

# LSE Research Online

Brian O'Neill, Catherine Best, Lauren O'Neill, Sara D. S. Ramos, <u>Alex Gillespie</u> Efficacy of a micro-prompting technology in reducing support needed by people with

severe acquired brain injury in activities of daily living

## Article (Accepted version) (Refereed)

#### **Original citation:**

O'Neill, Brian and Best, Catherine and O'Neill, Lauren and Ramos, Sara D. S. and Gillespie, Alex (2017) Efficacy of a micro-prompting technology in reducing support needed by people with severe acquired brain injury in activities of daily living. Journal of Head Trauma Rehabilitation. ISSN 0885-9701

DOI: 10.1097/HTR.00000000000358

© 2018 Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc.

This version available at: <u>http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/87035/</u>

Available in LSE Research Online: March 2018

LSE has developed LSE Research Online so that users may access research output of the School. Copyright © and Moral Rights for the papers on this site are retained by the individual authors and/or other copyright owners. Users may download and/or print one copy of any article(s) in LSE Research Online to facilitate their private study or for non-commercial research. You may not engage in further distribution of the material or use it for any profit-making activities or any commercial gain. You may freely distribute the URL (http://eprints.lse.ac.uk) of the LSE Research Online website.

This document is the author's final accepted version of the journal article. There may be differences between this version and the published version. You are advised to consult the publisher's version if you wish to cite from it.

# http://eprints.lse.ac.uk

1	Efficacy of a micro-prompting technology in reducing support needed by people with
2	severe acquired brain injury in activities of daily living: A randomised control trial
3	
4	Brian O'Neill1 * DClinPsy; Catherine Best2 PhD; Lauren O'Neill1 BSc;
5	Sara D. S. Ramos1 PhD; Alex Gillespie3 PhD
6	
7	1. Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust; 2. University of Stirling; 3. London School of
8	Economics
9	
10	* Corresponding author, address: Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust, Graham Anderson
11	House, 1161 Springburn Road, Glasgow, G21 1UU, UK
12	Telephone: +44 1414066060. E-mail: brian.oneill@thedtgroup.org
13	
14	Acknowledgements: Research supported by a grant from the Chief Scientists Office,
15	Scottish Government (CZH/4/598). Thanks to Michael Oddy, Paula Gribben and Donna
16	Lindop for consultation on the needs of persons with brain injury. Thanks to Naomi Bowers
17	for helpwith data collection. Thanks to the Rehabilitation Support Workers who allowed their
18	scaffolding of sequences to be recorded and used in the development of Guide activity
19	protocols. We are forever indebted to the service users who agreed to participate in the
20	development and clinical trial phases of this study.
21	Potential conflict of interests: The article reports the efficacy of a micro-prompting device
22	(called 'Guide'), developed with support from the Chief Scientist Office, and, as an Android
23	and iOS compatible application, with support from the Disabilities Trust, a not-for-profit
24	organisation, parent charity of the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust and therefore employer
25	of SDSR, BON and LON. No other potential conflicts of interest were identified.

27	severe acquired brain injury in activities of daily living: A randomised control trial
28	
29	Abstract
30	Objective: To evaluate the effectiveness of an automated interactive prompting technology
31	in supporting the morning routine of persons with acquired brain injury (ABI). The morning
32	routine included maintaining personal hygiene and dressing.
33	Setting: An inpatient neuro-rehabilitation hospital.
34	Participants: Persons with ABI who required prompting when following their morning
35	routine (n=24), but were not limited by physical disability or dysphasia, took part in the
36	study. Participants (67% TBI) had impairment on indices of memory and executive function.
37	Design: A randomised control trial evaluated the effect of an automated interactive micro-
38	prompting device on the number of prompts by trained staff required for successful
39	completion of the morning routine.
40	Main Measures: Study specific checklists assessed sequence performance, errors and verbal
41	prompts required over baseline, rehabilitation as usual, intervention and return to baseline
42	conditions.
43	<b>Results:</b> The intervention significantly reduced the support required to complete the task
44	compared with usual rehabilitation.
45	Conclusions: Micro prompting technology is an effective assistive technology for cognition,
46	which reduces support needs in people with significant cognitive impairments.
47	
48	Keywords:
49	Brain injuries; Activities of Daily Living; Assistive Technology; Cognition; Rehabilitation;
50	Caregiving

Efficacy of a micro-prompting technology in reducing support needed by people with

26

#### 51 INTRODUCTION

#### 52 Assistive technology for cognition

Assistive technology for cognition (ATC) enables, enhances or extends cognitive function.<sup>1</sup>
 Technology has long been studied as an extension of human abilities.<sup>2,3</sup> However, it is only
 recently that attention has focused on how technologies might enhance and extend cognition.
 <sup>4,5</sup>

57

#### 58 **Prompting by carers**

People who need carer support with activities of daily living and those who are independent 59 can be differentiated by cognitive profiles <sup>6</sup>. Deficits in performance of activities of daily 60 living are related to performance on executive function tasks.<sup>7</sup> The predominant 61 compensations for difficulties in activities of daily living involve assistance by formal or 62 informal caregivers; <sup>8</sup> observation of caregiver behaviours reveals that they often provide 63 verbal scaffolding to augment cognitive performance such as prompting, reminding, drawing 64 attention to and structuring plans of action  $^{9-11}$ . Thus, it appears that carers are primarily 65 providing "scaffolding" for executive and memory functions. Given that such support is time-66 consuming to deliver, recent research has examined whether ATC might be a viable 67 alternative to carers supporting executive and memory function in people with cognitive 68 impairment during activities of daily living. 69

70

#### 71 **Prompting technologies**

Prompting technologies are a class of ATC <sup>1,12</sup> that can increase independent activity in
persons usually requiring carer input <sup>13</sup>. Prompting devices store information about actions to
be carried out and provide timely cues <sup>14</sup>. They are divided into two functional classes:
prospective prompting devices and micro-prompting devices.

76

Prospective prompting devices remind users to engage in an activity (e. g. Take medication, visit the dentist or water the houseplants); they operate via portable or wearable personal digital assistants (PDAs) such as mobile phones <sup>15</sup>, pagers <sup>16</sup>, voice recorders <sup>17</sup> and smartwatches that give reminders <sup>18</sup> by way of text alerts or audio cues. Prospective memory aids can be used to give reminders to ambulatory persons <sup>15–18</sup> or to persons in a set location within the home <sup>19</sup>, care home <sup>20</sup>, or vehicle <sup>21</sup>. These devices support retention and acting on future intentions in the medium and long term.

84

Micro prompting devices support complex goal-directed task performances that rely on a
number of related cognitive abilities such as task organization, attending to the task, set
maintenance, set shifting (between activities), retaining the intention and recall of problem
solving heuristics. Micro-prompting devices are designed to support these cognitive functions
required when multiple steps must be carried out in a specific order. Trials to date have
supported sequences such as hand-washing <sup>22</sup>, donning of prosthetic limbs <sup>23</sup>, tooth brushing
<sup>24</sup> and blood glucose checking <sup>25</sup>.

92

A review of 91 studies on ATC concluded that more randomized control trials were
necessary, but that such testing should focus on ATC functions rather than individual devices,
which are rapidly changing<sup>26</sup>. The present article reports on the first RCT of a microprompting device that emulates caregiver scaffolding of executive and memory function
using audio prompts and verbal interaction. This study tests whether an audio prompting
device can be an effective cognitive orthotic for individuals with acquired brain injury and
behavioural dysregulation during performance of the morning routine.

100

#### 101 **Research questions**

102 The study aimed to test the hypothesis that interactive verbal scaffolding by a micro-

prompting device would reduce need for carer support during performance of the morningroutine.

105

#### 106 **METHOD**

107 Setting

The study was conducted in a specialist acquired brain injury (ABI) rehabilitation centre that
provides service to individuals with acquired brain injury and behavioural dysregulation/
disturbances. <sup>27–29</sup>.

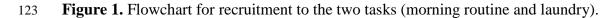
111

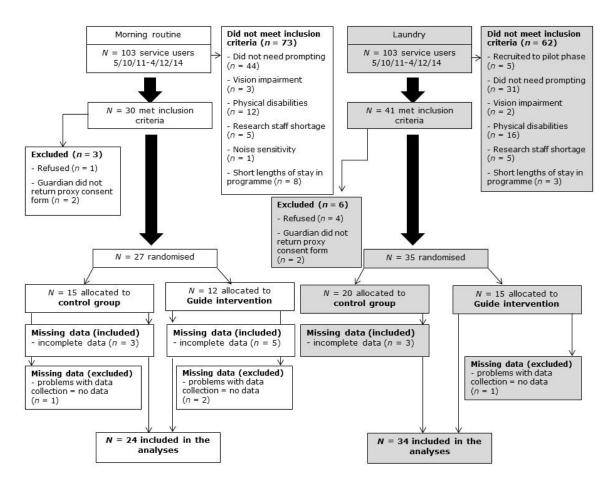
#### 112 **Participants**

One hundred and three adults with ABI aged 18-65 received rehabilitation at the study site 113 during the test phase of the study. Figure 1 shows a recruitment flow-chart enumerating 114 reasons for exclusion and dropout. Comparable research <sup>30</sup> investigating errorless learning of 115 a routine in a sample of people with ABI found an effect size of 1.2. With this effect size and 116 significance set at the .05 level, a total of 13 participants would allow a power of .80 for 117 detection of a significant difference in learning. To be conservative we aimed to recruit 20 118 participants. A total of 27 participants were recruited and randomised to either intervention or 119 120 control group.

121

122





124 125

The inclusion criteria were: (1) having functional problems in carrying out the morning routine and (2) being able to perform the task if given appropriate verbal prompts. The exclusion criteria were: (1) inability to follow a single sentence verbal instruction (e. g. due to severe dysphasia) or (2) physically unable to perform the given task.

130

#### 131 Aetiology of Injury

```
132 The aetiology of injury for the majority of the 24 participants was traumatic brain injury
```

- 133 (n=16, 66.7%). Of these, eight (50%) had falls, four (25%) were injured in road traffic
- accidents (all as pedestrians), three (19%) were assaulted, and one (6%) sustained another

135 form of TBI.

136 Non-traumatic injuries were incurred by the remaining eight (32.5%). Of these, three

137 sustained subarachnoid haemorrhages (38%), two hypoglycaemia (25%), two had vasculitis

138 (25%) and one had a nutritional deficiency (12.5%). The mean time since brain injury for the

total sample was five and a half years.

140

#### 141 MATERIALS

#### 142 Measures

A 'Morning Checklist' (see Appendix) was produced based on the necessary steps for 143 completion of the morning routine and the list of possible errors. All trials were scored using 144 these checklists by the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust's (BIRT) Rehabilitation Support 145 Workers who noted: number of support worker interventions (an index of independence in 146 the activity, following the methodology of Mihailidis et al.<sup>22</sup>), number of safety critical and 147 general errors (following the methodology of O'Neill et al. <sup>23</sup>), deviations from and 148 repetitions of the necessary sequence (following the methodology of Semkovska et al.<sup>31</sup>). 149 Participants rated on an accessible five-point scale how happy they were with the task 150 (referred to as the 'Satisfaction score'). 151

152

#### 153 Neuropsychological functioning

A neuropsychological profile was obtained for each participant using measures of: premorbid
intelligence (Test of Premorbid Function UK); current intellectual ability (Wechsler Adult
Intelligence Scale-IV – WAIS-IV); memory (Rivermead Behavioural Memory Test-3);
visuospatial function (Perceptual Reasoning Index of the WAIS-IV); language (Verbal
Comprehension Index of the WAIS-IV); executive function (Behavioural Assessment of
Dysexecutive Function) and emotional state (Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scales).

160

#### 161 Micro Prompting Device: Guide

Guide is an audio-verbal interactive micro-prompting software designed to emulate the verbal prompts and questions provided by carers or support workers. The intervention automatically emulates the naturalistic question and answer dialogue in which a person with how-to knowledge of a task verbally scaffolds the performance of the task by a person without that knowledge. <sup>32</sup> Guide has previously been shown to be effective in supporting individuals to don prosthetic limbs <sup>23</sup> and in supporting the morning routine for an individual with history of intracerebral haemorrhage living at home <sup>33</sup>.

169

The Guide system used had four components: (1) A Windows-enabled Dell Precision M4500
PC, Creative T10 speakers and an Acoustic Magic Voice Tracker II directional microphone;
(2) Dragon Naturally Speaking speech recognition software; (3) Guide activity protocols
(created during the development and piloting phases); and (4) the Guide activity protocol
player, that is, software which received the verbal responses, matched them to the protocol,
and triggered the appropriate prompt.

176

The Guide systems were located in the participants' bedrooms. There was a software timer 177 which started the audio prompting at a time agreed upon with the participant - most 178 commonly 8 am. At 8 am the introductory prompt would be given: 'Good morning [name] 179 it's 8 o'clock time to get up'. After a pause, the prompting device would issues further checks 180 (e. g. 'Are you out of bed?'). The user could respond 'yes', 'no' or they could say 'what?' to 181 have the question repeated. In this way the Guide system checked progress through the 182 morning routine and issued the next appropriate prompt, given the feedback from the 183 participant. 184

185

#### 186 **Procedure**

We chose to target the familiar task of getting ready in the morning. The first phase of the study entailed developing a suitable prompting protocol that, in the second phase, was tested for efficacy against treatment as usual.

190

#### 191 Development of activity protocols

We administered semi-structured interviews about the morning routine task to five 192 participants with ABI, five therapists, and five Rehabilitation Support Workers, covering: 193 194 typical sequence, problems encountered, solutions and strategies for aiding performance. We then recorded 30 sessions where Rehabilitation Support Workers provided prompts to six 195 people with brain injury during the task. These data were analysed using NVivo 8 using 196 procedures of Hierarchical Task Analysis to derive a map of the problem space. <sup>34</sup> The 197 morning routine problem space ranged from the point the user was in bed to when they were 198 up, showered, dressed and ready to have breakfast in time to begin their rehabilitation 199 program at 10 am. The dimensions of the problem space covered all combinations of prompts 200 and activities that could result in a successful start to the day. It also identified the most 201 common barriers to successful completion of the morning routine (e.g. the person is 202 unmotivated to get up; the person cannot remember where to find their clothes; or the person 203 goes into bathroom but forgets to take a towel and then comes back out, sees the clothes and 204 205 skips the shower step, getting dressed without showering). This analysis was then used to produce the activity protocol, that is, a series of essential prompts, checks and branching 206 problem-solving routines that covered the most common paths through the problem space. 207 The morning routine protocol consisted of seven steps subsuming 40 checks and 40 prompts. 208

209

The prompting protocol was programmed into the micro-prompting device and piloted with 10 service users with ABI, allowing assessment of system operation, usability and use preferences. This gave rise to a refined protocol for the activity of interest. Morning routine preference varied widely. Thus, when individuals were recruited to the study, we ascertained their morning routine preferences carefully and tailored the comprehensive protocol to that set of preferences (e. g. shaving, lipstick wearing, smoking).

216

#### 217 The testing phase

The testing phase comprised a randomised control design experiment. In weeks one and two, participants were recruited to the study if they met the eligibility criteria, informed consent was then sought, and the participant was randomly assigned to the intervention or the control groups using the closed envelope method. Baseline assessment (five trials) occurred in week three followed by three weeks (or 15 trials) of test phase (weeks four to six), and two weeks (or 10 trials) of return to baseline (follow-up – weeks seven to eight).

224

Naturally participants varied in the amount of support they required under 'rehabilitation as 225 usual'. Some participants always had a Rehabilitation Support Worker with them during the 226 morning routine. In these cases, in the test phase, the support worker was present while Guide 227 was prompting the user through their morning routine, and the support worker only 228 229 intervened if there was a problem. Users who usually completed the morning routine without a support worker in the room under 'rehabilitation as usual' would be prompted if they came 230 for breakfast in their night clothes or if other aspects of the morning routine had been 231 forgotten (e. g. shaving). In these cases, during the test phase, the Guide system prompted the 232 user in their room without a support worker present. Staff could assess whether there were 233 any errors or omissions in their morning routine when the service user came out of their room 234

235 into the communal areas. For example, if the person was still wearing night clothes, they would be reminded to change by a member of staff, and this would be recorded as a prompt. 236 If they had poor personal hygiene, they would be prompted to shower. It was quite common 237 for participants who did not have someone with them while they performed their morning 238 routine to require 2 or 3 prompts after they came out of their room to attend to matters they 239 had omitted. The study was designed to assess reduction in number of staff prompts required 240 between baseline and intervention phases. If someone commonly received a number of 241 prompts every day after arriving for breakfast, we wished to determine whether Guide would 242 243 reduce the probability of needing these prompts. For service users who had a staff member in the room with them, we assessed whether Guide would mean a reduction in staff prompts in 244 the room and after they arrived for breakfast. There were no restrictions put on the type or 245 frequency of prompts provided by support workers during the study. 246

247

The study-specific checklists recording the number of prompts and errors were completed by the Rehabilitation Support Worker supporting the user or, for users not receiving one-to-one support during the morning routine, any Rehabilitation Support Worker on duty. The interactions between the Guide system and the user were also audio-recorded, and these could be reviewed for additional information.

253

254

#### 255 **Research Ethics**

The study protocol, information sheets, consent forms and recruitment strategy were approved by the Scotland A, Research Ethics Committee (Ref: 10/MRE00/43) on 27

258 September 2010.

259

The study was pre-registered, with the Chief Scientist Office of the Scottish Government; the
Scotland A, Research Ethics Committee; and with the Foundation for Assistive Technology.

263 Data analyses

The randomised control trial data were analysed using Stata version 14. Nonparametric tests 264 (Mann-Whitney U) were used to make simple unadjusted comparisons across conditions. The 265 main analysis was conducted using generalized linear mixed models. The effect of the 266 intervention was assessed through the fixed effects of the Phase (baseline, test, and return to 267 baseline) by Group (rehabilitation as usual, intervention) interaction term. The primary 268 outcome for this study was a count (number of support worker prompts); therefore, a Poisson 269 distribution was initially assumed. Over dispersion was investigated by fitting negative 270 binomial models and comparing fit relative to the Poisson. A random effect of 'Participant' 271 was included in the model to account for the repeated measures within participant, and the 272 effects of time were allowed to vary for each individual (accounting for different learning and 273 274 recovery trajectories for individuals) by including a random effect of 'Time' (number of days in the study). Likelihood ratio testing was used to confirm whether the random coefficient 275 was superior to the random intercept only models. Neuropsychological variables were 276 individually tested in the models as fixed effects and significant predictors retained. 277

278

279

#### 280 **RESULTS**

#### 281 Cognitive status of participants

The participants' demographics are summarised in table 1. All participants with traumatic 282 brain injury (n=16, 66.7%), had severe brain injury as indicated by a Glasgow Coma Scale 283 score of 3-8 and post-traumatic amnesia greater than 24 hours. All those with non-traumatic 284 brain injuries (n=8, 33.3%) had severe levels of disability on the Glasgow Outcome Scale 285 when referred to the rehabilitation service. The premorbid IQ indicated that participants were 286 in the average range prior to their injury. The current Full Scale IQ indicated that participants 287 were significantly impaired (relative to the index of premorbid ability) and were now in the 288 extremely low range. The memory function standard score was in the extremely low range. 289 290 The index of language function (Verbal Comprehension) was in the borderline range as was the index of visuospatial function. Of importance, the executive function score was in the 291 extremely low range. Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale scores were within the low 292 borderline range, with 12 participants meeting the caseness criterion for anxiety and seven 293 294 meeting caseness for depression.

Intervention		Morning routine				
	Control	Total				
10	14	24				
9:1	13:1	22:2				
M (SD)	M (SD)	M (SD)				
44.18 (11.42)	45.82 (10.34)	45.14 (10.59)				
6.38 (10.57)	4.93 (6.59)	5.53 (8.30)				
91.67 (9.03)	96.65 (8.51)	95.08 (8.75)				
68.40 (3.54)	69.92 (8.16)	69.26 (9.40)				
59.22 (4.63)	66.13 (5.89)	63.61 (6.33)**				
75.67 (11.02)	76.69 (8.76)	76.27 (9.51)				
79.89 (13.20)	78.39 (9.34)	78.98 (10.74)				
53.89 (21.63)	59.63 (21.02)	57.28 (20.95)				
9.33 (5.32)	9.90 (5.13)	9.67 (5.09)				
8.00 (6.61)	7.49 (3.97)	7.70 (5.07)				
	9:1 M (SD) 44.18 (11.42) 6.38 (10.57) 91.67 (9.03) 68.40 (3.54) 59.22 (4.63) 75.67 (11.02) 79.89 (13.20) 53.89 (21.63) 9.33 (5.32)	9:113:1 $M$ (SD) $M$ (SD)44.18 (11.42)45.82 (10.34)6.38 (10.57)4.93 (6.59)91.67 (9.03)96.65 (8.51)68.40 (3.54)69.92 (8.16)59.22 (4.63)66.13 (5.89)75.67 (11.02)76.69 (8.76)79.89 (13.20)78.39 (9.34)53.89 (21.63)59.63 (21.02)9.33 (5.32)9.90 (5.13)8.00 (6.61)7.49 (3.97)				

296	<b>Table 1.</b> Demographics and	l cognitive status of participants	
270	<b>Lable I</b> Demographics and	cognitive status of purificipants	

*Note*. \* *p* < .05; \*\* *p* < .01

## 300 Effect of Intervention

- 301 The mean scores on the outcome measures by Group (rehabilitation-as-usual or intervention)
- and Phase (baseline, test, and return to baseline) are shown in Table 2.
- 303
- 304 **Table 2**. Mean (SD) number of support worker prompts; errors; sequence errors and user
- 305 satisfaction by Group at Baseline (A), during Intervention (B) and Return to Baseline (A)

	Intervention	Control	Total
Prompts			
А	2.87 (2.37)	1.95 (2.32)	2.33 (2.33)
В	1.43 (1.72)	2.58 (2.73)	2.15 (2.42)
A	1.63 (1.32)	2.90 (2.96)	2.42 (2.50)
Errors			
А	0.41 (0.48)	0.47 (0.45)	0.45 (0.45)
В	0.24 (0.26)	0.40 (0.47)	0.34 (0.40)
А	0.15 (0.29)	0.46 (0.41)	0.35 (0.39)
Sequence Errors			
А	0.00 (0.00)	1.79 (5.40)	1.09 (4.24)
В	0.05 (0.08)	2.39 (5.75)	1.61 (4.75)
А	0.25 (0.50)	0.30 (0.74)	0.28 (0.65)
Satisfaction			
А	4.58 (0.52)	4.17 (0.24)	4.32 (0.39)
В	3.79 (1.58)	3.48 (0.56)	3.61 (1.02)
А	3.00 (0.00)	4.25 (0.61)	4.07 (0.73)

306 *Note*. \* *p* < .05; \*\* *p* < .01

308 The mixed effects Poisson regression on number of support worker prompts showed a significant interaction between test Phase (baseline, test, and return to baseline) and Group 309 (rehabilitation-as-usual vs. intervention). That is, being in the test phase significantly reduced 310 311 the number of prompts received to a greater extent in participants in the intervention group than in the rehabilitation-as-usual group. The same was true of the return to baseline phase. 312 This confirms that, with the individual trajectories of change over time controlled and the 313 correlation structure of the repeated measures within individuals included in the model, being 314 in the intervention group significantly reduced the number of prompts received during test 315 and at return to baseline. The incident rate ratios for the fixed elements of the model and the 316 variance components of the random effects are shown in table 3. There were no differences 317 between groups across the three phases in terms of number of errors, sequence errors or in 318 319 satisfaction scores.

320

Independent variable	Incident rate	95% confidence	р	
	ratio	interval		
Phase: Baseline	1.00			
Phase: Test	1.43	1.15 - 1.79	< 0.01	
Phase: Return to Baseline	1.32	0.98 - 1.78	0.07	
Intervention group	1.84	0.68 - 4.98	0.23	
Phase by Group interaction	1.00			
(Baseline)				
Phase by Group interaction	0.39	0.27 - 0.57	< 0.01	
(Test)				
Phase by Group interaction	0.30	0.15 - 0.62	< 0.01	

321 Table 3. Mixed effects Poisson regression on Number Prompts to complete morning routine

(Return to Baseline)			
Emotional function	1.22	1.10 - 1.34	< 0.01
Random effects parameters	Estimate		
Participant	0.01	0.00 - 0 .02	
Time in trial	1.07	0.72 - 1.60	

n = 22 Two cases missing due to missing data for emotional function (anxiety). The results are the same (i. e. intervention group by phase

323 interaction significant) if anxiety is omitted from the model and full sample is tested.

324

#### 325 **DISCUSSION**

We have reported on the first randomized control trial for an audio-verbal interactive micro-326 prompting device. The device was tested for its efficacy in assisting people with severe brain 327 injury and multiple cognitive impairments in carrying out the morning routine. Use of the 328 technological system was evaluated as an adjunctive therapy within neurobehavioural 329 330 rehabilitation, an approach evidenced to reduce impairment and increase functional abilities after brain injury. <sup>27,28,32</sup> Against this efficacious rehabilitation-as-usual, the micro-prompting 331 device significantly reduced number of support worker prompts required in executing a 332 familiar task (morning routine). This adds to the evidence of the effectiveness of micro 333 prompting devices established in previous studies. <sup>13,23</sup> The study also demonstrates 334 improvement in individuals with chronic neurobehavioural disability resulting from injuries 335 sustained a number of years prior to the intervention, at which point biological recovery has 336 traditionally been thought to have stabilised. This further extends the evidence that enhancing 337 independence is possible and rehabilitation is effective in the long-term after ABI <sup>27,35,36</sup>. 338 339

In the test phase, there was a statistically significant effect on number of prompts by carers,
showing that these decreased more sharply in the intervention group. Thus, the interactive
verbal guidance was an effective support.

343

Prospective prompting and micro-prompting technologies to date have begun to address the difficulties associated with deficient 'higher level cognitive functions'. <sup>26</sup> These are the cognitive capabilities which underpin organization and planning, time management, cognitive flexibility, maintaining task set, problem-solving, abstraction, insight and judgment. As these difficulties are common across a variety of conditions, micro-prompting devices, such as Guide, add to the tools available to address sequence performance difficulties.

350

#### 351 Limitations

The sample size (n=24) was relatively small in this study. Data from three participants were not available for analysis due to problems with data collection. While this further limited the available sample, , these cases were spread across the intervention and control conditions. The micro-prompting technique was was applied to a single activity in this study thus limiting generalisation.

357

#### 358 Future research

In this study, an activity of daily living was chosen in an attempt to demonstrate the possibility that prompting technologies may increase independence. Many other sequencecritical-behaviours underpin patient self-management and may benefit from micro-prompting support. For example, persons with respiratory illnesses may benefit from step-by-step prompting for procedures such as using an inhaler and spacer or nebuliser to deliver medication. Trials of micro-prompting technologies for other behaviours and populations

would be of interest. Micro-prompting may also be beneficial to support complex real-world
tasks such as performance at work, management of a daily schedule, and following a recipe
in both clinical and non-clinical populations.

368

The current findings help establish the efficacy of micro-prompting for persons with impairment of memory and executive function. Future research might focus specifically on persons for whom amnestic difficulties primarily explain their difficulty in performing sequences. Effectiveness of micro-prompting in persons with mild cognitive impairment and dementias could have far-reaching ramifications for care in an ageing society. <sup>37</sup>

374

Future research should also focus on triggering of prompting technologies. In this study, the device was activated by a timer in the morning routine. Other triggers might include a physical button placed where the activity is performed (i.e., bedroom or kitchen), so that the user can self-initiate the support. Sensors in the environment detecting location, movement or door opening might be used to trigger the system to ask whether help is required. Finally, the incorporation of input from affect-aware technology, monitoring physiological state via wearables <sup>38</sup> may trigger help when signs of distress are detected.

382

The considerable economic and social costs of supporting activities of daily living in people with cognitive impairments suggest that a finding in support of micro-prompting devices is significant. Independent replications in larger samples are encouraged and, to this end, the software is available at www.guide-research.com. Of equal importance is to further understand the wider benefits of replacing some aspects of the carer's work with technology, for example, reducing care-giver strain and increasing self-efficacy.

389

390	Table 2. Mean	(SD) number of support	worker prompts; errors;	sequence errors and user
-----	---------------	------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------------

	Intervention	Control	Total
Prompts			
А	2.87 (2.37)	1.95 (2.32)	2.33 (2.33)
В	1.43 (1.72)	2.58 (2.73)	2.15 (2.42)
А	1.63 (1.32)	2.90 (2.96)	2.42 (2.50)
Errors			
А	0.41 (0.48)	0.47 (0.45)	0.45 (0.45)
В	0.24 (0.26)	0.40 (0.47)	0.34 (0.40)
А	0.15 (0.29)	0.46 (0.41)	0.35 (0.39)
Sequence Errors			
А	0.00 (0.00)	1.79 (5.40)	1.09 (4.24)
В	0.05 (0.08)	2.39 (5.75)	1.61 (4.75)
А	0.25 (0.50)	0.30 (0.74)	0.28 (0.65)
Satisfaction			
А	4.58 (0.52)	4.17 (0.24)	4.32 (0.39)
В	3.79 (1.58)	3.48 (0.56)	3.61 (1.02)
А	3.00 (0.00)	4.25 (0.61)	4.07 (0.73)

*Note*. \* *p* < .05; \*\* *p* < .01

394			
395			
396			
397			
398			
399			

#### 400 **References**

- 401 1. Gillespie, A. & O'Neill, B. Assistive Technology for Cognition: A handbook for
  402 Clinicians and Developers. (Psychology Press, 2015).
- 403 2. Aunger, R. Types of technology. *Technol. Forecast. Soc. Change* 77, 762–782 (2010).
- 404 3. Mumford, L. *Technics and civilization*. (Harcourt, Brace and Company., 1934).
- 405 4. McLuhan, M. Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man. (McGraw Hill, 1964).
- Vygotsky, L. S. & Luria, A. in van der Veer, R. & Valsiner, J. (Eds.) *The Vygotsky Reader* pp. 99–174 (Blackwell, 1994).
- Plehn, K., Marcopulos, B. A. & McLain, C. A. The relationship between
  neuropsychological test performance, social functioning, and instrumental activities of
  daily living in a sample of rural older adults. *Clin. Neuropsychol.* 18, 101–13 (2004).
- 411 7. Cahn-Weiner, D., Boyle, P. & Malloy, P. F. Tests of executive function predict
  412 instrumental activities of daily living in community-dwelling older individuals. *Appl.*413 *neuropschology* 9, 187–191 (2002).
- Rogers, J. C. *et al.* Improving morning care routines of nursing home residents with
  dementia. J. Am. Geriatr. Soc. 47, 1049–1057 (1999).
- 9. Oddy, M. & Ramos, S. D. S. Cost effective ways of facilitating home based
  rehabilitation and support. *NeuroRehabilitation* 32, 781–90 (2013).
- 418 10. Pea, R. D. The Social and Technological Dimensions of Scaffolding and Related
  419 Theoretical Concepts for Learning, Education, and Human Activity. J. Learn. Sci. 13,
  420 423–451 (2004).
- 421 11. Stone, C. A. The metaphor of scaffolding: Its utility for the field of learning
  422 disabilities. *J. Learn. Disabil.* 331, 344–364 (1998).
- LoPresti, E. F., Mihailidis, A. & Kirsch, N. Assistive technology for cognitive rehabilitation: State of the art. *Neuropsychol. Rehabil.* 14, 5–39 (2004).
- 425 13. O'Neill, B., Best, C., Gillespie, A. & O'Neill, L. Automated prompting technologies in 426 rehabilitation and at home. *Soc. Care Neurodisability* 4, 17–28 (2013).
- I4. Jamieson, M., Cullen, B., McGee-Lennon, M., Brewster, S. & Evans, J. J. The efficacy
  of cognitive prosthetic technology for people with memory impairments: A systematic
  review and meta-analysis. *Neuropsychol. Rehabil.* 24, 419–444 (2014).
- 430 15. Svoboda, E. & Richards, B. Compensating for Anterograde Amnesia: A New Training
  431 Method That Capitalizes on Emerging Smartphone Technologies. J. Int. Neuropsychol.
  432 Soc. 15, 629–638 (2009).

- Wilson, B. A. Reducing everyday memory and planning problems by means of a
  paging system: a randomised control crossover study. *J. Neurol. Neurosurg. Psychiatry.* 2001; **70**, 477–482.
- 436 17. Yasuda, K. *et al.* Use of an IC Recorder as a voice output memory aid for patients
  437 with prospective memory impairment. *Neuropsychol. Rehabil. an Int. J.* 2002; **12**, 155
  438 .
- 439 18. Van Hulle, A. & Hux, K. Improvement patterns among survivors of brain injury:Three
  440 case examples documenting the effectiveness of memory compensation strategies.
  441 *Brain Inj.* 2006; **20**, 101–109.
- Lemoncello, R., Sohlberg, M. M., Fickas, S. & Prideaux, J. A randomised controlled
  crossover trial evaluating Television Assisted Prompting (TAP) for adults with
  acquired brain injury. *Neuropsychol. Rehabil.* 2011; 21, 825–846..
- Boman, I.-L., Bartfai, A., Borell, L., Tham, K. & Hemmingsson, H. Support in
  everyday activities with a home-based electronic memory aid for persons with memory
  impairments. *Disabil. Rehabil. Assist. Technol.* 2010; 5, 339–50.
- Klarborg, B., Lahrmann, H., NielsAgerholm, Tradisauskas, N. & Harms, L. Intelligent
  speed adaptation as an assistive device for drivers with acquired brain injury: A singlecase field experiment. *Accid. Anal. Prev.* 2012; 48, 57–62.
- 451 22. Mihailidis, A., Boger, J., Craig, T. & Hoey, J. The COACH prompting system to assist
  452 older adults with dementia through handwashing: An efficacy study. *BMC Geriatr.*453 2008; 8, 28.
- 454 23. O'Neill, B., Moran, K. & Gillespie, A. Scaffolding rehabilitation behaviour using a
  455 voice-mediated assistive technology for cognition. *Neuropsychol. Rehabil.* 2010; 20,
  456 509–27.
- Peters, C., Hermann, T., Wachsmuth, S. & Hoey, J. Automatic task assistance for
  people with cognitive disabilities in brushing teeth: A user study with the TEBRA
  system. ACM Trans. Access. Comput. 2014; 5, 1–34.
- 460 25. Moir, J. Supporting diabetes self-management in persons with cognitive impairment
  461 after acquired brain injury. DClinPsy thesis University of Glasgow, 2014.
  462 http://theses.gla.ac.uk/5634/
- 463 26. Gillespie, A., Best, C. & O'Neill, B. Cognitive Function and Assistive Technology for
  464 Cognition: A Systematic Review. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological*465 Society 2012; 18, 1–19.
- 466 27. Oddy, M. & Ramos, S. The clinical and cost-benefits of investing in neurobehavioural
  467 rehabilitation: A multi-centre study. *Brain Inj.* 2013; **9052**, 1–8.
- Worthington, A. D. D., Matthews, S., Melia, Y. & Oddy, M. Cost-benefits associated
  with social outcome from neurobehavioural rehabilitation. *Brain Inj.* 2006; 20, 947–
  957.

- Wood, R. L. & Worthington A D. Neurobehavioural rehabilitation: A conceptual
  paradigm. In Wood R. L. & McMillan T. M. eds Neurobehavioural disability and
  social handicap following traumatic brain injury Hove: Psychology Press; 2001: 107
- Lloyd, J., Riley, G. A. & Powell, T. E. Errorless learning of novel routes through a
  virtual town in people with acquired brain injury. *Neuropsychol. Rehabil.* 2009; 19,
  98–109.
- 477 31. Semkovska, M., Bédard, M.-A., Godbout, L., Limoge, F. & Stip, E. Assessment of
  478 executive dysfunction during activities of daily living in schizophrenia. *Schizophr.*479 *Res.* 2004; **69**, 289–300.
- 480 32. O'Neill, B. & Gillespie, A. Simulating naturalistic instruction: the case for a voice
  481 mediated interface for assistive technology for cognition. J. Assist. Technol. 2008; 2,
  482 22–31.
- 483 33. O'Neill, B., Best, C., Gillespie, A. & O'Neill, L. Automated prompting technologies in rehabilitation and at home. *Soc. Care Neurodisability* 2013; 4, 17–28.
- 485 34. Shepherd, A. *Hierarchical Task Analysis*. New York Taylor & Francis, 2001.
- 486 35. Parish, L. & Oddy, M. Efficacy of rehabilitation for functional skills more than 10 years after extremely severe brain injury. *Neuropsychol. Rehabil.* 2006; 1–13.
- 488 36. Wood R L Wood, R N Merriman, J. M. Clinical and cost effectiveness of post-acute
  489 neurobehavioural rehabilitation. *Brain Inj.* 1999; 13, 69–88.
- 490 37. Wimo A, Prince M. World Alzheimer Report: The Global Economic Impact of
  491 Dementia. London; 2010. http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-11381229. Accessed
  492 September 21, 2010.
- 493 38. AlZoubi O, Hussain S, Calvo R. Affect-aware Assistive Technologies. In: O'Neill B,
  494 Gillespie A, eds. Assistive Technology for Cognition: A Handbook for Clinicians and
  495 Developers. Hove: Psychology Press; 2015:47-65.

## 497 Appendix

## 498 MORNING CHECKLIST

#### 499 Level of prompting

	Μ	Τ	W	Τ	F	S	S
Wake up							
Get out of bed							
Use toilet							
Wash hands							
Go into shower							
Shower: Wash upper half							
Wash lower half							
Wash hair							
Brush teeth							
Dry self							
Shave: Wet / Dry							
Use deodorant							
Select appropriate clothes							
Find clothes							
Dress							
Brush hair							
Make bed							
Medication prompt by staff Y/N							
Picks up phone/keys/cigarettes							
Rating of personal appearance (out of 10)							
Time up							
Completed by:							

- 500  $\overline{5}$  = Completes step independently;
- 4 =Completes step after 1 verbal prompt;
- 3 =Completes step after 2 verbal prompts;
- $503 \quad 2 =$ Completes step after 3 verbal prompts;
- 1 =Requires physical intervention / assistance to start, continue or complete step;
- 505 R = Refuses to complete step;
- 506 N/E = No evidence;
- 507 N/A = Not appropriate (e. g. woman who does not shave)
- 508

## 509 Errors (circle Y / N)

	Μ	Т	W	Τ	F	S	S
Stays in bed until after 10am	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
Gets up but goes straight back to bed	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
Does not take towel to shower	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
Does not take soap /shower gel to	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
shower							
	Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
Does not get all the clothes	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
necessary to be fully dressed							
Does not take shampoo	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
Cannot find an item of clothing that	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
is in the room							
Dresses when still wet	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
Once out of bed hesitates for 3+	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
seconds							
Inappropriate clothes chosen for	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
weather							
Dirty /mismatched clothes worn	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
Poor personal hygiene	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
Unshaven	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N
Forgets phone/keys/cigarettes	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N	Y / N

## 

## 511 Sequence errors

	Μ	Τ	W	Τ	F	S	S
No of times repeats a step							
No of steps missed							
No of times stuck on a step							
Time taken							

## 

## 

#### 

## 518 Service user satisfaction

**Other comments** 

519 <u>How well do you feel that went?</u>

		$\bigcap$	$\frown$	$\frown$
$(\bullet \bullet)$				
$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
5 Very well	4 Quite well	3 Ok	2 Quite poorly	1 Very poorly

	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
Rating							