

Universiti Teknologi MARA

**Reminder System Prototype in Mobile Phone
for Elderly People**

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, the growing numbers of elderly is inevitable. As people aged memory capabilities reduced such as memory decline, hearing decline and visual decline, thus reminder system is one of technology that can benefit elderly user. However, the uptake of reminder system is still low. Many researchers from the western country have interested in exploring the use of reminder system as part of assistive technology for the elderly. Nevertheless, no research is solely focus on what actually elderly users expect from a reminder system. Hence, this study attempts to improved design or prototype of reminder system to give easier when the user used it. The researcher conducted an experiments consists of pre-test phase and post-test phase. The researcher applied techniques such as semi structured interview, task solving and experiment to assess our respondents suggestions on the reminder system. It found that elderly use reminder for important event/activity, but the definition of important may be differ for each respondents. As conclusion, our results also indicate that elderly on using reminder system includes four important principles in which the reminder system it must be simple, can be synchronized, mobile and easy to use.

CHAPTER 1

RESEARCH OVERVIEW

1.0 Introduction

This chapter will provide the foundation of this project. This chapter will discuss the problem statement, the research questions, the aim of this research, the objectives of this research, the scope of this research, and the significant of this research. As overall, this chapter will build initial understanding on what this research is all about.

1.1 Research Background

Elderly population keeps on increasing year by year. Ageing population has become a major concern globally. As reported in the World Population Ageing: 1950-2050, *“The older population is growing faster than the total population in practically all regions of the world – and the difference in growth rates is increasing”* (World Population Ageing 1950-2050, 2001). As stated by Arch (2009), in few decades time, there will be a supreme escalation in the number of older people compared with any other period in human history.

As for Malaysia’s context, the increase in ageing population cannot be denied (Mohamed, 2000). With the significant size of elderly in the near future, it is important to see them as large-scale group user for technology. According to Roupas, et al., (2010), technology may refer to as simple as everyday electrical appliances such as television, vacuum cleaner, rice cooker, or more complex machines such as ATMs, PCs and mobile phones. Unfortunately, often, elderly is associated with resistance to accept and adapt to