

Principal Investigator Grant

Project

«Real-life activity tracking as pre-screening tool for early stages of Alzheimer disease»

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Duration 36 months

Main applicant

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Research on early stage of Alzheimer disease

The current state of Alzheimer's disease (AD) research shows that changes in the brain occur 20-30 years before the cognitive decline (e.g. memory loss) due to AD is observable. Due to the high costs involved, it is challenging to regularly test older people for AD using brain scans. This makes it currently very difficult to diagnose AD early which renders treatment much less effective. Wearable technology like smartphones has the potential to overcome this limitation as it permits affordable data collection that can be investigated for early markers of AD.

In our study, we want to investigate whether mobility and physical activity, measured by wearable technology, can be used for detection of early stages of AD. Moreover, we want to link these real-life activity measures to changes in the brain. Our project has the potential to make AD screening possible for everyone and bring treatment early to those in need.