

A fall detector sends alerts when the elderly suffer an accident at home

LOCATION: Seville

DURACIÓN: 1'41"

SUMMARY: It is the result of the work of scientists from the Biomedical Engineering Research Group from the University of Seville. It is a small device that is placed on the user's back. The system, connected to a mobile app, detects when the person who wears it falls, and automatically sends an alert to the emergency services. Its goal is offering better assistance to elders when they suffer an accident at home. If it is launched in the market, its estimated price is below 20 euros.

VTR:

These experts in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Seville have reacted to the fact that a third of the people over 65 in Spain confess that they suffer a fall at least once a year.

LAURA ROA

Professor Univ. Seville

"And it is a serious health problem".

Developing this system: a fall detector that sends an alert to the emergency services immediately. And they test it for us. The researcher puts a patch, containing the detector, on his back. It is connected to a mobile app and it is already activated.

BACKGROUND: "Fall sensor activated".

The researcher moves, walks and sits down, but, if he falls... This happens: the system detects a fall and asks for help automatically.

JAVIER REINA

Researcher Univ. Seville

"If a company shows interest and decides to commercialize it, the cost for the public, I think, will be around 15 or 20 euros. Not more."

If a sudden move is made, the system could detect a false fall. In that case, the user just needs to cancel the alert.

BACKGROUND: "Help request cancelled."

LAURA ROA

Professor Univ. Seville

"There are many detectors on the market that don't offer the possibility to discard those false positives."

To launch it into the market they only need the support of a company interested in its manufacturing and commercialization. It is aimed at the elderly but it could be useful for other people.

LAURA ROA

Professor Univ. Seville

"Motorcyclists or people who develop risky activities."

Engineering that cares for our health.