

The InnovCare European project develops a platform to extend the autonomy of the elderly and improve their welfare.

Spain, Israel, the Netherlands and Norway participate in the design and implementation of InnovCare project coordinated by Wellness Telecom.

Sevilla, 6 October 2016. Spain, Israel, Norway and the Netherlands are developing an AAL-European project "Innovcare - Open ICT platforms and technologies to reduce and Prevent social and economic impact of elders' care" that includes the participation of 7 companies from 4 countries. The aim of InnovCare is to extend the autonomy of the elderly population, improving their physical, mental and emotional well-being through a technology platform that brings together solutions, services and innovative products in the health sector. The system will connect to our elders with socio-health professionals and other caregivers, such as family and friends.

The EU population, like that of most other regions of the world, live longer and healthier lives. Since 1960, life expectancy has increased in eight years, and demographic projections forecast show a further increase in five years in the next forty years, a truly historic achievement.

However, this means that, together with the low birth rates in recent decades, Europe's population is rapidly aging, something that is happening around the world with the exception of the poorest countries. In fact, the European Statistics Office projected that by 2060 there will be only two people of working age (15-64) in the EU for every person over 65 years, compared with a ratio of four for each to today. Indeed, it is expected that the strongest impetus in this direction occurs during the period 2015-35, when the generation of baby boomers, those born in the two post-World War II decades, begin to retire.

The platform InnovCare will draw on the information and data mainly from staff medical records, monitoring of vital signs and physical activity through a "smartwatch" neurological periodic inspection through a mobile application, and videoconferences with different caregivers and assistants. All information collected will be processed through a platform of massive data analysis, providing social and health professionals making decisions with simple graphics display.

Thus, this project will bring significant benefits to society: older patients healthier, safer and emotionally autonomous, improvements in the use of professional services, and reduced unplanned hospital admissions.

To avoid fear and initial reluctance user groups involved often have to advances and technological devices, this project has, from its definition and design with the participation of associations of elderly and users of home automation devices. Once InnovCare developed the technology, the consortium will carry out usability testing with a group of Dutch pilot users and organize meetings involving elders and caregivers nearby. These first tests of the system are planned for spring 2017. Improved platform with the first results, the consortium's plan is that 60 people over Norway, Israel and the Netherlands use the complete solution InnovCare.

Along with the Spanish company Wellness Telecom (in its role as coordinator), ISOIN Engineering and Computers and Taniwa Health Solutions this project is in collaboration with other international partners:

LifeOnKey (Israel), Smart Homes (Netherlands), KempenLIFE (Netherlands), Ninthway (Netherlands) and Seniornett (Norway).

The InnovCare project is part of the AAL (Ambient Assisted Living), funded by the European Commission, which aims to improve the quality of life of older people through the development and use of sustainable innovative solutions based on technologies information and communication technologies (ICT) that really meet their needs with a multidisciplinary perspective. More information:

<http://www.innovcare.org/>