Daily impairment, distraction and personal experience

“We shouldn’t judge every person similarly, and the pain similarly as well; chronic pain as well as everyone pain is totally different” (Pain Participant)

Music is often chosen based on personal taste and preferences rather than relying on genres or sounds that are conventionally considered relaxing. Music and sound can also serve as a mediator by facilitating communication during therapy sessions.

Understanding and explaining the pain

“When she got pain like she can’t explain and we can’t understand because you can’t see the pain” (Carer Participant)

Not being able to communicate one’s own pain and the parallel difficulty of carers and professionals to understand it, might end up generating feelings of loneliness and frustration.

Economical accessibility

“I’m very open for using technology [but] I think it’s also being aware of how much money the government can put into making practical and functional solutions at an affordable rate” (Pain Participant)

Sonification as a medium for a co-operative AI

Sound can establish a dialogue among all the actors in the care process, creating a shared decision-making space in which they can facilitate and help each other, by directly translating their body into music.

Person-centred and accessible technology

We aim to establish a horizontal relationship between the person and the technology, a dialogue between trusted peers rather than a vertical hierarchical system where either the machine controls the human or vice-versa.

Taking ownership of the pain

Our participants expressed a desire for an easily accessible and on-demand tool that is available in real-time, fits their unique pain experience, and serves as a meaningful support mechanism – a Digital Pain Companion.

Conclusions box

With Sound of Care individuals will engage with a three-dimensional sound space. AI allows a central role in this process to create a dialogue among all elements of care with a co-operative environment.

Future work

In this work, we proposed a novel approach to experimenting and conceptualising AI and technology applications in healthcare through the Digital Pain Companion, contributing to the ongoing discussion from the extension of the UTAUT2 framework.

REFERENCES

We don’t need to use technology to educate people on what is helpful for them, but we need to educate machines to learn what is helpful from the people.