

Handbook of Research on

# Ergonomics and Product Design



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# Handbook of Research on Ergonomics and Product Design

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## Chapter 5

# Product and Space Analysis Using the Product Perception Method

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### **ABSTRACT**

*In this chapter, the data collection is presented, where the base is the study of a group of elderly people in eight nursery houses and two hospitals in Bogota, Colombia. The objective of this research is to look through industrial design and the analysis of existing products, in which way the designer could offer an improvement to the products and with that how to increase the life expectancy. The user perception method is applied, therefore, and the interview was performed as a sequence of questions, where the perception of an elder of existing personal hygiene products is analyzed through a collection of data. The necessity of designing an ergonomic chair that allows performing activities of personal hygiene in the shower was identified, and the requirements for the designing of the product were identified. Finally, the designer will dedicate to find products that best fit their daily needs.*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Old age is the last stage of the life cycle that begins just at 65 years old which has certain biological, psychological, and social characteristics (Duran, 2004). Currently, the design for elderly people is done in a limited and/or poor way, therefore, elderly people present difficulties to acquire products that allow them to struggle less and risk themselves less while they do their personal hygiene activities, and more emphasis is needed in that area to create products with right characteristics for the capacities and needs, that help them improving life quality (Martha, 2007). Wong & Díaz (2007) state that life quality of elderly people is a satisfactory life, subjective and psychological wellness, personal development and different

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