

## **A mobile app of augmented reality evaluates spatial memory to prevent possible dementias**

**LOCATION:** Almería

**DURATION:** 1'32"

**SUMMARY** Researchers of the University of Almería's Psychology and Computers department have developed a mobile app to measure and evaluate individuals' spatial memory, which is usually the most affected through some types of dementia. This app has become a screening test that helps in the diagnosis of possible dementias.

**VTR:**

**BACKGROUND:** "Let's do a little test"

They will test the augmented reality mobile app developed by researchers at the University of Almería's Psychology and Computer Science department that measures spatial memory. The reason why?

**JOSÉ MANUEL CIMADEVILLA**  
Professor of Psychology at UAL

*"It has been reported that the spatial memory is precisely an accurate indicator of premature dementia."*

The ultimate aim of this project that emerges...

**JOSÉ MANUEL CIMADEVILLA**  
Professor of Psychology at UAL

*"It's not meant to be tested on someone that is already diagnosed with dementia like Alzheimer's or another type of deterioration, but instead it could be applied as a type of screening test to help detect those individuals that might be at risk."*

The application is reading QR codes spread over one or more spaces. Each code has an image and among all of them there is a pair one must find. Up until recently the orientation tests were done on a computer, but ...

**JOSÉ ANTONIO ÁLVAREZ**  
Professor of Computer Science at UAL

*"To orientate yourself, you have to use certain parts of the brain, you can not just be looking at a screen, you have to be in a room where you use the peripheral vision, where you use the memory of the work, where you use all the components of orientation."*

The idea of creating this application came about when the usual tests consisting of cards with childish drawings were being questioned.

**JOSÉ ANTONIO ÁLVAREZ**  
Professor of Computer Science at UAL

*"When you see that a person over 40 is playing with these types of figures you think to yourself, to what extent can the lack of motivation and attention influence this examination."*

For this reason the app customizes the images to suit the tastes of its users. Getting the test wrong does not mean one has dementia, but rather it highlights that something is not right in the brain, at which point specialists should intervene.