

MEDiATE

Improving the care of the elderly at home through a communication platform enabling collaboration between informal and professional caregivers

Home care for the elderly can be provided either by professional service providers, such as doctors, nurses and housekeepers or informal carers including family members, friends, neighbours, and relatives. A 2010 study revealed that 80% of the care provided to an elderly person comes from his/her close family. However, most of the current tools for coordinating care are focused on formal caregivers in professional environments.

Context

Seeing that a collaborative solution was required to enable informal carers to work in cooperation with professional care providers, the MEDiATE project was created with the aim of developing the first decentralised collaborative solution to enable all individuals involved in providing care and support, whether informal carers or professionals, to communicate and work together in a coherent manner. It will provide a rich and open service environment to support all caregivers and allow all tasks taking place within the elderly person's social environment to be facilitated and coordinated, enhancing the capacities of each actor.

Innovation

Researchers from the Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology (LIST) will focus on developing the communication platform architecture using a service-oriented approach, ensuring compatibility with existing technological systems, managing data integration, and developing additional personalisation and recommendation services using advanced optimisation techniques. The solution, which is web-based and independent of any specific technology, will be tested using technologies such as VisAge and Remad on numerous devices including touchscreens, tablets and connected TVs.

Impact

The MEDiATE communication platform will strengthen interactions between and among informal and formal care providers, who will no longer have to rely on a single and centralised coordinator. The local potential of the networks supported by the MEDiATE solution will be shared at European level, to allow exchange of best practices, training of trainers, software maintenance and ethical governance. It will result in more coordinated care for the elderly, with improved communication and exchange between all caregivers.

Partners

Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (CH) , Camera Contact (FR) , Fondation Suisse pour les Téléthèses (CH) , Pôle de Gérontologie Interrégional Bourgogne Franche-Comté (FR) , SIVICO (RO) , G4S Security Solutions (LU) , EGLU (DK) , Dessine-Moi Mon Répît (FR)

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Contact

5, avenue des Hauts-Fourneaux
L-4362 Esch-sur-Alzette
phone: +352 275 888 - 1 | LIST.lu

Dr Wassila MTALAA (wassila.mtalaa@list.lu)
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