Why do we need a SIG in Gerontechnology?

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• No conflict of interest
Challenges of aging

- Demographic challenge
  - Aging of the population
  - Aging of the helpers
- Epidemiological challenge
  - Chronical diseases, fonctionnal decline
  - Quality of life, mental health, physical and nutritional health
- Sociological challenge
  - Evolution of the society: waitings of the users (live at home, emergency), and care givers, evolution of health support
- Technological challenge
  - Telemedecine, domotic, ambulatory surgery,...
  - Medical doctor is becoming an engeneer ????
- Economical challenge
  - Health protection into a crisis society
Recommandations EU

Challenges

• Aging population is increasing

• Everybody should have access to quality of care with technology with better choice for the patients but according to financial viability

• Expenses in health in Europ increase quickly than the national wealth; priority must be check and rentability of the choices must be the best as possible.
The European Geriatric Medicine Society
(>10,000 specialists in geriatric medicine in Europe)

- To further best practice in healthcare for older people.
- Promotion of quality of care in old persons
- Maintaining good health, and best quality of life at home in a cost effective model are the major issues.
- Training and education in new systems
- Innovations in the organization of care.
  - What is the evidence demonstrating that gerontechnologies are effective in enabling independent living?
  - What are the devices designed specifically for frail old persons?
A lot of questions without responses

- Gerontechnologies are not, yet, well identified in the numerical revolution
- Involvement and commitment of the users
- Limits of the technics and means
- Integration of technical devices into clinical practice
- Financial competency
  - Who will pay?
  - How to convince that technology is part of healthcare which has to be paid as others?
- Risk of gadget devices
- Ethical rules (avoid virtual contention!!!!)
- Teaching and training on the new assisted technologies
TYPOLOGIES
NO CONSENSUS – NO INTEGRATION - NOT CLEAR

- **Finality of the technology**

  - Technology in health service
  - Technology for well being

  - Communication
  - Confort
  - Health
  - Sécurity

  - Technologies for autonomy and communication
  - Technologies autonomy, culture and spare time activities
  - Technologies autonomy and comfort
  - Technologies autonomy and security

  - Sustaining communication
  - Compensation and assistance
  - Help for ADL
  - Following diseases
  - Treatment at distance
  - Réhabilitation
  - Distraction/amusing
  - Sustaining and stimulate emotional and social
In summary

- What kind of technology do we need, for whom, and in which specific context?

- How to develop and evaluate relevant innovative “technologies for aging”?

- What is the right time and the best way to introduce innovative technologies into a person’s life?

- Does it raise ethical issues?
The priority areas which make up our action plan are the following:

- Gain increased knowledge of technology acceptability and determinants of use in real life, taking into account the heterogeneity of existing technologies and the fast pace of development.

- Investigate the impact of stigmatization (ageism) and the emotional patterns in the use and development of technology in old persons.

- From healthy aging to disability, build a flexible and progressive classification of technological needs, in order to better account for the adaptation of these tools to particular needs and clinical contexts.

- Propose early development and evaluation methods of innovative technologies for aging with strong participation of end-users.

- Break away from the narrow definition of “technologies for aging” and develop partnerships with other medical specialities that are confronted with the same problems, from paediatrics to rehabilitation medicine.

- Develop partnerships between geriatricians, patients and caregiver associations, engineers, companies and economy researchers to build innovative business models.

- Improve our knowledge of ethical issues and the societal consequences of technological innovation.
Welcome to the Constituent meeting of the Strategic Interest Group (SIG)

Room Gallieni 2
12:30 to 13:30