"EMILIO": Increase sElf Management and counteract social IsoLatIOn using a vocal assistant enabled virtual concierge

How can an innovative technological platform offer to older adults the possibility to access a variety of web services, supporting them to live at home independently and to maintain an active social life are the main questions addressed in "EMILIO". **EMILIO** is a new European project led by the Italian National Institute of Health and Science on Ageing (IRCCS-INRCA), that involves partners from four EU Countries, such as Solving Team SRL in Italy, ICT Factory GmbH and Erdmann Design AG in Switzerland, Magicview, ePoint and Vulpia VZW in Belgium, and the Institute of Space Science, INFLPR Subsidiary, and Transilvania University of Brasov in Romania.

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The **EMILIO** Project is aiming to increase the possibility of self-management of older adults and provide an integrated and scalable service platform to counteract social isolation. The challenge of the project consists in a complete system of management of the web services that can be provided in an assisted living facility, via a single interface that gives access to all available services, facilitated by vocal interaction and integrated by a decision support system to personalize the care process, offering to each user the most appropriate service level, based on the observation of the daily activities.

Enabling elder people to live in their homes an independent and active social life in spite of difficulties is imperative for both the individual and society. "Older people generally report higher preference for their home over other living arrangements - claims **Mirko Di Rosa**, Project Coordinator and Researcher at **IRCCS-INRCA** (Italian National Research Center on Aging) - Part of the difficulty of self-management of elder people might be alleviated by employing new Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and by developing innovative support services for these patients".

The project is aimed at co-developing with the end-users an innovative ICT solution for independent living, by linking web-services over a digital concierge platform. In **EMILIO**, the key to co-creation lies in engaging, working with, and empowering people to generate ideas and to collaboratively create concepts. The co-creation approach includes a number of steps from research, to workshop design and implementation of solutions, any and all of which can be blended easily into a traditional development process. The tasks related to end-user involvement will be completed with the support of partner organizations: like "Vulpia in Belgium. In parallel with the co-design and testing activities the consortium will collect from end users information useful for business modelling, market uptake, and marketing strategy's general alignment with each of the identified user group's needs and values.

Solving Team will be the commercialisation leader, linking in the process all the entities of the consortium through an agreement that, starting from the acknowledgment of the intellectual property of all the subjects involved, will exploit the market for the EMILIO platform. The other SMEs of the consortium will participate actively in the commercialization and marketing activities.

An early adopters' program and an ecosystem creation will facilitate a rapid entry to the market; the route to the market is planned in detail within the exploitation plan. In addition, dissemination activities are planned to support the route to the market.

The project formally started on February 1st, 2022 and it will end on July 31st, 2024 (30 months duration).

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