Dissertation Project Progress Report

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# Introduction (250 Words)

Dementia is a leading healthcare concern throughout the world, most prevalent among the elderly, which causes the deterioration of cognitive functioning. People living with late-stage dementia require constant support to continue living safely, which burdens informal carers and healthcare services with considerable financial and resource strain. As the average age of the world’s population is rising, the total number of cases is expected to triple to 150 million by 2050.

* Dementia is a leading healthcare concern
  + Large social and financial costs
  + Global issue
  + Aging population leads to more cases of dementia

The impact on healthcare services can be lessened by supporting individuals to maintain their safe independence for longer. This also has the desirable effect of improving the quality-of-life of the individuals, by supporting social interactions, control of their environment, and general well-being.

* Maintaining safe independence
  + Improves quality of life for individuals
  + Reduces the impact on healthcare services

Various assistive technologies exist to enable the elderly with mild cognitive impairment to maintain their autonomy and slow the further loss of cognitive functions, such as telecare systems and smart homes. This project aims to create the basis of a smart voice assistant (VA) that can provide support through mental stimulation exercises, environmental monitoring and control, and facilitating communication.

* Aim to create a voice assistant tailored for people living with dementia
  + Assistive technologies can help maintain independence
  + Smart homes and telecare projects have been implemented

# Project Evaluation (500 Words)

* Discuss lit review design
* Discuss initial lit review strategy?
* Metrics to evaluate process - how to know it was successful
* Metrics to evaluate product - How many clicks it should take to perform an action
* Not a specification, just how you will assess it

# Progress (500 Words)

* \*\*Prototype\*\*
* Show how to mitigate risks
* Risks - R1, R2, R3
* Impact/Probability Grid
* Risk should relate to project not so much like illness
* Unknown difficulties
* Multiple Mini prototypes show risk mitigation
* \*Tools/Environment set-up discussion\*

# Project Management (500 Words)

* \*\*Roadmap\*\*
* Evidence project management
* Management - GitHub repo
* Burndown chart / Gantt or Something to specify what is achieved by when

# Next Steps (250 Words)

* Completing the first sprint

# References

* Metrics
* Techniques
* Methodology

# Appendices

# Draft Literature Review