



Independence, Reassurance, Innovation?  
The role of assistive technology in carer  
support

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The Carers' Resource is an independent, award-winning Yorkshire charity which gives tailored information and support to carers and those in need of care. We help people to remain independent and have choice and control to improve their lives and circumstances. A journey through Carers' Resource involves as much support as is appropriate, often involving more than one team at any one time. Here we present the work of our different teams

Admin and reception

Information

Casework

Development

 carers'  
resource

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Ripon  
01765 690222

Craven and Airedale  
01756 700888

Bradford  
01274 449660

[www.carersresource.org](http://www.carersresource.org)

Young Carers and families

Public relations

Domiciliary Care

Volunteering

Learning, training and employment

# Why? Presenting issues

I can't leave him at home, he forgets to take his medication and wont let the nurses in

I get so many phone calls whilst I'm at work asking ..... My boss is great, but it is distracting.

If mum's having a bad day I skip lessons sometimes so I can go home and check her

I worry about letting her catch the bus on her own – some days I even follow in the car



# Innovation to support and earn



Cartoon used with kind permission of <http://timoelliott.com/>



# App4Care



Tasks



Panic



Contact



Trip/Fall



Locator



Info



Wellbeing



# Making a Difference

One tester supports a child of 11 years old who has Autism, just about to go to secondary school. They report greater independence, as instructions come from the phone and not Mum!

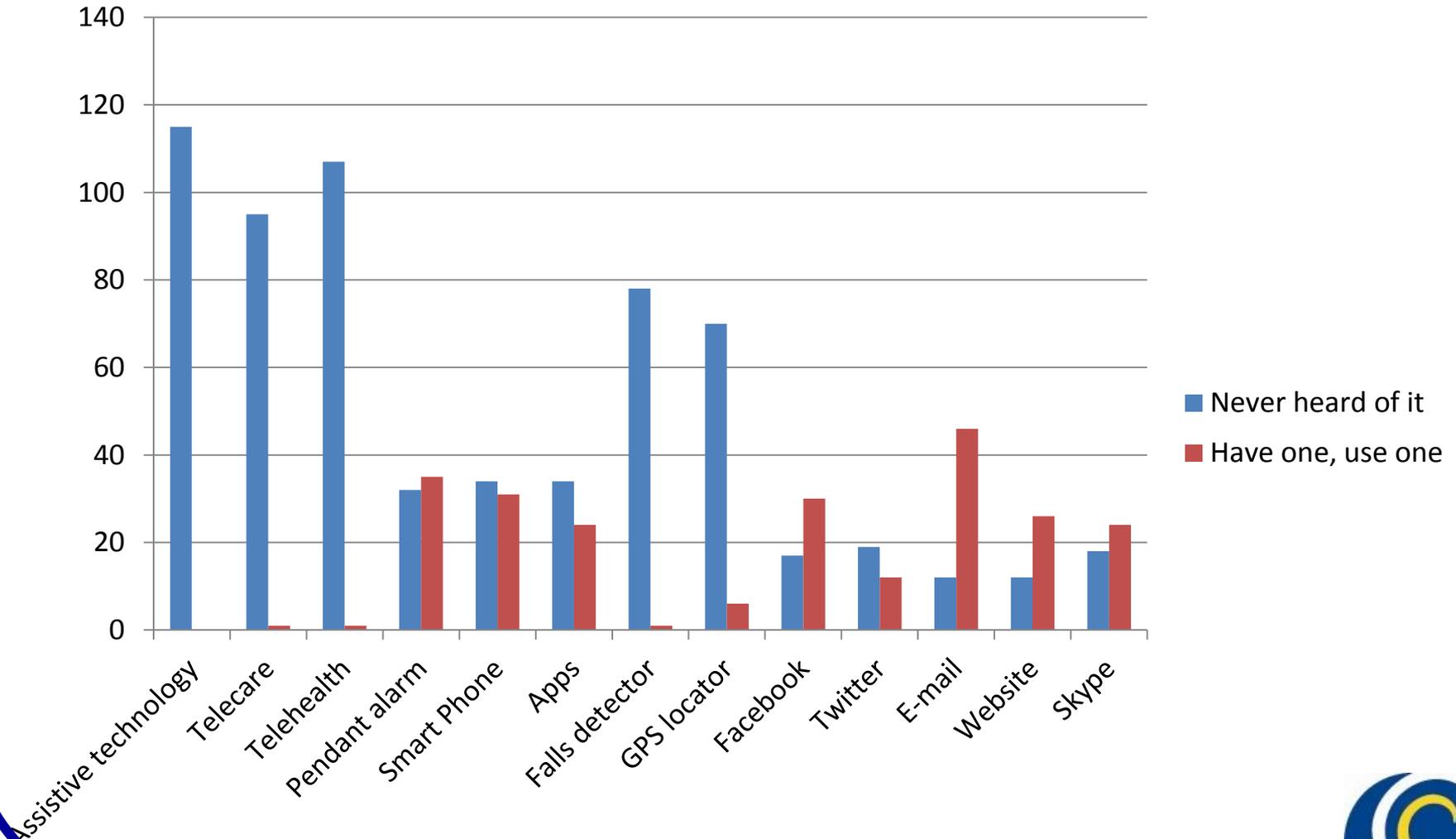
Using tasks to focus on personal hygiene. Using the location tracker to enable them to visit friends unaccompanied.



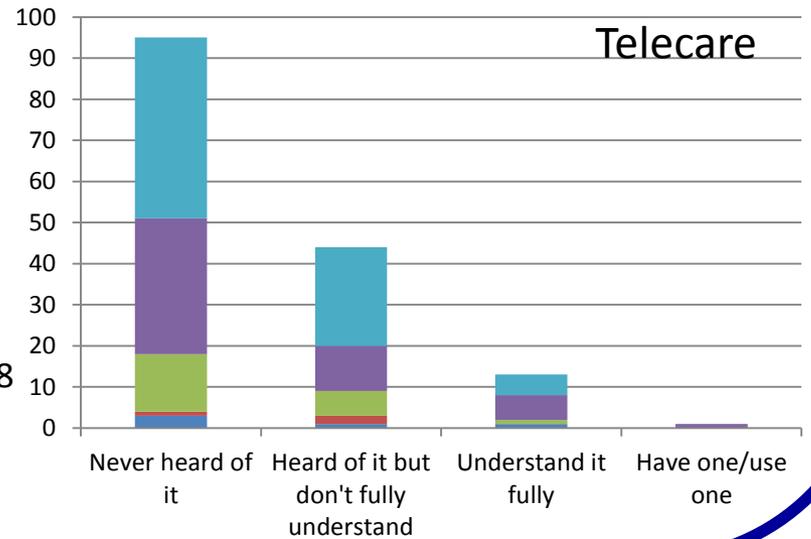
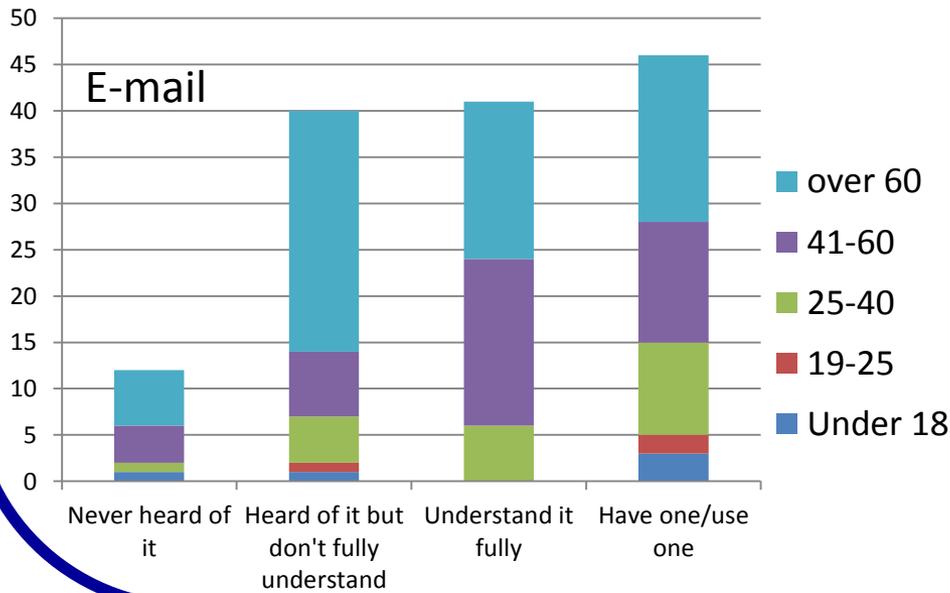
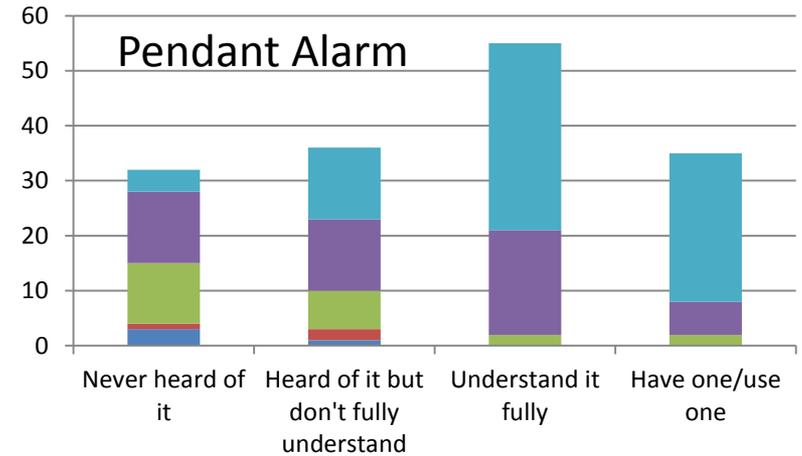
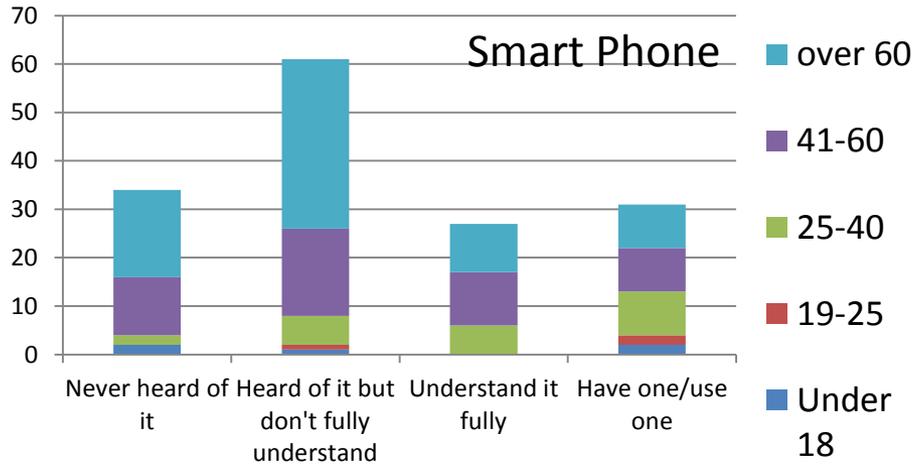
‘I’ve been actively monitoring my wellbeing through the app...recognised poor health patterns emerging, I took these findings to a medical appointment, resulting in a change in medication which meant I am now sleeping better at night and falling less.’



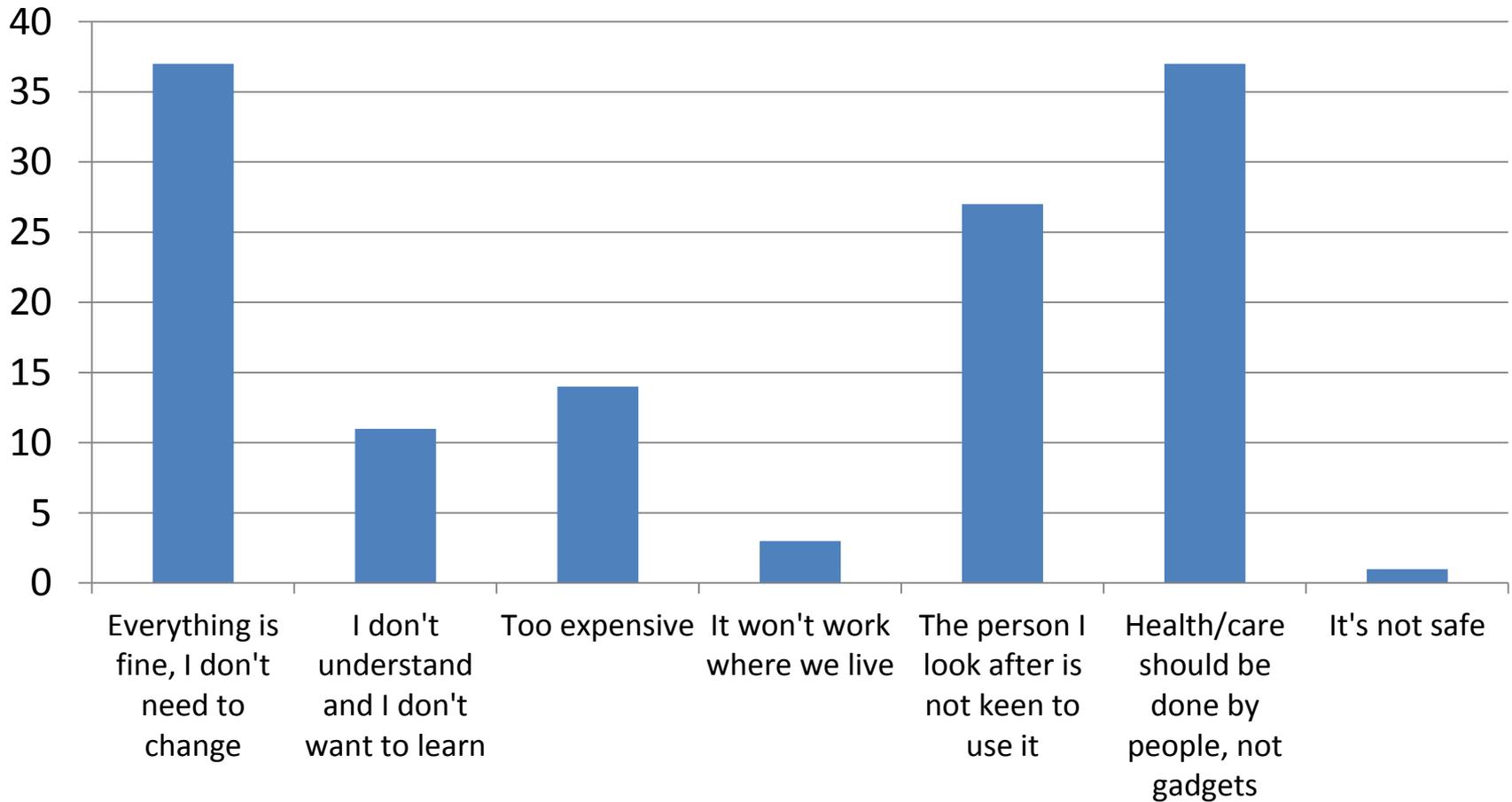
# Not talking my language?



# An age thing?



# Why I don't like IT...



# It's not for me because...

- Interested but concerned that communication between people is going to be less and it's already deteriorating fast!
- Takes me ages to get to grips with 'new' stuff.
- My mother is from a different time & place. She struggles with TV & phone.
- I feel I cannot cope with any more modern technology.
- Technology is no use at all for the elderly. Practical help is needed not machines.
- Unlikely to help our situation (Aspergers)
- We cannot afford all the modern gadgets sorry



# Going forward

- Bust the myths
- Involve others
- Spend time/money on training and sharing the positives
- Think about the language

I have just bought a mobile phone and don't know how to use it. My nephew is going to help us.

I am very new to technology. My situation is very isolating. Contact with others through technology seems obvious.







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