EXAMINING IDENTITY CONCERNS AND THE USE OF ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF COMMUNITY-DWELLING OLDER ADULTS: A SCOPING REVIEW

Yanet Morejon Hernandez. PhD Candidate

Grevet Moyo. PhD Candidate

Prof. Deirdre Desmond

Dept. of Psychology & Assisting Living and Learning Institute

Maynooth University, Ireland

Yanet.MorejonHernandez.2021@mumail.ie
@MhYanet (Twitter)

Scoping Review Framework

Identity Concerns

Assistive Technology (AT)

(Khasnabis et al. 2015)

Ageing and older population

Previous work (Astell et al. 2020; Larsen et al. 2019)
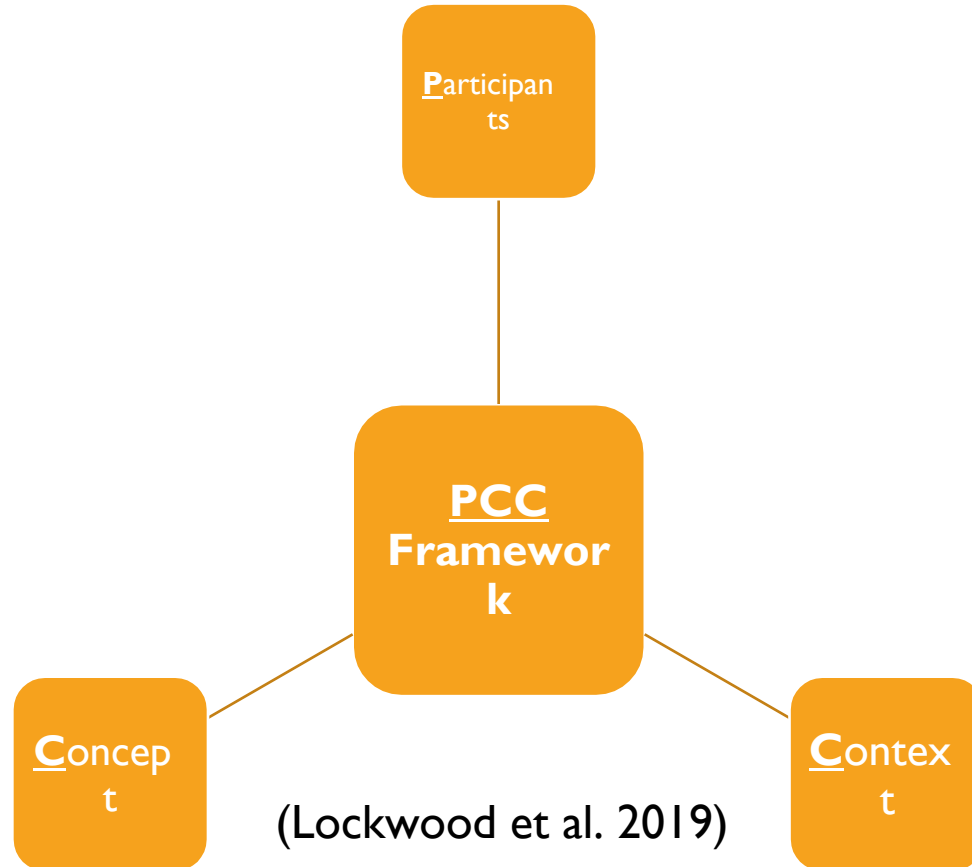
Scoping Review Methods

Review Questions:

1. How has identity been conceptualised and operationalised in research on AT use by older adults?

2. What are the psychosocial impacts of identity-related concerns about AT use from the perspective of community-dwelling older adults?

DatabasesSearch: EMBASE, PsychINFO, PubMed, SAGE, Scopus, y Web of Science

Scoping Review Methods

Participants

PCC Framework
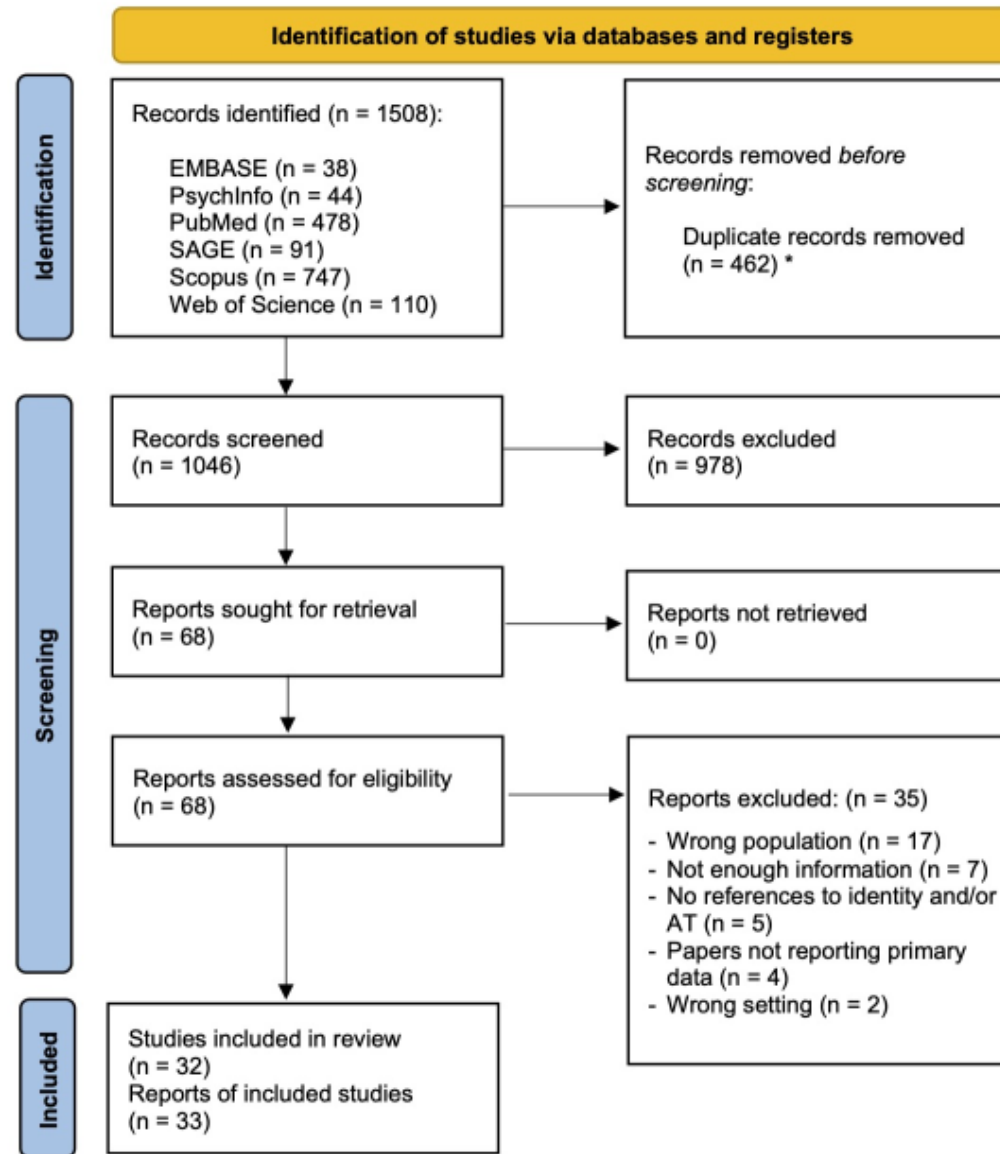
Concept

Context

(Lockwood et al. 2019)

Eligibility Criteria

- Peer-reviewed published papers in English and Spanish

- Years 2000-2022

- Papers referring to identity-related concerns around the use of AT

- Empirical studies where at least 70% of the participants were aged 60 years and above
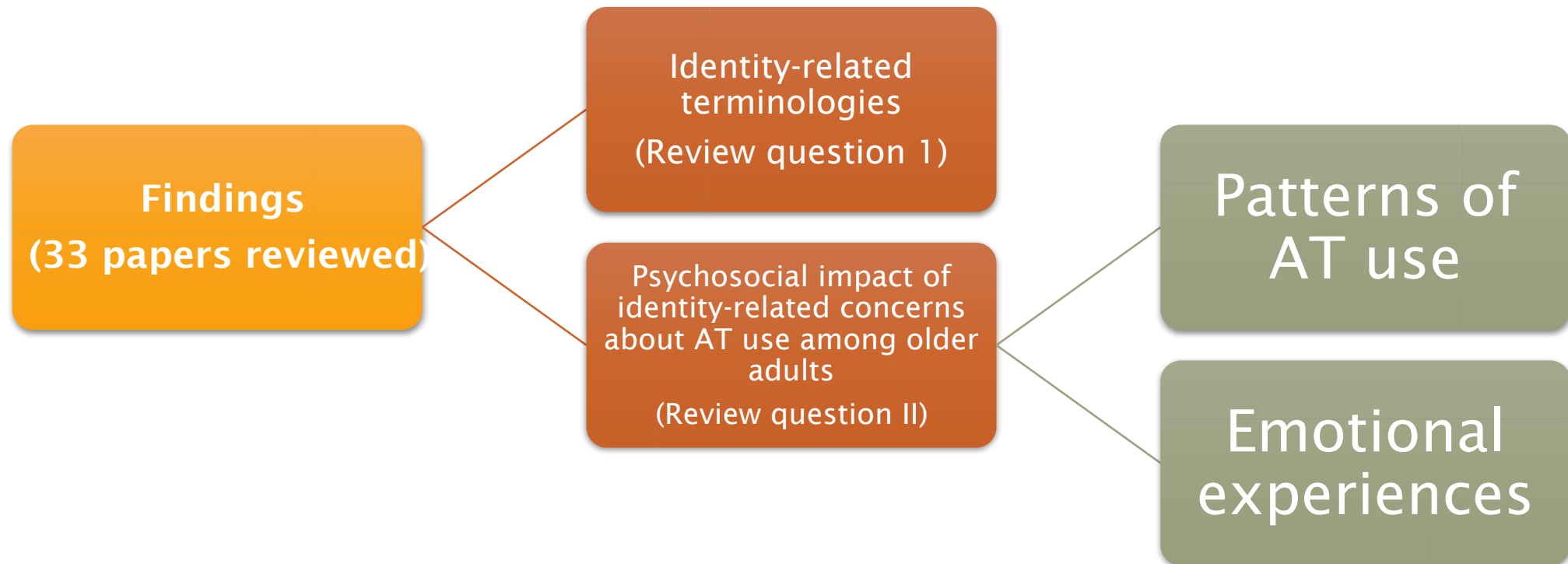
Scoping Review Findings

PRISMA Flow Diagram

Identification of studies via databases and registers

Identification

Records identified (n = 1508):

- EMBASE (n = 38)
- PsychInfo (n = 44)
- PubMed (n = 478)
- SAGE (n = 91)
- Scopus (n = 747)
- Web of Science (n = 110)

→ Records removed *before screening*:

- Duplicate records removed (n = 462) *

Screening

Records screened (n = 1046) → Records excluded (n = 978)

Reports sought for retrieval (n = 68) → Reports not retrieved (n = 0)

Reports assessed for eligibility (n = 68) → Reports excluded: (n = 35)

- Wrong population (n = 17)
- Not enough information (n = 7)
- No references to identity and/or AT (n = 5)
- Papers not reporting primary data (n = 4)
- Wrong setting (n = 2)

Included

Studies included in review (n = 32)
Reports of included studies (n = 33)

Scoping Review Findings

Characteristics of the studies

Countries	Methods	Types of AT
- UUEE (11) - UK (4) - China, Netherlands and Spain (2 each) - Austria, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Ireland, Norway, Puerto Rico, South Korea, Sweden and Scotland (1 each)	- Qualitative (29) - Quantitative (9) - Mix Methods (2)	- Walking aids (walkers, walking stick, walking frame, rollators, crutches wheelchairs, handrails, scooters) (15) - Communication and Information Technologies (tablets, smart phones, computers, etc.) (13) - General (10) and vital signs monitoring (10) - Medication, Hygiene, Food Intake (pill organisers, washing feeding aids, dressers, jar opener) (9) - Fall detection sensors (8) - Fire and Security alarm systems (5) - Location/ Tracking/ Occupancy (5) - Smart Home Technologies (5)

Scoping Review Findings

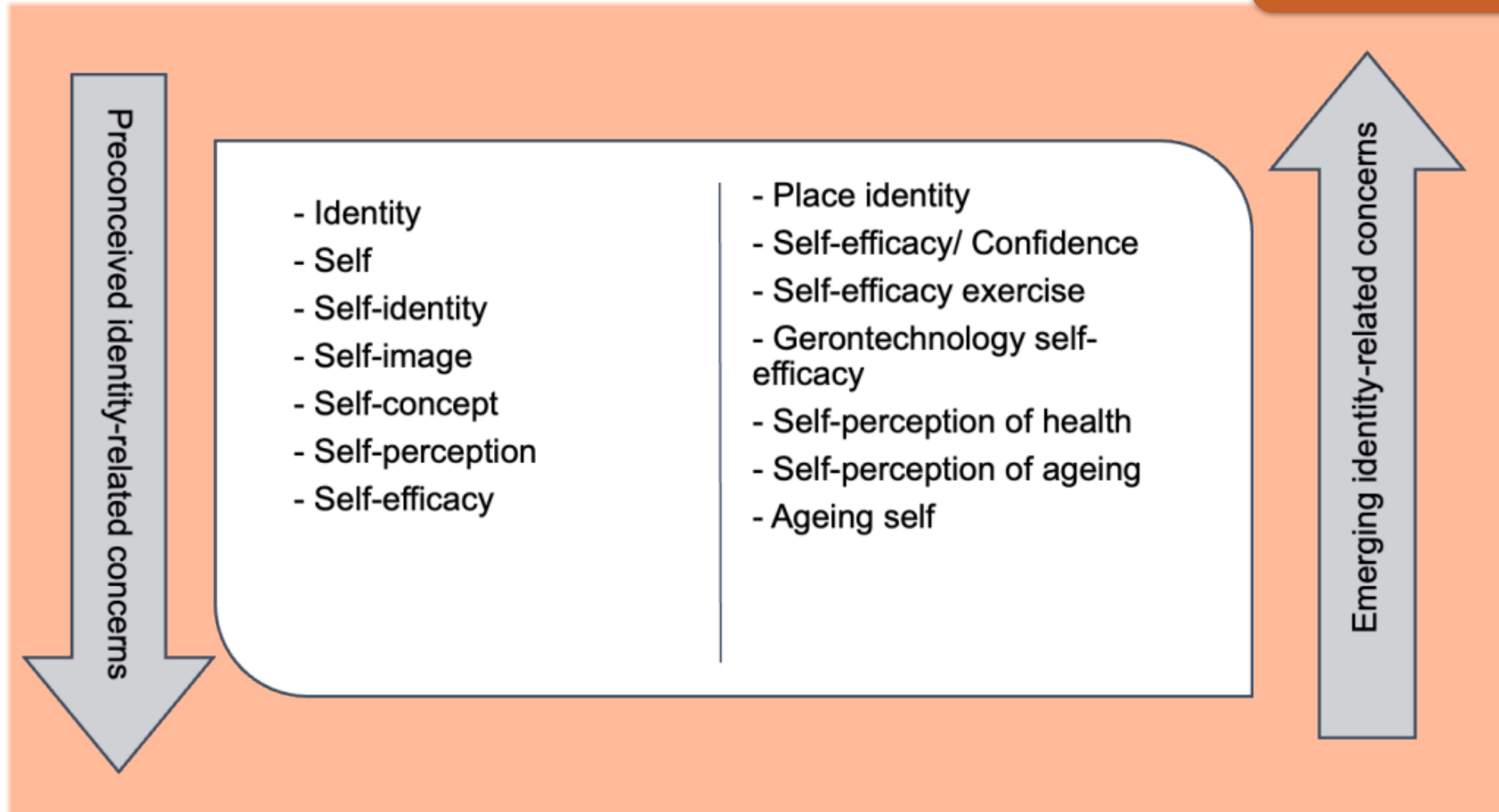# Scoping Review Findings

Identity-related Categories	Identity-related subcategories		Number of papers
Identity (17)	Identity		8
	Place identity		6
	Self-identity		3
Self (27)	Self-efficacy		8
		Self-efficacy/ Confidence	1
		Gerontechnology self-efficacy	1
		Self-efficacy exercise	1
	Self-perception		5
	Self-image		5
	Self-concept		3
	Self		3

Scoping Review Findings

Identity-related terminologies (Review question 1)

Preconceived identity-related concerns

Emerging identity-related concerns

- Identity
- Self
- Self-identity
- Self-image
- Self-concept
- Self-perception
- Self-efficacy

- Place identity
- Self-efficacy/ Confidence
- Self-efficacy exercise
- Gerontechnology self-efficacy
- Self-perception of health
- Self-perception of ageing
- Ageing self

Scoping Review Findings

Psychosocial impact of identity-related concerns about AT use among older adults

(Review question II)

Patterns of AT use

• Perception/Self-perception of AT use need (14)
• Forgetfulness and loss of AT (4)
• Substitution (3)
• Covering in public places (3)
• Avoiding going outdoors (2)

• Negotiations (2)
• Delaying AT use (2)
• Resignation (2)
• Pragmatic customizations (1)
• New functionalities (1)
• Integration with daily outfit (1)

Scoping Review Findings

Psychosocial impact of identity-related concerns about AT use among older adults

(Review question II)

Emotional experiences

Positive experiences

- Independence and autonomy (10)
- Control (6)
- Communication improvements (5)
- Security (5)
- Safety (5)
- Peace of mind (2)

Negative experiences
- Loss of independence and autonomy (9)
- Stigma (9)
- Feelings of anxiety (5)
- Pride (4)
- Dignity (3)
- Feeling unsafe (3)
- Feeling isolated (3)
- Embodiment (2)
- Embarrassment (1)

Conclusions and Recommendations

▶ Predominance of terms related to *self* and a wide array of overlapping conceptualizations.

▶ Two approaches in understanding identity-related concerns: 1. ***structurally-oriented*** and 2. ***perspective-oriented.***

▶ Concerns about identity and self appear to be relevant for older adults at all stages of AT adoption, including phases of non-use.

▶ Personalisation and innovative solutions help to better fit users' needs and manage stigma, suggesting a user's active role and the malleability as a potential AT feature.

Conclusions and Recommendations

► Evidence of the concomitance of identity reconstruction, AT use, ageing and health status, as **ongoing processes** that may influence each other. Future research should consider methodological approaches that capture the dynamics of this relationship at individual levels

► Further research may inform about other strategies used by older adults when dealing with identity concerns around AT use and what support do they receive from relevant stakeholders.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND CREDITS

❖ All images were obtained from the UK Centre for Ageing Better Free Resource Space (https://ageingbetter.resourcespace.com/pages/home.php)

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