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Defining the user requirements for wearable and optical fall prediction and fall detection devices for home use

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One of the major problems in the development of information and communication technologies for older adults is user acceptance. Here we describe the results of focus group discussions that were conducted with older adults and their relatives to guide the development of assistive devices for fall detection and fall prevention. The aim was to determine the requirements and functional prerequisites of such devices and to include

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reasons for people at risk of falling to buy a wearable and/or optical fall prediction and fall detection device. Design specifications should include a wearable, non-stigmatising sensor at the user's wrist, with an emergency option in case of falling.

Keywords:

Accidental falls

ambient assisted living

biomedical technology

caregivers

focus groups

gait

information and communication technology

mobility limitation

older adults

patient acceptance of health care

technology

medical

user-centered design

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