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Developing mobile applications for and with young people with long-term conditions

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Introduction

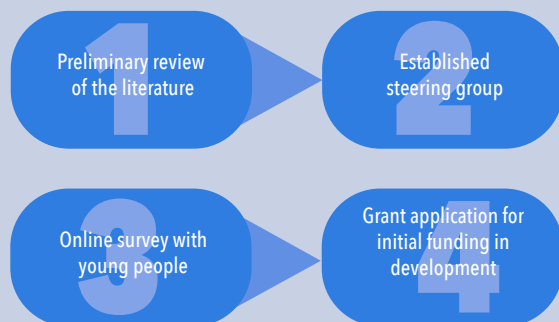
- The use of mobile devices is commonplace among young people.¹
- There is scope to develop this technology to support the needs of those with long-term health conditions.
- Young people need support to become independent and able to self-manage their condition. The mobile app would be a valuable tool in this process.
- However, there is little reliable research on the development or evaluation of this technology that actively involves young people as partners.

Aims

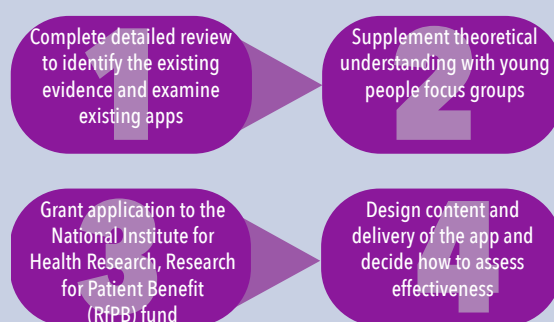
- To establish a Manchester-based research team.
- To include young people with long-term conditions, parents, researchers, technologists, and healthcare professionals as equal partners.
- To develop a plan of work that focuses on the use of mobile technologies for young people with long-term conditions.²
- To use the design and methods of our previous National Institute for Health Research, Research for Patient Benefit funded project as a platform to inform development of this work.³

Timeline

Where we have been:



Where we are going: (based on Medical Research Council framework)

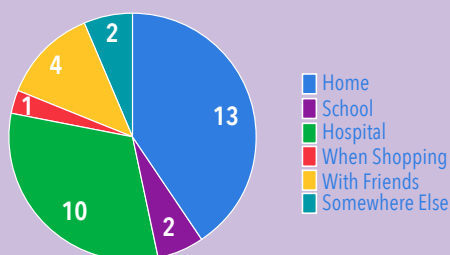


Online Survey Results

Is there a need to develop an app?

12 out of 14 young people living with juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) felt there was a need for the mobile app, and 2 were unsure.

Where would young people use the app?



What do young people want from the app?



"The app needs to be password protected and secure for me to use it."

"The app would be good because I don't like asking people for advice, I like to look for it myself."

References

- 1 Ofcom. (2014). The communications market. Available from http://stakeholders.ofcom.gov.uk/binaries/research/cmr/cmr14/2014_UK_CM.pdf. [Accessed August 2014].
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- 3 Swallow V, Carolan I, Hall A et al. (2014). A novel Interactive Health Communication Application (IHCA) for parents of children with long term conditions: Development, implementation, feasibility assessment. Informatics for Health & Social Care. Available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/25119067>. [Accessed 19 October 2014].

