

## Consent form

### Digi-Ageing – Screening Tool

<b>Patient Full Name:</b>	
<b>Patient Number:</b>	
<b>Full Name of the Healthcare professional:</b>	

#### **Short description of Digi-ageing screening tool**

The Digi-ageing screening tool aims to identify and measure loneliness. The tool proposes a multiparametric assessment of loneliness based on various and diverse criteria selected through desktop research and end-user involvement (field research) such as healthcare professionals, caregivers, trainers etc. This tool includes a combination of standardized tools such as the Revised UCLA loneliness scale and novel assessments created by the Digi-ageing team in order to evaluate the risk of developing loneliness in a user-friendly and efficient manner for both older adults and healthcare professionals in modern institutions.

Please, remember that the Digi-ageing tool cannot replace a formal assessment by a healthcare professional. This Screening Tool aims ONLY to be an assistive, complementary tool for healthcare professionals in evaluating older adults' risk of developing/exhibiting loneliness symptoms by proposing a step-by-step quick assessment procedure. You should not, by any means, rely solely on this tool for the diagnosis of clinically significant loneliness. The results of the Digi-ageing assessment should be considered in the context of your healthcare professional's clinical judgement.

#### **Details of any dangers that may occur or inconvenience to participants in the program**

Pilot trials: During the pilot trials the researchers take all necessary measures to avoid any risk or inconvenience for you during your participation in the Digi-Ageing project. The people who will administrate this screening tool, are staff members of Materia Group and are evaluated frequently with regards to their work ethics and code of conduct. The Digi-Ageing tool has been tested by a team of experts before its administration to real users to ensure user safety and eliminate any potential risks. If for any reason you feel that there is a risk to you or if you have any questions about your safety while participating in the Digi-Ageing project, you can contact the Program researchers for further clarification (See "Contact details" section below). Finally, you can withdraw from using the tool or the study at any time point, without giving any explanation and without any consequences.



### **Details of what information will be collected under the research proposal, who / who will have access to it and for how long**

Throughout your participation in the project, only the absolutely necessary information for the study will be collected. These data include demographic characteristics (such as gender, age) and your technological skills. You will also be asked to rate the usefulness of the tool that will be developed, whether you like it or not, how often you look forward to using it in your daily life, etc. This information will be collected anonymously. Personal information such as your name and contact details will be available only to local researchers of your country (Cyprus) so that they can contact you during the study. This information will not be disclosed to anyone other than the project research team in Cyprus and will be stored in a safe place.

Any data collected in printed form during the project is kept in the office of the Project Manager and to which only the Cyprus project team has access. The site has special lockers that lock for the storage of project data to which no third party has access. The anonymous data and personal data collected by you will be kept for up to 5 years after the end of the program in a safe and secure place (either physical or online) to which only the project team has access. The digital data collected during the project is stored on a local server (server) that meets the data protection protocols, to which only the Cyprus project team has access.

After the end of the study and for their destruction, specific procedures of destruction of documents will be followed in order to ensure the anonymity of the participants and the protection of their data. In addition, access to the data will be cut off for any researchers who withdraw from the study.

### **Expected benefit for participants**

Your participation in the Digi-Ageing project will be free and voluntary. You will not receive any financial or material compensation. The benefit for you is the knowledge you will gain (e.g., familiarization with the use of ICT tools) and the access to the network we will create to address loneliness in old age. Also, with your participation you will significantly contribute to improving the quality of life of other people and to the creation of educational material for the caregivers of this vulnerable group.

### **Expected benefit for researchers and / or funders**

The expected benefits for the Digi-ageing consortium are the promotion of research and scientific activities, enrichment of experiences and knowledge that will result cumulatively from the involvement of partners in the Digi-Ageing research activities and the creation of educational material.

### **Description of procedures for handling participants' data that will be withdrawn from the study before its completion**

You have the right to withdraw from the study at any time you wish without having to justify your choice without any consequences. Also, at any time, you have the right to request the non-use or complete deletion of the anonymous data collected by you during the project, in printed and digital form. If you choose to withdraw from the project but do not wish to have your data deleted, then, for research purposes, your anonymous data will be used for all analyzes without any further action being required by you. In all cases, subsequent uses of files and data will be subject to the standards of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) legislation.

### **Contact details for more information regarding the Digi-ageing project**



# Digi-Ageing

overcoming loneliness

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I agree that (check all applicable):

- ☐ I have been given sufficient information about this research tool and the opportunity to receive further answers for my concerns/questions in the future.
- ☐ My participation in this project is voluntary. There is no explicit or implicit coercion whatsoever to participate.
- ☐ It is clear to me that at any point of time I am fully entitled to withdraw from participation without any consequence.
- ☐ I have the right not to answer any of the questions. If I feel uncomfortable in any way during the session with the healthcare professional, I have the right to withdraw from the session.
- ☐ I have been given the explicit guarantees that, if I wish so, the healthcare professional will not identify me by name or function in any reports using information obtained from this session, and that my confidentiality as a participant in this study will remain secure. In all cases subsequent uses of records and data will be subject to standard of GDPR legislation.
- ☐ I have read and understood the points and statements of this form. I have had all my questions answered to my satisfaction, and I voluntarily agree to participate in this study.
- ☐ I have been given a copy of this consent form co-signed by the healthcare professional.
- ☐ I agree to receive further information on Digi-Ageing project

<b>Patient/Participant</b> Signature and Date	
<b>Healthcare professional</b> Signature and Date	