Tips to be a Skilled Innovation Evaluator

Your opinion matters! Some tips are outlined below to assist you in providing useful feedback for a new product or service.

What to consider:

1. Is it clear what problem this innovation is trying to solve?
2. Does this innovation solve a problem that is a priority for you? Would you use it?
3. Is this innovation person-centered or is it system focused?
4. Does this innovation respect the human rights of people living with dementia?
5. What makes it different from other similar innovations, existing products or services?
6. How easy or complex is it to use? Are there instructions or manuals? Is there technical support if there’s a problem?
7. Does it have parts that need to be maintained or replaced such as batteries? How often do they need to be replaced?
8. Would this innovation save you time?
9. Could this innovation impact a lot of people? Or only a few people?
10. What are the financial costs associated with this innovation?

How to Ask Meaningful Questions:

1. Listen attentively. Make a list of questions to ask when appropriate.
2. Ask one question at a time. Be clear and concise when asking.
3. Ask questions in a neutral non-judgmental voice. Be polite and constructive even if you disagree with the presenter.
4. Don't be afraid of asking for clarification.
5. Ask open-ended questions that will generate a thoughtful response:
   a. Clarification questions: “I wonder if you could you say a little more about…”
   b. “Who,” “what,” “where,” “when,” “how,” or “why” questions

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