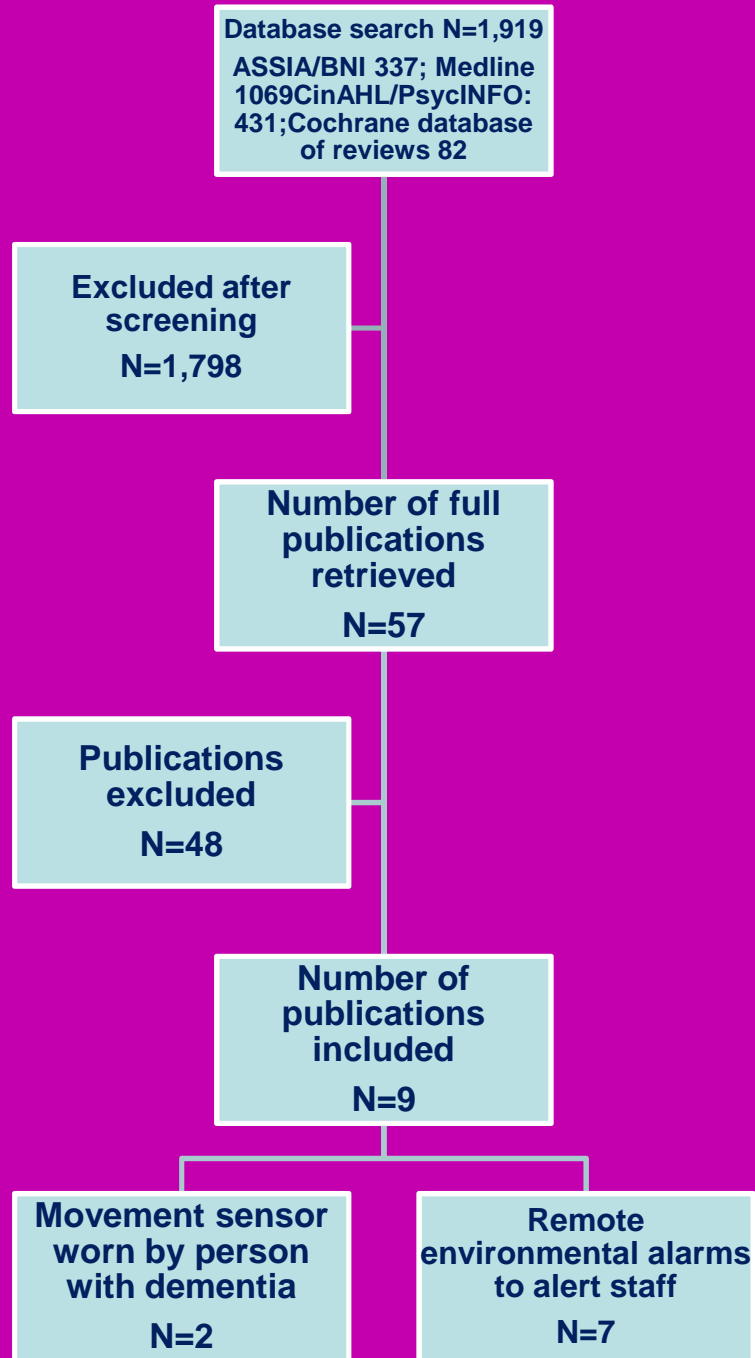
Piths

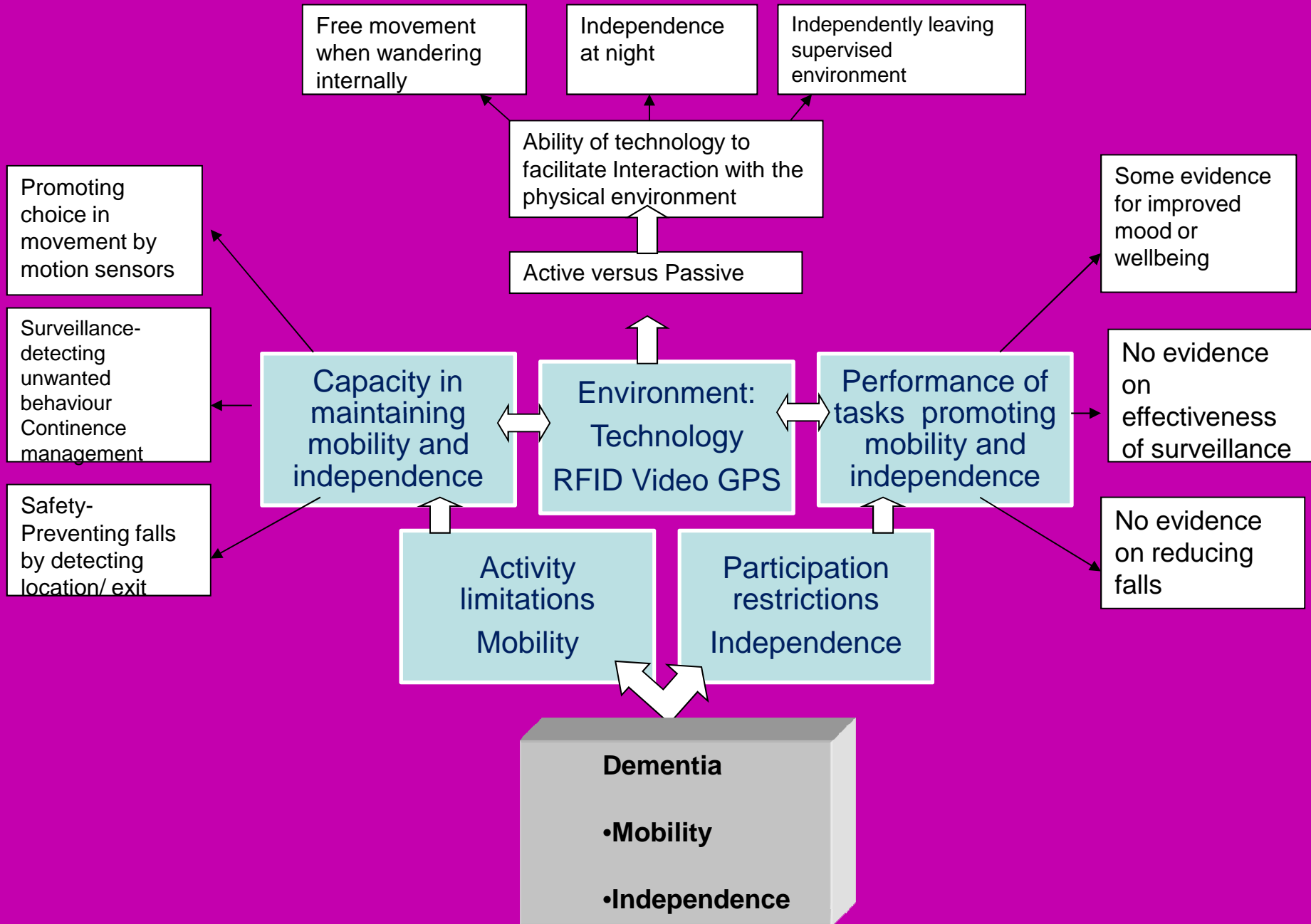
- The different perspectives of end user need when working with technology
- Person with Dementia
- Family care givers
- NHS Professionals
- Care home Staff
- Care home management

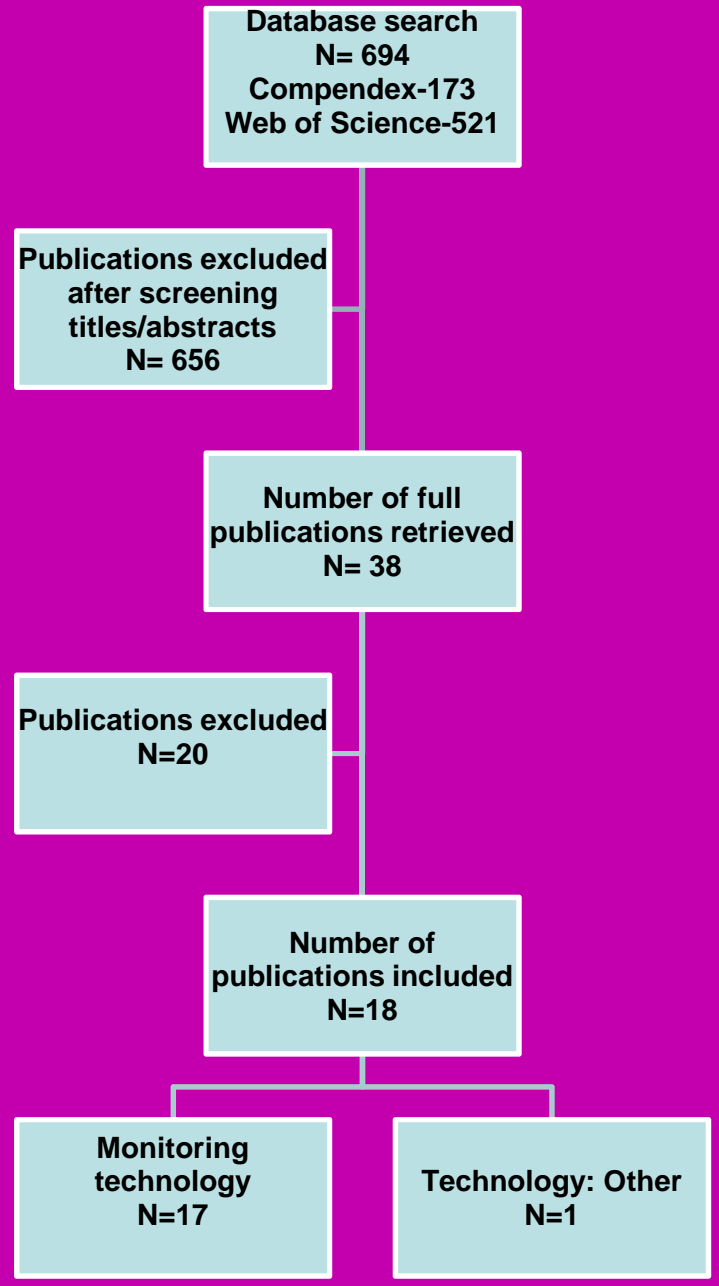
Provocations

- Conducting an interdisciplinary systematic review
- Health perspective v's technology perspective
- What was being reported in health literature was not comparable to reporting in technology literature

Figure 1







Piths

Broad descriptors of studies	Developing the technology and infra structure- proof of principle in lab or real world;	development of user interface including implementation in real world environment +/-Interviews with staff	Interviews with staff; family caregivers, people with dementia
Stages of development	Design= putting together new system in lab or designing new system Development= putting together components in a real world environment	Deployment= asking end users (staff or people with dementia) to use the system with residents, Testing= considered additional elements/ refining of system	Evaluation of outcomes =quality of care (ie activity patterns , falls, organisation of care) or staff and family caregiver satisfaction

Provocations

- Different areas of expertise- each party needs to have a clear idea of the others background and motivations
- Aligning our main interests
- This took time
- Fitting the funding criteria of the different funding bodies- falling between the stools

More Pearls

- An establishes interdisciplinary research group involving nursing, engineering, care providers and users
- One systematic review publication
- Developed a proposal for an interdisciplinary PhD studentship funded by BBSRC
- Successful award internal ESPRC funding to develop predictive capacity of sensor mat
- NIHR research proposal submitted to Research for Patient Benefit (Competition 16)

Next steps

- Development of novel technology for Early Illness detection based on stakeholder feedback
- From design to deployment
- What is the value of integrating technology in residential care environments for: person with dementia; family caregivers and staff?
- What is the impact on independence or mobility as a primary outcome for people with dementia.