



Newsletter

Edition 63 | 6th April 2022

Editor's Note

Welcome to the first instalment of the HMinfo Newsletter for 2022.

In this newsletter, we introduce a new HMinfo publication, the latest research publications by others relevant to home modifications for older people and people with disability, and inform you about the main events for the coming period.

NEW HMinfo RESOURCES

Consumer Factsheet: Home automations for older people and people with disability

"Home automations" or "smart controls" for the home can be very useful for older people and people with disabilities with mobility limitations and who might be sensitive to environmental parameters, such as high/low indoor temperatures, lighting, etc. This factsheet aims to present the main categories of home automations that can be particularly useful for older people and people with disabilities and describe some considerations for their installation, in new or existing homes.

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RECENT HMinfo RESOURCES

Industry Factsheet: Home automations for older people and people with disability

This factsheet aims to present the main categories of "home automations" or "smart controls" for the home, which can be useful for older people and people with disabilities and describe some considerations for their installation, in new or existing homes.



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Activities, Participation, Accessibility and Safety in the Home Environment for Children and Young People with Physical Disabilities: A Systematic Review

Background: In Australia, nearly two percent of children and young people under 15 years with a disability have physical restrictions. Many will require occupational therapy at some stage in their lives to facilitate independence in activities of daily living, participation, home accessibility and home safety.



Objective: This systematic review aims to identify effective occupational therapy for children and young people with physical disability in the home.

Search Methods: Eligible quantitative research studies published between 2005 and 2020 were identified in the Cochrane Data Base of Systematic Reviews, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, Home Modification Information Clearinghouse, PubMed, OTseeker, Google Scholar, and major occupational therapy journals.

Data Collection and Analysis: The first review author screened titles and abstracts of all potential studies identified for inclusion in the review. Full text reports were retrieved, and the second review author independently screened these and identified studies for inclusion.

Results: Overall, 29 quantitative studies fitting the inclusion criteria were examined in this systematic review.

Authors Conclusions: While the quality of the studies in this area of physical disability is varied in breadth and scope, there is generally moderate to high quality evidence for the effectiveness of occupational therapy interventions in the areas of self-care and functional mobility; and low to moderate for participation in domestic living/household tasks; and low for home modification. There is no evidence for safety in the home for children and young people with a physical disability.

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Consumer Factsheet: Fire Safety: Escape

This factsheet aims to give information on the implementation of an Escape Plan for the place where older people and people with disabilities live. It will provide guidance on how to prepare and practice the safe Escape Plan, considering the layout and contents of the home and the abilities of everyone who lives there.



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Other RESOURCES

A usable home: A qualitative investigation of the relationship between home usability and community participation for people with disabilities

Lillie Greiman, Lyndsie Koon, Johnathan A. Schulz, Dot Nary, A usable home: A qualitative investigation of the relationship between home usability and community participation for people with disabilities, Disability and Health Journal, Volume 15, Issue 1, Supplement, 2022

This study provides the results of a content analysis of in-person semi-structured interviews of twelve people with mobility and other disabilities. The questions were related to home usability and community participation. The environment, including the home design, the neighborhood, and the geographic location were amongst the parameters of major importance affecting the individual's participation in the community.

[View this resource on your browser](#)

Making it safe to age in place

Jesse M. Abraham, Making it safe to age in place, at no (net) cost to the government, HomesRenewed Resource Center, 2021

This publication reviews current knowledge on healthcare cost reductions from home modifications for fall prevention and age-related disabilities, and provides evidence of the cost-efficiency of home modifications for older adults at the ages of 50, 65, and 75, for society and the federal government. The paper is relevant to the United States population and policies but the messages are applicable to many other parts of the world.

[View this resource on your browser](#)

Housing condition, health status, and age-friendly housing modification in Europe: The last resort?

Shuping Wu, Yuqi Fu, Zan Yang, Housing condition, health status, and age-friendly housing modification in Europe: The last resort?, Building and Environment, Volume 215, 2022.

The study described in this paper has the aim to understand older people's recognition of housing modifications, by investigating the answers to three research questions: (1) how many older people have undertaken age-friendly housing modifications and when; (2) what are the main push factors of these housing modifications; (3) whether adequate types of facilities are modified or added to their homes. Based on longitudinal survey data of 5719 older people in 12 European countries from 2015 to 2017 (SHARE survey data), the authors found that older

people tend to take "last resort" actions, that is, housing modifications are rare (21.93%) and mostly happen when they are 80 years old and above.

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EVENTS

National Brain Injury Conference

Brain Injury Australia's 8th National Brain Injury Conference will be held from Tuesday 28th to Thursday 30th June, 2022 at the Abercrombie Building, the University of Sydney Business School, NSW - sponsored by the University, in partnership with its Brain and Mind Centre.

Dates: Tue 28 Jun 2022 9:30 AM - Thu 30 Jun 2022 5:15 PM

Pricing:

1 Day Pre-Conference Workshop + 2 Day Conference: \$890

Two Day Registration: \$695

Workshops

Positive behaviour support following brain injury: \$295

Concussion / "mild" traumatic brain injury : \$295

Domestic and family violence and brain injury : \$295

[Link](#)

2022 OT Exchange

Designed to be accessible and approachable, the OT Exchange is an inclusive event for all working within the broad spectrum that is occupational therapy. The OT Exchange will foster relationships, spread important ideas and ignite discussions amongst peers.

At its core, the OT Exchange is an interactive conference where participants are encouraged to contribute and employ ideas of value. It is designed so that all participants—whether they are practitioners, students, managers, educators or academics—will implement solutions into their own work.

The OT Exchange is themed around three key concepts of Learn, Practise and Enrich. Learn supports the evidence-based approach at the core of our profession. Practise focuses on the application of that knowledge and learning. While Enrich ensures that the work of our profession achieves positive outcomes for our community and supports the lives they want to live. These three ideals do not operate in isolation. The process isn't linear, but is a continual cycle/feedback loop. Each of the three themes feeds into and supports one another. This is reflected in

the Exchange through its emphasis on collaboration, discussion and lived-experience panels.

Dates: Thu 9 Jun 2022 9:00 AM - Fri 10 Jun 2022 5:00 PM

Location: Melbourne

[Link](#)

The Accessibility Awakening

2022 National Conference: The Accessibility Awakening

Connect with a powerful network of business leaders, diversity and inclusion practitioners, human resources professionals, industry experts, and influencers from the public, private and for-purpose sectors.

This year's theme is **The Accessibility Awakening**. Our 2022 conference agenda looks at how the era of change we've experienced through COVID has brought a whole new understanding to accessibility and inclusion in the workplace. At this conference, we'll look at the upcoming trends and the ways accessibility and inclusion can be promoted and sustainably embedded in organisations.

Dates: Thu 9 Jun 2022, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Location: Hybrid event: Virtually and in-person

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC)

[Link](#)

Any suggestions or feedback you may have on our newsletter would be greatly appreciated, so please feel free to contact us at hminfo@unsw.edu.au. To unsubscribe from future HMinfo newsletters, please click [unsubscribe](#).



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