Older Adults' Acceptance of Assistive Robots for the Home

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This project is a collaborative research effort on human-robot interaction between the Human Factors and Aging Laboratory (Co-Directors Wendy A. Rogers and Arthur D. Fisk; www.hfaging.org) and the Healthcare Robotics Laboratory (Director: Charles C. Kemp; www.healthcare-robotics.com). Many thanks to the researchers in both laboratories for their contributions.

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Overview of Study

Robots have the potential to support older adults as they age in place (Smarr, Fausset, & Rogers, 2011), as well as if they live in assisted living or skilled nursing residences (Mitzner, Chen, Kemp, & Rogers, 2011). Robots can conceivably support older adults for various activities, including self-maintenance, instrumental, and enhanced activities of daily living (Lawton, 1990; Rogers, Meyer, Walker, & Fisk, 1998), and in various capacities. For example, robots could provide support while an older adult performs a task (e.g., by providing stability as an older adult gets dressed). Robots could also execute tasks *for* older adults who are no longer able to perform a particular task (e.g., opening a jar) or for tasks that may be unsafe to perform (e.g., retrieving an item from a high shelf). However, to understand if older adults will be willing to adopt robots as assistive technologies, additional research is needed to better understand older adults' acceptance of robots. Moreover, research is needed to understand whether robot acceptance varies as a function of variables such as task context and robot familiarity and experience.

In this study, we explored older adults' acceptance of robots in general, as well as their acceptance of Willow Garage's Personal Robot 2 (PR2)

(www.willowgarage.com), which is a mobile manipulator. Participants included 21 independent living seniors. We administered three questionnaires that we developed to assess different aspects of acceptance. We designed the Robot Familiarity and Usage Questionnaire to assess participants' familiarity with and usage of 13 different types of robots. We developed the Robot Opinions Questionnaire based upon existing technology acceptance scales (Davis, 1989), as a general measure of robot

acceptance. We designed the Assistance Preference Checklist to assess participants' preferences for human or robot assistance for 48 home-based tasks. We also administered a Background & Health Questionnaire, which collected participant demographic information (e.g., gender, education, race/ethnicity, housing type) and health status, as well as a Technology and Computer Experience Questionnaire, which contained questions about technology and computer use. This report presents descriptive statistics from the data we collected in this study. Inferential statistical comparisons are in progress and will be provided in a future report.

The present results provide valuable insights into older adults' attitudes and preferences regarding robot support in the home. Moreover, these findings provide guidance for robot design.

Method

Participants

Questionnaires were collected from 21 older adults (28.6% female, 71.4% male) between the ages of 65 and 93 (M = 80.25 years; SD = 7.19 years). Participants were recruited from a database maintained by the Human Factors and Aging Laboratory. Most participants indicated they were widowed (42.9%), married (28.6%), or divorced (19%); 9.5% reported to be single. Participants reported having diverse education backgrounds: 4.8% had less than high school degree, 14.3% had a high school degree or GED, 14.3% had vocational training, 14.3% had some college/Associate's degree, 23.8% had a Bachelor's degree (BA, BS), 19% had a master's degree or other post-graduate training), and 9.5% had a doctoral degree (e.g., PhD, MD, EdD, DDS, JD). Participants were also diverse with respect to race/ethnicity: 57.7% reported themselves as White/Caucasian and 42.9% indicated they were Black/African American. Most participants lived in an independent residence in senior housing (66.7%) or in a house, apartment, or condominium (28.5%); 4.8% lived in a relative's home.

We collected data about several different aspects of health. Table 1 shows participants' responses to questions about their general health and health satisfaction. Table 2 shows participants' reported limitations regarding physical activities that are commonly required for tasks of daily living. Limitations were reported most often for climbing several flights of stairs, for moderate activities (e.g., moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, bowling, or playing golf), for vigorous activities (e.g., running, lifting heavy objects, or participating in strenuous sports), and for walking more than a mile.

Table 3 shows the prevalence of certain chronic health conditions; the most prevalent of which were arthritis, hypertension, diabetes, and heart disease.

In addition, we asked about vision and hearing limitations. Most participants (90.5%) reported using eyeglasses and many reported have trouble seeing despite using eyeglasses (38.6%). Some participants (23.8%) reported having trouble hearing with one or both ears, however only 14.3% reported using a hearing aid. The Demographic and Health Questionnaire is presented in Appendix A.

Table 1

General Health (N = 21)

Question	М	SD	1	2	3	4	5
In general, would you say							
your health is:	3.09	0.61	0%	9.5%	66.7%	23.8%	0%
(1 = poor, 5 = excellent)							
Compared to other people							
your own age, would you	3.59	0.73	0%	4.8%	28.6%	61.9%	4.8%
say your health is:	5.55	0.73	0 70	4.0 /0	20.070	01.970	4.076
(1 = poor, 5 = excellent)							
How satisfied are you with							38.1
your present health?	4.09	0.92	0%	9.5%	4.8%	47.6%	%
(1 = not at all, 5 = extremely)							70
How often do health							
problems stand in the way							
of your doing the things you	2.09	1.06	42.9%	19.0%	33.0%	4.8%	0%
want to do?							
(1 = never, 5 = always)							

Table 2 Health-Related Activity Limitations (N = 21)

Does your health now limit you in these	Limited a	Limited a	Not limited at
activities?	lot	little	all
Bathing or dressing yourself	0	0	21
Bending, kneeling or stooping	4.8	38.1	57.1
Climbing one flight of stairs	19	9.5	71.4
Climbing several flights of stairs	28.6	28.6	42.8
Lifting or carrying groceries	9.5	28.6	61.9
Moderate activities, such as moving a			
table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, bowling, or	14.3	23.8	61.9
playing golf			
Vigorous activities, such as running, lifting			
heavy objects, or participating in strenuous	38.1	33.3	28.6
sports (e.g. swimming laps)			
Walking more than a mile	28.6	33.3	38.1
Walking one block	9.5	14.3	76.2
Walking several blocks	19	28.6	52.4

Note. Numbers represent percentages.

Table 3

Prevalence of Chronic Health Conditions (N = 21)

Condition	Had in your lifetime	Have now	Never had
Arthritis	9.5	57.1%	23.8
Asthma or bronchitis	4.8%	4.8	90.4%
Cancer (other than skin cancer)	14.3	4.8%	80.9
Diabetes	4.8%	33.3	61.9%
Epilepsy	0.0	0.0%	100
Heart disease	4.8%	23.8	71.4%
Hypertension	0.0	57.1%	42.9
Stroke	0.0%	4.8	95.2%
Other significant illnesses	23.8	9.5%	19.0

Note. Numbers represent percentages.

Results

Technology and Computer Experience Questionnaire

We measured technology experience by asking participants about the frequency with which they used a variety of technologies (see Appendix B). Table 4 shows the mean, standard deviation, and histogram for the responses to each question on the Technology Experience Questionnaire. The most frequently used technologies (M > 4 = used occasionally) were cell phones, microwave ovens, recording and playback devices, programmable devices, automated telephone menu systems, and answering machines.

We also asked questions about computer/Internet experience. Most participants (71.4%) reported using a computer and/or the Internet and of those who reported such use, most (66.7%) reported that they had been using it for 5 or more years. In terms of frequency of using the computer/Internet, 26.7% reported 10 or more hours a week, 13.3% reported more than 5 but less than 10 hours a week, 40% reported between 1-5 hours a week, and 20% reported less than an hour a week.

Table 4 Technology Experience (Items listed in descending order by mean response; N = 21)

Technology	М	SD	Histogram
1= Not sure what it	is, 2= Not use	ed, 3= Used on	ce, 4= Used occasionally, 5= Used frequently
Cell phone	4.67	0.73	1 2 3 4 5
Microwave oven	4.62	0.74	1 2 3 4 5
Recording and playback device (e.g. CD, DVD, VCR, DVR)	4.48	0.75	1 2 3 4 5
Programmable devices (e.g. thermostat, coffee maker)	4.43	0.93	1 2 3 4 5

Technology Μ SD Histogram 1= Not sure what it is, 2= Not used, 3= Used once, 4= Used occasionally, 5= Used frequently 20 Automated 10 telephone menu 4.38 0.92 0 system 2 3 20 Answering 10 1.35 4.33 machine 0 2 3 20 10 Copier 1.21 3.57 0 3 2 5 1 4 20 Automatic teller 10 3.38 1.28 machine (ATM) 0 2 3 4 5 20 Books on tape or 10 3.33 1.39 compact disk 2 3

Technology Μ SD Histogram

1= Not sure what it is, 2= Not used, 3= Used once, 4= Used occasionally, 5= Used frequently

Fax machine

3.33

1.2

20 10 0 2

Home security

system

3.14

1.68

20 10 0 2 3 4 5 1

In-store

automated kiosk

(e.g. self-

checkout)

3.05

1.12

20 10 0 2 3 5

Digital

photography (e.g.

camera,

3

1.22

camcorder)

10 0 2 3

20

Electronic book-

reader (e.g.

2.67

1.35

Kindle)

20 10 2 3 5

Technology	М	SD	Histogram
1= Not sure what it is	s, 2= Not us	ed, 3= Used or	nce, 4= Used occasionally, 5= Used frequently
In-car navigation system (e.g. GPS, OnStar)	2.43	0.81	1 2 3 4 5
MP3/IPod music player	2.38	1.28	1 2 3 4 5
Personal digital assistant (PDA)	1.95	0.8	1 2 3 4 5

Technology Experience Questionnaire Summary. We measured technology experience by asking participants about the frequency with which they used a variety of technologies. Participants reported using cell phones, microwave ovens, recording and playback devices, programmable devices, automated telephone menu systems, and answering machines most frequently (occasional use, on average). We also asked questions about computer/Internet experience. Most participants reported using a computer and/or the Internet and of those who reported such use, most reported that they had been using it for 5 or more years. Therefore, overall participants were experienced with a wide variety of technologies, including computers.

Robot Usage and Familiarity Questionnaire

We measured different aspects of robot familiarity as well as the frequency of using 13 different types of robots (see Appendix C). Table 5 shows the mean, standard deviation, and histogram for the responses to each robot type on the Robot Usage and Familiarity Questionnaire. Participants reported the most familiarity (i.e., heard about or seen this robot) with surgical robots (e.g. daVinci surgical system), robot lawn mowers, space exploration robots (e.g. Mars Rover), manufacturing robots (e.g. robotic arm in factory), entertainment/toy robots (e.g. Aibo, Furby), and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV). Very few participants reported using any of the robots.

Table 5

Robot Usage and Familiarity (Items listed in descending order by mean response; N = 21)

Robot	М	SD	Histogram
0 =Not sure what it is this robot 3 = Have		heard about, see rated it only occas	·
Surgical Robot (e.g. daVinci surgical system)	1.95	0.22	20 10 0 1 2 3 4

Robot	М	SD	Histogram
0 =Not sure what it is	1 = Never h	eard about, seen or use	ed it 2 = Have only heard about or seen
this robot 3 = Have	used or opera	ted it only occasionally	4 = Have used or operated it frequently
Robot lawn mower	1.76	0.43	20 10 0 1 2 3 4
Space exploration robot (e.g. Mars Rover)	1.76	0.62	20 10 0 1 2 3 4
Manufacturing robot (e.g. robotic arm in factory)	1.67	0.80	20 10 0 1 2 3 4
Entertainment/toy robot (e.g. Aibo, Furby)	1.62	0.80	20 10 0 1 2 3 4
Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)	1.62	0.80	20 10 0 1 2 3 4

Robot	M	SD	Histogram
0 =Not sure what it is	1 = Never h	neard about, seen or use	ed it 2 = Have only heard about or seen
this robot 3 = Have		ated it only occasionally	·
Military Robot			20
(e.g. search and	1.48	0.75	10
		••	0
rescue)			0 1 2 3 4
			20
Robot security	1.38	0.86	10
guard	1.50	0.00	0
			0 1 2 3 4
Domestic/Home robot (e.g. Roomba)	1.33	0.86	20 10 0 1 2 3 4
Personal Robot 2 (PR2)	1.23	0.77	20 10 0 1 2 3 4
Autonomous Car	1.19	1.03	20 10 0 1 2 3 4

Robot	М	SD	Histogram
0 =Not sure what it is this robot 3 = Have		heard about, seen or us	•
Research robot (e.g. at university or company)	1.19	0.81	20 10 0 1 2 3 4
Remote presence robot (e.g. Texai, Anybot)	0.86	0.79	0 1 2 3 4

Robot Usage and Familiarity Questionnaire Summary. We measured different aspects of robot familiarity as well as the frequency of using 13 different types of robots. Participants reported some familiarity with a variety of classes of robots. Participants had no to very little experience using any of the robots. Therefore, overall participants were somewhat familiar with yet inexperienced using robots. These findings suggest that participants' attitudes about robots on the questionnaires that followed were based more so on robots they have heard about or seen rather than based on their usage of robots.

Assistance Preference Checklist

Following a structured group interview discussing robots, in general, and Willow Garage's PR2, specifically, we administered the Assistance Preference Checklist to assess how assistance preferences vary (robot vs. human) as a function of task. We asked participants to imagine they needed assistance in everyday life and then we asked them to indicate their preferences for human or robot assistance with 48 homebased tasks. We instructed participants to assume that the robot could perform the task to the level of a human. Table 6 presents the means, standard deviations, and histograms of participants' responses on the Assistance Preference Checklist.

Participants indicated that they preferred assistance from a robot for 28 out of the 48 tasks (based on the criteria of M > 3.00 = no preference). The overall descriptives (M = 2.99; SD = 0.42) suggests that collapsed across all tasks participants did not have a preference for human or robot assistance. However, it is clear from the histograms that participants' assistance preferences did discriminate between tasks (note: statistical comparisons of these data are in progress).

We also asked participants to indicate which tasks they would like the robot to perform if it could only perform 5 of the tasks listed on the checklist. The frequencies for those top 5 preferences for robot assistance are presented in Table 7. Preliminary coding suggests that most responses related to household duties (e.g., cleaning, laundry/ironing, errands, daily chores) or manual labor (e.g., lawn work, lifting/moving heavy objects, gardening). These data suggest that older adults may be most accepting of robots providing assistance with household duties and manual labor tasks.

Table 6 Robot vs. Human Assistance Preferences (Items listed in descending order by mean response; N = 21)

Task	М	SD	Histogram
1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a hu	man, 3 = N	lo Preferenc	e, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot
Maintaining lawn/ raking leaves	3.81	1.03	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5
Fetching objects from floor (e.g. remote control) or other room (e.g. drink from refrigerator)	3.76	0.94	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5
Picking up/moving heavy objects (e.g. furniture)	3.76	1.00	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5
Cleaning kitchen	3.71	0.78	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5

SD Task Histogram M 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Reaching for objects 3.71 0.96 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Controlling for pests/rodents 3.67 1.02 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Sweeping/scrubbing/mopping 0.97 3.67 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Finding/delivering items (e.g. 0.92 3.62 car keys, glasses) 1 3 5 2 4

SD Histogram Task М 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Cleaning bathrooms 3.57 0.93 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Cleaning windows 3.57 0.93 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Monitoring home/warning 1.25 3.57 about dangers (e.g. fire) 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Changing light bulbs 0.83 3.55 1 2 3 5 4

SD Task Histogram М 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Making bed/changing sheets 3.52 0.98 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Taking out trash/recyclables 3.50 1.19 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Being reminded of 3.48 0.93 appointments 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Being reminded of 0.93 3.48 appointments 2 3 5 1 4

SD Task Histogram М 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Being reminded of daily 3.48 0.93 activities 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 Loading/unloading 3.48 0.93 dishwasher 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Gardening/pruning 3.43 0.98 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Getting information on 3.43 1.08 weather/news 1 2 3 5 4

SD Task Histogram М 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Opening and closing 3.33 0.80 doors/drawers 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Being reminded to take 3.29 1.10 medicine 2 3 5 1 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Doing laundry 3.29 0.96 1 2 3 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 Painting (e.g. interior/exterior 3.29 1.01 of home) 1 2 3 5 4

SD Task Histogram M 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Sorting mail, shredding, 3.29 1.19 throwing away junk mail 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Watering plants 3.29 1.10 2 3 5 1 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Learning how to use new 1.21 3.19 technologies 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Getting information on 3.14 1.11 hobbies/topics of interest 1 2 5 3 4

SD Task Histogram M 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Learning new skills (e.g. second language, new 3.10 1.18 technology) 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 keeping refrigerator 3.00 1.21 clean/stocked 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Washing dishes by hand 3.00 1.18 1 2 3 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Repairing plumbing (e.g. 2.86 1.20 fixing leaking faucets) 1 2 5 3 4

Task М SD Histogram 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Calling doctors/911 1.11 2.67 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 Grocery shopping 2.67 0.97 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Exercising 2.62 1.12 1 2 3 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Taking medicine 2.60 1.23 1 2 3 5 4

М SD Histogram Task 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Walking 2.55 1.10 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 Setting the table 2.50 1.10 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Brushing teeth 1.03 2.48 1 2 3 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Deciding what medication to 1.16 2.38 take 1 2 3 5 4

Task М SD Histogram 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Getting dressed 2.38 0.92 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Calling family/friends 2.29 1.10 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Eating/feeding myself 2.29 0.90 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Bathing 2.24 1.09 1 2 3 5 4

SD Histogram Task М 1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Being entertained (e.g. 0.75 2.19 playing games, dancing) 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 **Entertaining guests** 2.00 1.05 1 2 3 4 5 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Shaving 1.95 0.91 1 2 3 5 4 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 Washing/combing hair 0.74 1.95 1 2 3 5 4

Task M SD Histogram

1 = Only a human, 2= Prefer a human, 3 = No Preference, 4 = Prefer a robot, 5 = Only a robot

Preparing meals/cooking 1.90 0.91

Table 7

Top Preferences for Robot Assistance (N = 21)

If the robot could perform only 5 of the tasks listed on the previous	Number of
pages, which 5 would you want it to do?	Responses
Household duties	Total = 37
Cleaning	19
Laundry/ironing	3
Errands (e.g., groceries)	4
Daily chores (e.g., cleaning dishes, making beds)	6
Miscellaneous jobs (e.g., changing light bulbs, recycling)	5
Manual labor	Total = 24
Lawn work	5
Lifting/moving heavy objects	11
Gardening/plant maintenance	5
Repairs (e.g., plumbing, painting)	3
Life organization and safety	Total = 17
Task/appointment reminders	6
Medical reminders	5
Household monitoring	3
Warning for danger	3
Object Retrieval	Total = 12
Locating objects	2
Delivering objects	6
Reaching for objects	4
Other Tasks	Total = 5
Education	1
Food preparation	2
Mail retrieval/organization	2

Assistance Preference Checklist Summary. We administered the Assistance Preference Checklist to assess how assistance preferences vary (robot vs. human) as a function of task. This questionnaire was administered following a structured group interview discussing robots, in general, and Willow Garage's PR2, specifically. We asked participants to imagine they needed assistance in everyday life while they indicated their preferences for human or robot assistance with 48 home-based tasks. Participants indicated that they preferred assistance from a robot for 28 out of the 48 tasks. We also asked participants to indicate which tasks they would like the robot to perform if it could only perform 5 of the tasks listed on the checklist. Preliminary coding suggests that most responses related to household duties (e.g., cleaning, laundry/ironing, errands, daily chores) or manual labor (e.g., lawn work, lifting/moving heavy objects, gardening). Overall, these data suggest that older adults are accepting of robots, particularly for household duties and manual labor tasks.

Robot Opinions Questionnaire

We administered the Robot Opinions Questionnaire before and after a group structured interview discussion about robots, which included the presentation of a video about Willow Garage's PR2. Tables 8 - 19 present the means, standard deviations, and histograms of participants' responses to the 12 individual questions of the Robot Opinions Questionnaire. Table 20 presents the mean, standard deviation, and histogram for participants' overall score (i.e., a composite of all 12 questions) on this questionnaire, which was designed to assess robot acceptance. The means for both the pre-discussion and post-discussion overall score were above a 5 (5 = Slightly likely),

suggesting that older adults, in general, are amenable to accepting robots, however inferential statistical comparisons of these data are in progress.

Table 8
"My interaction with a robot would be clear and understandable."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	5.05	1.32	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	5.57	1.33	1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 9
"I would find a robot useful in my daily life."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	5.52	1.29	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	5.05	1.69	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 10
"Using a robot would enhance my effectiveness in my daily life."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	5.33	0.97	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	4.81	1.99	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 11

"Using a robot in my daily life would increase my productivity."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	4.81	1.40	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	4.67	1.94	16 14 12 10 86 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 12
"Using a robot would make my daily life easier."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	4.81	1.40	16 14 12 10 8 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	4.67	1.94	1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 13
"Using a robot would improve my daily life."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	5.14	1.24	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	5.14	1.42	16 14 12 10 86 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 14
"Using a robot in my daily life would enable me to accomplish tasks more quickly."

-			
Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	5.15	1.40	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	5.00	2.19	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 15
"I would find a robot easy to use."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	5.10	1.41	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	5.48	1.29	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 16
"I would find a robot to be flexible for me to interact with."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	5.29	1.01	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	5.05	1.69	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 17

"It would be easy for me to become skillful at using a robot."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	5.19	1.50	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	5.48	1.44	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 18
"I would find it easy to get a robot to do what I want it to do."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	4.95	1.56	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Post-Discussion	5.57	1.22	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 19
"Learning to operate a robot would be easy for me."

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	5.10	1.58	16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0
Post-Discussion	5.52	1.36	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 16 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Table 20
Overall Robot Opinions Scores

Time of Administration	М	SD	Histogram
Pre-Discussion	5.16	1.32	120 100 80 60 40 20 0
Post-Discussion	5.21	1.60	120 100 80 60 40 20 0

Note. 1= Extremely unlikely 2= Quite unlikely 3= Slightly unlikely 4=Neither 5= Slightly likely 6= Quite likely 7 = Extremely likely

Robot Opinions Questionnaire Summary. We administered the Robot Opinions Questionnaire before and after a group structured interview discussion about robots, which included the presentation of a video about Willow Garage's PR2. Overall, these preliminary results suggest that participants were amenable to accepting robots before and after the group structured interview discussion; however inferential statistical comparisons of these data are in progress.

Discussion

Robots have the potential to support older adults as they age in place (Smarr, Fausset, & Rogers, 2011), for activities such as self-maintenance, instrumental, and enhanced activities of daily living (Lawton, 1990; Rogers, Meyer, Walker, & Fisk, 1998). However, it is unclear whether older adults will be accepting of robot assistance for the tasks related to these activities. Moreover, it is possible that their acceptance is dependent on factors such as task context or robot familiarity and experience.

We collected data from 21 independent living older adults (65 - 93 years of age) to assess their acceptance of robots, in general, and of the PR2, specifically, for various home-based tasks. Participants were diverse in terms of race/ethnicity and education and most had computer experience. We assessed participants' familiarity and usage of robots and found that many participants had heard about or seen different types of robots; few however had experience using robots.

We also examined participants' preferences for human vs. robot assistance for various home-based tasks. Collapsed across all tasks older adults did not show a preference for human or robot assistance. However, this result is misleading because preferences varied across tasks. We are determining the appropriate statistical techniques that will enable us to make certain conclusions about these data. Participants did indicate that they preferred assistance from a robot for 28 out of the 48 tasks (based on the criterion of M > 3.00, where 3 = no preference). Furthermore, when we asked participants to list the top 5 tasks for which they would prefer robot assistance most responses were categorized as household duties (e.g., cleaning, laundry/ironing,

errands, daily chores) or manual labor (e. g., lawn work, lifting/moving heavy objects, gardening). These data suggest that robots designed to perform household and manual labor tasks may be acceptable to older adults.

Lastly, we assessed robot acceptance before and after a discussion about robots, in general, as well as Willow Garage's PR2, in particular. The results of both assessments showed that overall participants were "slightly likely" to accept robots. Hence, despite their limited experience with robots participants' attitudes were not negative overall. Given that general measures of technology acceptance have been used to predict and explain technology use (e.g., Davis, 1989), these findings suggest that older users are willing to use assistive robots in their daily lives.

Again, this report presents descriptive statistics from the data we collected in this study. Inferential statistical comparisons are in progress. Our planned analyses will elucidate older adults' needs and preferences for robot assistance, as well as provide insight about the factors that drive those needs and preferences. By assessing older adults' acceptance of robots and including older adults early on in the design process, designers will be able to develop robots that are more likely to be accepted and adopted by older users. It is important to note that the participants in the present study were relatively healthy, independent elders and there is a need to extend this research to older adults in different contexts, such as those who live in assisted and skilled nursing residences and have greater needs for assistance.

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Appendix A: Background & Health Questionnaire

Background & Health Questionnaire

PLEASE READ:

- We would like to know a little about your background and health.
- Please answer the following questions by placing an \underline{X} in the appropriate box.
- Remember, this is an anonymous questionnaire.
- Published documents regarding these answers will not identify individuals with their answers.
- If there is a question you do not wish to answer, please just leave it blank and go on to the next question.
- Thank you in advance for your help.

Background Information

Gender: Male \square_1 Female \square_2
Age:
L. What is your highest level of education?
\square_1 No formal education
□ ₂ Less than high school graduate
□ ₃ High school graduate/GED
□ ₄ Vocational training
□ ₅ Some college/Associate's degree
□ ₆ Bachelor's degree (BA, BS)
\square_7 Master's degree (or other post-graduate training)
\square_8 Doctoral degree (PhD, MD, EdD, DDS, JD, etc.)
2. Current marital status (check <u>one</u>)
\square_1 Single
□ ₂ Married
□ ₃ Separated
□ ₄ Divorced
□ ₅ Widowed
\square_6 Other (please specify)

3.	Do	you consider yourself Hispanic or Latino?					
	\square_1	Yes					
	\square_2	No					
	3 a	If "Yes", would you describe yourself:					
		□₁ Cuban					
		□ ₂ Mexican					
		□ ₃ Puerto Rican					
		□ ₄ Other (please specify)					
4.	Ho	w would you describe your primary racial group?					
	\square_1	No Primary Group					
	□ ₂ White/Caucasian						
	□ ₃ Black/African American						
	\square_4	Asian					
	□ ₅ American Indian/Alaska Native						
	\square_6	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander					
	\square_7	Multi-racial					
	□8	Other (please specify)					

6 a	If "No", what is your primary language?
\square_2	No
\square_1	Yes
6. Is ∣	inglish your primary language?
\square_7	Other (please specify)
·	Relative's home
\square_5	Nursing home
\square_4	Assisted living
\square_3	Senior housing (independent)
\square_2	House/Apartment/Condominium
\square_1	Residence hall/College dormitory

5. In which type of housing do you live?

Health Information

1.	In general,	In general, would you say your health is:						
	\square_1	\square_2	\square_3	\square_4	\square_5			
	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent			
2.	Compared	to other people	e your own age, wo	uld you say you	r health is:			
	\square_1	\square_2	\square_3	\square_4	\square_5			
	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent			
3.	How satisf	ied are you wit	h your present heal	th?				
	\square_1	\square_2	\square_3	\square_4	\square_5			
	Not at all	Not very	Neither satisfied	Somewhat	Extremely			
	satisfied	satisfied	nor dissatisfied	satisfied	satisfied			
	How often ant to do?	do health prob	lems stand in the w	ay of your doin	g the things yo			
	\square_1	\square_2	\square_3	\square_4	\square_5			
	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Always			

5. The following items are about activities you might do during a typical day. Does your health now limit you in these activities? Check <u>one</u> box for each type of activity.

	Limited	Limited	Not limited
	$a lot_1$	a little ₂	at all ₃
a. Bathing or dressing yourself			
b. Bending, kneeling, or stooping			
c. Climbing one flight of stairs			
d. Climbing several flights of stairs			
e. Lifting or carrying groceries			
f. Moderate activities , such as moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, bowling, or playing golf			
g. Vigorous activities , such as running, lifting heavy objects, or participating in strenuous sports (e.g., swimming laps)			
h. Walking more than a mile			
i. Walking one block			
j. Walking several blocks			

6. For each of the following conditions please indicate if you have ever had that condition in your life, have the condition now at this time or never had the condition. Check <u>one</u> box for each condition.

Condition	In your lifetime ₁	Now ₂	Never ₃
a. Arthritis			
b. Asthma or Bronchitis			
c. Cancer (other than skin cancer)			
d. Diabetes			
e. Epilepsy			
f. Heart Disease			
g. Hypertension			
h. Stroke			
i. Other significant illnesses (please list)			

		questions is about your vision and hearing. Please indicate of the following conditions:
a.	Do you use e	eyeglasses?
	□₁ Yes	□ ₂ No
b.	Do you now glasses?	have trouble seeing with one or both eyes, even when wearing
	□₁ Yes	□ ₂ No
C.	Do you use h	nearing aids?
	\square_1 Yes	□ ₂ No

d. Do you now have any trouble hearing with one or both ears?

 \square_1 Yes \square_2 No

Medication Information Form

Please list the medical products that you are currently taking. Include medicinal herbs, vitamins, aspirin, etc., as well as prescription medications (copy names from label if possible).

Below is an example of how to fill out the form. If you take Ibuprofen for Arthritis two times a day, you would fill the form out as shown in the example below. There is space for up to eight different medications. If you take more than eight medications regularly, please list the rest on the back of the last page.

Name of Medication	Reason for taking medication	How often do you take this medication? (Please select one)
Example:		x Daily 2 times/day y Weekly times/week
Ibuprofen	Arthrítís	Monthly times/month As Needed

Please turn the page to list your medications

Name of Medication	Reason for taking medication	How often do you take this medication? (Please select one)
1.		Daily times/day
2.		Daily times/day
3.		Daily times/day
4.		Daily times/day Weekly times/week Monthly times/month As Needed

Name of Medication Reason for taking medication		How often do you take this medication? (Please select one)			
5.		Daily times/day			
6.		Daily times/day Weekly times/week Monthly times/month As Needed			
7.		Daily times/day Weekly times/week Monthly times/month As Needed			
8.		Daily times/day			

Appendix B: Technology Experience Questionnaire

Technology Experience Questionnaire

PLEASE READ:

- For the following questions, please think about <u>your</u> experiences in the last year with the different technologies.
- Think about your interactions with technologies inside and outside of your own home.
- Also, think about not only using your own technologies but also those of others.
- Please answer all questions by placing a check mark at the appropriate response or by circling the most appropriate response.

Technology Experience

1. Within the last year, please indicate how much you have used any of the technologies listed below.

	of the technologie	3 HSteu L	CIOVV.			
		Not sure		Used	Used	Used
		what it is ₁	Not used ₂	once ₃	occasionally ₄	frequently ₅
a.	Answering machine					
b.	Automated telephone menu system					
c.	Automatic teller machine (ATM)					
d.	Books on tape or compact disk (CD)					
e.	Cell phone					
f.	Copier					
g.	Digital photography (e.g., camera, camcorder)					
h.	Electronic book-reader (e.g., Kindle)					
i.	Fax machine					
j.	Home security system					
k.	In-car navigation system (e.g., GPS, OnStar)					
I.	In-store automated kiosk (e.g., self-checkout)					
m	. Microwave oven					
n.	MP3/IPod music player					
ο.	Personal digital assistant (PDA)					

	Not sure what it is ₁	Not used ₂	Used once₃	Used occasionally ₄	Used frequently₅
p. Programmable devices (e.g., thermostat, coffee maker)					
q. Recording and playback device (e.g., CD, DVD, VCR, DVR)					

2.	Do	you ever use a computer and/or the Internet?
		\square_1 Yes \square_2 No
3.	Hov	v often do you use the computer and/or Internet each week?
	\square_1	Less than 1 hour/week
		Between 1-5 hours/week
	\square_3 [More than 5, but less than 10 hours/week
	\square_4 :	10 or more hours/week
4.	Hov	v long have you been using the computer and/or Internet?
	\square_1	Less than 6 months
	\square_2	Between 6 months and 1 year
	\square_3	More than 1 year, but less than 5 years
	\square_4	5 or more years

Appendix C: Robot Familiarity and Use Questionnaire

Robot Familiarity and Use Questionnaire For the following robots, please indicate your familiarity in terms of hearing about them, using them, or operating them. Please circle only one option.

Robots	Not sure what this is ₀	Never heard about, seen, or used this robot ₁	Have only heard about or seen this robot ₂	Have used or operated this robot only occasionally ₃	Have used or operated this robot frequently4
1. Autonomous Car	0	1	2	3	4
2. Domestic/Home robot (e.g., Roomba)	0	1	2	3	4
3. Entertainment/toy robot (e.g., Aibo, Furby)	0	1	2	3	4
4. Manufacturing robot (e.g., robotic arm in factory)	0	1	2	3	4
5. Military Robot (e.g., search and rescue)	0	1	2	3	4
6. Personal Robot 2 (PR2)	0	1	2	3	4
7. Remote presence robot (e.g., Texai, Anybot)	0	1	2	3	4
8. Research robot (e.g., at university or company)	0	1	2	3	4
9. Robot lawn mower	0	1	2	3	4
10. Robot security guard	0	1	2	3	4
11. Space exploration robot (e.g., Mars Rover)	0	1	2	3	4
12. Surgical robot (e.g., da Vinci Surgical System)	0	1	2	3	4
13. Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV)	0	1	2	3	4

Appendix D: Assistance Preference Checklist

Assistance Preference Checklist

We are interested in learning about older adults' preferences for assistance in performing daily living tasks. In particular, we are looking for opinions about human assistance and robot assistance. When completing this questionnaire, please <u>imagine</u> you need assistance in everyday life with various tasks.

For each of the following tasks, please provide your opinion about your:

- Preference for human assistance
- No preference
- Preference for robot assistance

Assume that the robot could perform the task to the level of a human.

Please circle the most appropriate response for your general preference (we understand that there may be exceptions).

On the last page, there is space for you to provide additional comments about your preferences for having robot and human assistance.

		If I needed assistance, I would prefer help from Only a Prefer No Prefer Only a				
	If I needed assistance with		Prefer a human ₂	No Preference ₃	Prefer a robot ₄	Only a robot₅
a.	Bathing	1	2	3	4	5
b.	Being entertained (e.g., playing games, dancing)	1	2	3	4	5
c.	Being reminded of appointments	1	2	3	4	5
d.	Being reminded of daily activities	1	2	3	4	5
e.	Being reminded to take medicine	1	2	3	4	5
f.	Brushing teeth	1	2	3	4	5
g.	Calling doctors/911	1	2	3	4	5
h.	Calling family/friends	1	2	3	4	5
i.	Changing light bulbs	1	2	3	4	5
j.	Cleaning bathrooms	1	2	3	4	5
k.	Cleaning kitchen	1	2	3	4	5
I.	Cleaning windows	1	2	3	4	5
m.	Controlling for pests/rodents	1	2	3	4	5
n.	Deciding what medication to take	1	2	3	4	5
О.	Doing laundry	1	2	3	4	5
p.	Eating/feeding myself	1	2	3	4	5
q.	Entertaining guests	1	2	3	4	5
r.	Exercising	1	2	3	4	5
s.	Fetching objects from floor (e.g., remote control) or other room (e.g., drink from refrigerator)	1	2	3	4	5
t.	Finding/delivering items (e.g., car keys, glasses)	1	2	3	4	5
u.	Gardening/pruning	1	2	3	4	5
٧.	Getting dressed	1	2	3	4	5
w.	Getting information on hobbies/topics of interest	1	2	3	4	5
x.	Getting information on weather/news	1	2	3	4	5

		If I needed assistance, I would prefer help from				
	If I needed assistance with		Prefer a human ₂	No Preference ₃	Prefer a robot ₄	Only a robot₅
у.	Grocery shopping	1	2	3	4	5
z.	Keeping refrigerator clean/stocked	1	2	3	4	5
	Learning how to use new technologies	1	2	3	4	5
bb.	Learning new skills (e.g., second language, new technology)	1	2	3	4	5
cc.	Loading/unloading dishwasher	1	2	3	4	5
dd.	Maintaining lawn/raking leaves	1	2	3	4	5
ee.	Making bed/changing sheets	1	2	3	4	5
ff.	Monitoring home/warning about dangers (e.g., fire)	1	2	3	4	5
	Opening and closing doors/ drawers	1	2	3	4	5
hh.	Painting (e.g., interior/exterior of home)	1	2	3	4	5
ii.	Picking up/moving heavy objects (e.g., furniture)	1	2	3	4	5
jj.	Preparing meals/cooking	1	2	3	4	5
	Reaching for objects	1	2	3	4	5
II.	Repairing plumbing (e.g., fixing leaking faucets)	1	2	3	4	5
	Setting the table	1	2	3	4	5
	Shaving	1	2	3	4	5
	Sorting mail, shredding, throwing away junk mail	1	2	3	4	5
	Sweeping/scrubbing/mopping	1	2	3	4	5
qq.	Taking medicine	1	2	3	4	5
rr.	Taking out trash/recyclables	1	2	3	4	5
SS.	Walking	1	2	3	4	5
tt.	Washing dishes by hand	1	2	3	4	5
	Washing/combing hair	1	2	3	4	5
VV.	Watering plants	1	2	3	4	5

want it to do? (you may list from 0-5 t	asks)
1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
3. Please write any comments about h	now you answered these questions here:
4. Are there any additional tasks with	which you would like robotic assistance? (you may list
from 0-5 additional tasks)	Which you would like robotic assistance. (you may list
1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	

2. If the robot could perform only 5 of the tasks listed on the previous pages, which 5 would you

Appendix E: Robot Opinions Questionnaire

Robot Opinions Questionnaire

Imagine that you have the opportunity to use or operate a robot. Please place an X in the response box that best represents your general opinion (we understand that there may be exceptions).

1. My inter	action with	a robot wo	uld be clea	r and under	standable.	
\Box_1 Extremely Unlikely		□₃ Slightly Unlikely	□ ₄ Neither	□₅ Slightly Likely		\square_7 Extremely Likely
2. I would f	ind a robo	t useful in m	ny daily life			
\Box_1 Extremely Unlikely		\square_3 Slightly Unlikely		□₅ Slightly Likely		\square_{7} Extremely Likely
3. Using a	robot woul	d enhance ı	ny effective	eness in my	daily life.	
\Box_1 Extremely Unlikely		□₃ Slightly Unlikely	Neither	□₅ Slightly Likely		
4. Using a	robot in m	y daily life w	ould increa	ase my prod	luctivity.	
\Box_1 Extremely Unlikely	Quite	\square_3 Slightly Unlikely	Neither	□₅ Slightly Likely		•
5. Using a	robot woul	d make my	daily life ea	ısier.		
\Box_1 Extremely Unlikely		\square_3 Slightly Unlikely		-		=
6. Using a	robot woul	d improve r	ny daily life	٠.		
\Box_1 Extremely Unlikely	Quite	□₃ Slightly Unlikely		0 ,		

7. Using a robot in my daily life would enable me to accomplish tasks more quickly.									
\Box_1 Extremely Unlikely	\square_2 Quite Unlikely	□₃ Slightly Unlikely	□ ₄ Neither	□₅ Slightly Likely	\Box_6 Quite Likely	\square_7 Extremely Likely			
8. I would find a robot easy to use.									
\Box_1 Extremely Unlikely	\square_2 Quite Unlikely	\square_3 Slightly Unlikely	□ ₄ Neither	□₅ Slightly Likely	□ ₆ Quite Likely	□ ₇ Extremely Likely			
9. I would find a robot to be flexible for me to interact with.									
□ ₁ Extremely Unlikely	□₂ Quite Unlikely	□₃ Slightly Unlikely	□ ₄ Neither	□₅ Slightly Likely	\Box_6 Quite Likely	□ ₇ Extremely Likely			
10. It would	be easy fo	or me to beco	ome skillful	at using a r	obot.				
\Box_1 Extremely Unlikely	□₂ Quite Unlikely	□ ₃ Slightly Unlikely	□ ₄ Neither	□₅ Slightly Likely	\Box_6 Quite Likely	□ ₇ Extremely Likely			
11. I would find it easy to get a robot to do what I want it to do.									
\Box_1 Extremely Unlikely	\square_2 Quite Unlikely	\square_3 Slightly Unlikely	□ ₄ Neither	\square_5 Slightly Likely	\Box_6 Quite Likely	□ ₇ Extremely Likely			
12. Learning to operate a robot would be easy for me.									
□₁ Extremely Unlikely	\square_2 Quite Unlikely	\square_3 Slightly Unlikely	□ ₄ Neither	□₅ Slightly Likely	\Box_6 Quite Likely	□ ₇ Extremely Likely			