

Leanne Nisbet

Leanne Nisbet is a PhD student at The University of Queensland, who brings a sociological lens to the issue of stakeholder engagement with eHealth technologies. Her research interest is drawn from her background in business sociology, organisational communication and behaviour. Leanne worked as a researcher on the Smarter Safer Homes for Older Australians project, conducting interviews with participants about the Quality of Life that the project's non-invasive sensory monitoring system had worked to deliver. Anecdotal evidence suggested a cultural disconnect between the stakeholder communities of practice involved with the design and delivery of technology and the communities of older citizens for whom the technology was designed. With any technology, there are always winners and losers—and many older citizens (remote, for whatever the reason) may well become the losers unless there is an understanding of the deeply cultural factors that might prevent the technology from improving their quality of life. Leanne's PhD research will develop a series of typologies aimed to bridge that disconnect, describing the culture of older citizens in two case study towns. Her PhD topic is "Developing strategies to support the successful implementation of technological innovations to older citizens within the Northern Inland region of New South Wales."