Managing dementia with eHealth tools

Key words: dementia, healthy ageing, eHealth

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Main product: Multi-Mode Dementia Risk Score App

Aim
Develop and commercialise eHealth tools for dementia risk prediction in various at-risk populations, and lifestyle intervention to prevent cognitive decline and postpone dementia onset.

The project
Overview
Multi-Mode is developing and bringing to the market innovative evidence-based eHealth tools for two key areas: dementia risk prediction in various at-risk populations, and multi-domain lifestyle intervention to prevent cognitive decline and postpone dementia onset. Our products will reach diverse public and private settings for use by citizens and health professionals.

Various target populations can benefit from Multi-Mode’s eHealth tools, including middle aged and older adults, patients in memory clinic settings, care givers, and health professionals in both the public and private sectors.

EIT Health support
EIT Health provided important funding to the project, allowing it to engage necessary academic and industrial partners.

Groundbreaking innovation
The Multi-Mode Dementia Risk Score App is the only evidence-based app that can detect dementia risk among various age groups, using easily available demographic and lifestyle risk factors. With no cure available for dementia, prevention, detection and early intervention are crucial.

Societal impact
Dementia has become a global challenge and health priority according to the G8 Dementia Summit and the WHO. With no cure currently available and dementia/Alzheimer’s disease drug trials having failed, the development and implementation of risk detection and intervention approaches to postpone the onset of dementia is crucial.

The Multi-Mode approach uses individual risk signatures to prevent cognitive decline while starting integrated lifestyle modifications prior to the onset of symptoms. Successful prevention will substantially reduce the societal costs as well as individual suffering.

Achievements so far...
Analyses have been completed using five well-characterised population-based research studies. Dementia risk scores for older adults have been developed based on demographic, vascular and psychological risk factors.

The first version of the Dementia Risk Predictor App was produced in late 2016, and has gained significant interest from various research institutes and EU projects, international companies developing eHealth tools, patient organisations and policy makers.

Teamwork
The project is hosted by the Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society at the Karolinska Institute, with academic and industrial partners located in Sweden, the UK, the Netherlands and Spain. The collaborative teamwork has been crucial and led to the development of the risk scores and the Dementia Risk Predictor App.

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