Computerized Testing Solution Promotes Brain Wellness After Stroke and TBI

NeuroTrax has announced the global availability of BrainCare™, a cognitive assessment and report solution that helps clinicians advance brain wellness of stroke and traumatic brain injury (TBI) patients.

BrainCare standardizes brain wellness assessment and tracking and measures progress toward regaining lost function. The assessment is user-friendly and includes a standardized set of computerized tests to identify cognitive and psychosocial factors. These tests cover the following six major areas of memory and thinking, as well as mood and nervousness:

- memory,
- executive function,
- attention,
- visual spatial,
- verbal function, and
- problem solving.

Test results are then used to generate easy-to-read graphical reports for both clinicians and patients. In addition, BrainCare provides evidence-based patient activity recommendations that help health care professionals align test results with the latest scientific research on brain fitness and wellness.

BrainCare is based on peer-reviewed scientific studies, which indicate that performing cognitive exercises following a stroke and TBI can improve brain wellness. Combining the latest advances in computerized applications with research, BrainCare provides clinicians with scientific cognitive tests to assess brain wellness across brain function, and patients with a personalized plan and recommendations for brain training activities. In addition, it increases patients’ motivation and participation in using intuitive reports to monitor and track their progress.


Mobile App Alerts Family Caregivers About Older Adults’ Activities and Routines

SafeinHome is a mobile device application, or app, for family caregivers that uses discrete sensors placed unobtrusively in older adults’ homes to let caregivers know if anything is out of the ordinary.

The sensors wirelessly transmit activity data through a built-in cellular connection to the caregiver’s smartphone or tablet. They track the older adult’s movements and activity in any room in the house and securely send alerts to the caregiver’s smartphone if something is wrong, without invading the older adult’s privacy.

The SafeinHome system monitors motion, doors opening and closing, room temperature, pillbox usage, and if the stove is left on unattended. It sends alerts in real time that tell the caregiver if the older adult has slept later than usual or if no motion occurs during daytime hours when the older adult is at home. The caregiver can also check if the older adult is regularly visiting the kitchen, which is an indication of eating.

With SafeinHome, older adults do not need to wear a device, press a button, or make a phone call, which is an important feature for individuals who are reluctant to bother others with their needs. For more information, visit www.safeinhome.com.


FDA Approves New Biosensor With Fall Detection Feature

Vital Connect has announced that its HealthPatch™ MD biosensor, which is capable of capturing clinical-grade biometric measurements and includes a fall detection feature, has received clearance from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
The HealthPatch MD uses cutting-edge sensor and electronics technologies and Vital Connect’s proprietary algorithms to provide clinical-grade measurements of the following core health metrics: single lead electrocardiography, heart rate, heart rate variability, respiratory rate, skin temperature, posture (including fall detection and severity), and steps.

Using HealthPatch MD, health care professionals will be able to collect patient data on-demand and may be notified when physiological data fall outside selected parameters. The biosensor is intended to be less obtrusive than other sensors, can be customized for data reporting, operates on Bluetooth 4.0, and provides Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act-compliant, cloud-based storage and connectivity. As a result, it allows health care professionals to provide 24-hour, real-time, unattended monitoring of patients’ psychological data or vital signs.

The HealthPatch MD has received regulatory approval for distribution in the European Union and is licensed and registered by Health Canada for distribution in Canada.

doi:10.3928/00989134-20140714-01