Providing a structure for clinical research that incorporates the involvement and voices of individuals with disabilities

- The Collaboratory for Technology, Health, and Independence (CTHI) is an interdisciplinary collaboration of clinicians and researchers from across the University of Michigan, including faculty members from the Schools of Medicine, Information and Public Health and the Colleges of Engineering and Pharmacy.

- Our mission is to optimize the health and independence of individuals with disabilities across the lifespan through research, development projects, capacity building and knowledge translation activities that work to better match healthcare systems and processes with the strengths, needs and priorities of individuals with disabilities and their families.

- Our projects reflect a continuum of discovery from survey and qualitative studies to projects that develop mobile apps and technology using iterative design approaches.

- CTHI provides a framework and shared resources that allow individuals, programs and laboratories to more easily conduct clinical research and establish partnerships with one another as well as with individuals with disabilities, community organizations and other stakeholders.

- Collaboratory staff can assist with the implementation of clinical research including helping to complete regulatory applications, conduct cohort discovery queries, create online surveys, recruit subjects, and support dissemination and knowledge translation efforts.

- Our community partners include disability organizations that work with us to identify gaps and problems with health management systems and inform the creation and implementation of relevant and feasible interventions.

- As part of our efforts, we identify and provide links to existing programs and resources to support health and independence.

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