Participating in a project

When you participate in a project to develop new technology for people with cognitive impairment your opinion is very important.

When you help a researcher to test and give feedback, it's important to think about different users. Some people have difficulties seeing or hearing or moving their hands. It's important that everyone can use the technology.

When you participate in a project, researchers will collect information about you, for example your name, where you live and how old you are. They will also write down your opinions.

The researchers must tell you which information they will collect and why they need it. They are only allowed to collect information they need. They are not allowed to save it when they don't need it anymore. They can not show it to anyone who is not in the project.

You always have the right to say no. You can always ask what information they have saved about you.
Before you start participating in the project, you will be asked to sign an informed consent.

The consent tells the researcher that you accept what it means to participate.

Before you sign the consent, the researcher needs to tell you:
- What the project is about
- Which information they will collect about you
- What you are going to do in the project
- If there are any risks

The researcher also needs to tell you if someone is going to take your picture or videotape you.
You can decide if you want this or not.

It's important that you get this information in a way that you understand. You have a right to speak to the researchers so that you have a chance to ask questions.

You also have the right to get it in a text that you can read. Then you can read about it when you want.

When the researcher have told you all information, you can decide if you want to participate or not.

If you want to participate, you will sign the consent. If you can't sign it yourself, your legal guardian or caregiver can help you.
What to think about when developing technology

It's always important to design technology so that everyone can use it. Here are some advice that are good to think about during the time you are working in the project.

The technology must be useful for the user. It must help more than it creates problems.

The technology must be possible to use for different people. Everyone has different abilities. For example, think about how the technology will work for someone who can't see, can't read, can't hear, can't speak or can't move their hands.

The technology must be easy to understand. It must be clear how you are going to do a task. It must also be clear what happens when you use it, for example when you press a button.

It's good to use buttons and symbols that users already know. That will make it easier to use. It is also good to have text together with symbols.