**OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH INNOVATION: CONTEXT AWARE TECHNOLOGIES TRANSFORMING THE SMART DEVICE INTO A COMPANION**

**Aim**

Customised context aware innovations were co-designed with developers, health professionals and individuals to provide ‘in activity’ prompting to support participation in everyday tasks. This presentation reports on the outcomes of this process, and future possibilities for the development of these innovations.

**ABSTRACT**

Recent advancements in mobile and smart technologies have the potential to optimise the social and economic independence of people with disability and their active participation in society. The explosion of these technologies are testimony to the numerous ways these devices can be used to enable people. While activity prompting apps are readily available, many rely on timers or direct input to progress instructions. Whereas current technologies have the potential to be responsive to the context and user needs thereby providing intelligent task progressions. It is proposed that these technologies such as geolocation systems (e.g. GPS systems), passive infrared sensors (PIR), or the ‘internet of things’ can provide a more dynamic and tailored solution. These technologies can reduce dependence by utilising context specific information such as location, movement or power use to responsively prompt an individual through tasks within an activity. This allows the user to maintain or develop mastery and promotes greater autonomy in daily living.

To explore the application of this technology, LifeTec partnered with a developers and customers to explore and customise contextually aware applications for ‘in activity’ prompting. This presentation reports on the co-design process and the outcomes achieved for the individuals. It will also discuss future possibilities for the development of these innovations.