

# Micall

## The social microphone system



### Why (motivation)

The Usher Syndrome is a hereditary disorder, where people's sight and hearing degenerates over time. As a result, being socially involved with other people can be challenging. The project was initiated to help people with Usher Syndrome to still be able to socially involved, regardless of their decicits or context factors.

### How (process)

The classic design cycle by Roozenburg and Eekels is used as a structure for the design process. The user (someone with Usher) is centralized as they know best how it is to live with Usher. Evaluation sessions give insights about posed ideas, validation sessions assess the value and functionality of proposed concepts.

### What (product)

The final design proposal is called Micall: a microphone system that can be divided among friends/family. Every voice is picked up, sent to the person with Usher's hearing aid / cochlear implant and is volume-controllable by them through an app. Their social involvement is now increased as Micall allows them to follow conversations where they could not before.

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