

The logo for the ENABLE project, featuring the word "enable" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters are set against a dark blue background that has a subtle, wavy, light blue pattern behind the text.

## The ENABLE project

Presented by Inger Hagen

on behalf of

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Quality of Life and Management of Living Resources**



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Is it possible to:

- Facilitate independent living
- Promote wellbeing

through access to enabling technological products?



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**Core perspective:** Dementia as disability

**Model of disability:** biopsychosocial model;  
synthesis of the medical and the social  
model of disability (WHO)



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## What products?

- Support memory
- Facilitate communication
- Provide pleasure and activity



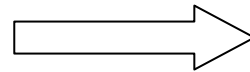
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## Parallel activities:

- 1: Tests series of products
- 2: Development of methodology
- 3: Assessment studies in 5 countries

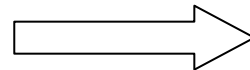


1: Concepts &  
prototypes



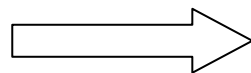
Test series

2: "Scratch"



Methodology

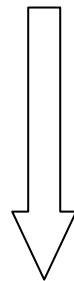
3: Methodology



Practice;  
multicenter trial



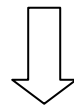
## 1: Concepts & prototypes



← User requirements

← Focus groups

Selection by ENABLE partners



Test series for assessment studies



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## Products selected:

- Automatic night lamp
- Locator for lost object
- Night and Day calendar
- Preprogrammable telephone
- Gas cooker monitor
- Picture gramophone
- Medicine reminder





## 2: "Scratch"



Analytical framework; hypothesis



Reviews: Ethical issues; diagnosis & severity  
Quality of Life; Carer burden, Cost-benefit



**Methodology for assessment**



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## **Use & usefulness dependent on:**

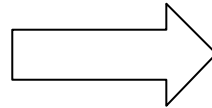
**The user**

**The carer**

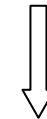
**The environment**

**The assistive device**

**The researcher**



**Use & usefulness**



**Consequences**

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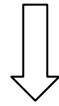


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## **3: Methodology for assessment**



Protocol development



Ethical approval



**Assessment studies**



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## Compliance with ethical principles

- Introduction of new & unfamiliar devices into the daily life of people with dementia
- Involving people with dementia in research
- Informed consent



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## **Technology and the role of the user**

- Installed & operated by the person
- Installed & maintained by others, used by the person with dementia
- Monitoring & surveillance systems:
  - activated by the user
  - activated automatically when an incident occurs
  - continuous monitoring/ when operator decides



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## **Possible risks**

- Increased confusion
- Refusal of product
- Sudden illness
- Sudden unforeseen situation in the person's life
- Sudden, unforeseen situations in family/environment
- Carer attitude problems
- Product error



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## Development of methodology

- for assessment of the feasibility of the products, and
- for identifying factors explaining positive & negative effects
- for estimation of costs and benefits



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## **Conclusion from the ASTRID project<sup>1</sup>:**

There is a lack of awareness of the potential of technology to support people with dementia at all levels and among all actors

<sup>1</sup>ASTRID. A Guide to using technology within dementia care, 2000





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## **ENABLE partners:**

**Norwegian Centre for Dementia Research, N**

**Inger Hagen, Own company, N**

**Work Research Centre, IRL**

**Dementia Services Information and Development Centre, IRL**

**Dementia Voice, UK**

**Bath Institute of Medical Engineering, UK**

**STAKES, FIN**

**Sidsel Bjørneby, N**

**Kaunas University of Medicine, Lt**