

MATCH

Mobilising Advanced Technologies for Care at Home

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Motivation/Aims -

The MATCH (Mobilising Advanced Technologies for Care at Home) project is funded by the Scottish Funding Council for 4 years from November 2005 and is a collaboration between Stirling, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Dundee Universities and 11 external partners, with good representation from social and health care. Our goal is to enable people to manage their health and way of life so that they can continue to live independently in their own homes for longer. We are developing and evaluating a range of technologies that can be integrated to provide a range of new health and social care services within the home. MATCH aims to benefit users in contexts such as frail elders and people of all ages living with disability in their own dwelling, and wishing to stay there for as long as possible.

Keywords:

Home care technology, user centred design, including stakeholders

Methodology -

The MATCH project is developing better ways to link devices and appliances in the home. We are developing systems to check daily patterns of living for significant changes, to use speech, sound and touch to control devices and receive messages in the home, and to tailor home care systems to meet the individual needs of users and their carers.

We are using questionnaires, focus groups, and live theatre illustrating a future home environment, to elicit user expectations and requirements. The MATCH Home care system is designed around the concept of continual design and evolution; wherein the actual use of the system is heavily configurable to meet the changing needs of users.

Outcomes/Results -

We are currently conducting applied research in each of these areas. In addition to this work we are developing an architecture and infrastructure on which such technologies can be tested and demonstrated. The MATCH Home care System will be continually refined through use over time to address shortcomings or cope with new situations and requirements as they arise.

Conclusions -

The multiple stakeholders of Home care Systems and technology have been and will continue to be involved in our research. This is crucial if home care systems are to be adopted, accepted, and used by people within their own homes.

References -

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- [2] F. Wang, L. S. Docherty, K. J. Turner, M. Kolberg and E. H. Magill, Service and Policies for Care At Home, in J. E. Bardram, J. C. Chachques and U. Varshney, editors, *International Conference on Pervasive Computing Technologies for Healthcare*, pages 7.1-7.10, IEEE Press, New York, USA, November 2006.

