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# A proposed system for the home-based ambient monitoring and enablement of older adults with dementia.

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## Background

- With the worldwide increase in dementia prevalence, more than ever we need to focus on developing an acceptable, cost-effective home-based solution to support individuals living in the community with dementia, and to delay institutionalisation.
- Ambient assistive technologies can support independent living and prolong community-based living<sup>1</sup>.

## 3 Themes of Dem@Care

**Lab: Diagnostics** 

Home: Enablement and support

**Nursing home: Safety** 

# 2 Loops of Care

## Home-based loop

Between person with dementia and their family caregivers
Sensor-based
Context-sensitive, evolving, personalised

## Clinician loop

Creates a faithful log of health related information
Warns clinician about deteriorations & trends
Supports care decisions

# Principles of Dementia Design<sup>2,3</sup>

- Keep user interaction to a minimum<sup>2,3,4</sup>
- Appear familiar to the person with dementia<sup>2,3,4</sup>
- Be empowering and encourage the person with dementia to solve problems<sup>2,3,4</sup>
- Be reassuring<sup>2,3,4</sup>
- Algorithmic applications should be based on a large dataset, because human performance Is highly variable<sup>3,5</sup>
- Be fiddle-proof, and robust<sup>2,3,6</sup>
- Have an aesthetic<sup>5</sup>
- Be person-centred and not carer-centred<sup>4,7</sup>
- Provide the person with dementia with a feeling of independence<sup>4</sup>
- Acknowledge the person with dementia as a person with abilities<sup>4</sup>
- Engage carers with the first stage of development, before the prototype is debuted with persons with dementia<sup>3</sup>
- Be emulative of carer behaviour, i.e. provide reminders, support, reassurance<sup>2,3</sup>

# What next?

- Technology-led design of the "toolbox" approach, creating personalised systems of home-based sensors.
- Recruitment of individuals with early to moderate stage dementia and their families
- Home-based deployment, system adapts over time.

#### Structure of Support -

#### **Assessment interview:**

- Sleep
- Exercise
- Diet/ADL
- Socialising
  - Mood

Functional decline detected in 1 or more areas

Relevant components chosen from "toolbox" of technologies and deployed to home for monitoring and support

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