MANCHESTER 1824
The University of Manchester

farr The Farr Institute of Health Informatics Research

HeRC Health e-Research Centre

Community Reporting to capture older people's views on health data

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INSPIRING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER
YOUR KNOWLEDGE, OUR KNOW-HOW
HELPING MAKE A DIFFERENCE LOCALLY

Macc
Manchester's local voluntary & community sector support organisation

Project aim.

We wanted to: Use the knowledge and experience of older people to make life better by listening to and valuing their views. Specifically we:

1) Captured older people's views and experiences of collecting and using health data.
2) Strive to understand if and how people collect data to look after their own health. For example measuring blood pressure, blood sugar or keeping a food diary.
3) Built a community network of people and organisations with an interest in health data research

What is Community Reporting?

icr The Institute of Community Reporter
Local voices, local stories.

Community Reporting is a method that enables people to share their personal stories and lived experiences through video recordings.

The Community Reporters model supports people with learning to tell their own stories, collect stories from others, edit content and upload it to the Community Reporters website."

Who participated?

Eighteen community reporters and twelve exercise class participants from Salford and Wythenshawe

Older people's views on health data

"I would have gotten more out of the tracker if I would have had one-to-one support setting it up"

"The tracker motivated me to walk that extra bit"

From activity trackers

"I think activity trackers are a good idea but I couldn't afford to buy one"

"I found out that I have a lot of deep sleep"

"I didn't use the app because I'm not very technically minded and I don't have Wi-Fi at home"

"I have mobility problems, so I didn't make my targets"

"The healthy eating app helped me think twice when reaching for that extra biscuit"

"I much rather wear a device to monitor my heart rate myself than have it done at the hospital"

Other health data

"If we would have started taking my mum's blood sugar at home sooner, she might not have been on insulin now"

"When I measure my blood pressure at home it is much lower than at the GP's"

What happens next?

Salford Inspiring Communities Together are preparing a follow-up project with activity trackers, where exercise class participants will learn more on how to collect and use their own health data at home. The AgeUK Crossacres Resource Centre in Wythenshawe will continue making community reports to promote their activities. Both organisations are keen to be involved in future initiatives with the Health e-Research Centre.