# New Smartwatch App May Help Certified Nursing Assistants Respond to Alerts More Quickly, Prevent Falls

Poor communication systems at nursing homes can lead to serious injury for residents who are not tended to in a timely manner. A new smartwatch application (app) being developed at Binghamton University could help certified nursing assistants (CNAs) respond to alerts more quickly and help prevent falls.

The proposed design integrates all of the existing safety systems at nursing homes (e.g., call lights, chair and bed alarms, wander

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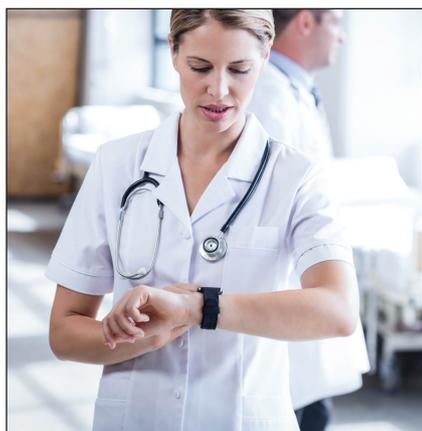
guards, calling-for-help functions) and provides alerts to users. Through a process of iterative design and evaluation with prospective users, a final design was well received by nursing experts in geriatric care and at local nursing homes. An ongoing evaluation study shows that using this system reduces staff response time to alarms.

Every CNA who uses the app sees a different display, as it is personalized to the user's specific task assignment. When CNAs start their shift, they will sign in and add their assigned residents. When a resident triggers an alert, a message will pop up on everyone's screen indicating who the resident is, their room number, and the type of alert (e.g., an exit from a chair).

Source. "Smartwatch Interface Could Improve Communication, Help Prevent Falls at Nursing Homes." (2016, August 1). Retrieved August 25, 2016, from http://bit.ly/2bDhCw6.
doi:10.3928/00989134-20161012-02

Aducanumab Helps Reduce Amyloid Plaques in Patients With Early-Stage Alzheimer's Disease

A report in *Nature* described results from the Phase 1b PRIME clinical trial of the monoclonal antibody aducanumab and showed that aducanumab removed amyloid plaques from the brains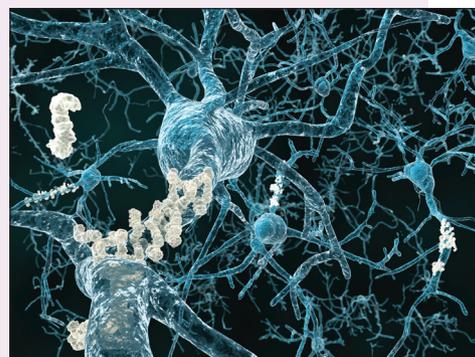 of patients with early-stage Alzheimer's disease. Importantly, amyloid plaque reductions occurred in both a dose- and time-dependent manner.

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After 1 year, in patients receiving aducanumab, the levels of amyloid plaques (visualized using positron emission tomography) were significantly reduced. There was also evidence that aducanumab slowed cognitive decline in these patients. If confirmed by future trials, these results provide support for the hypothesis that amyloid build-up is a key factor in driving cognitive decline in Alzheimer's disease.

To confirm the early findings on clinical stabilization, large-scale Phase 3 clinical trials of aducanumab are now underway at more than 300 study sites across 20 countries in North America, Europe, and Asia, and will assess the efficacy and safety of the drug in approximately 2,700 individuals with early Alzheimer's disease.

Source. "Early Results Show Aducanumab Removes Amyloid Plaques in Patients With Alzheimer's Disease." (2016, August 31). Retrieved September 27, 2016, from http://prn.to/2dphO7Y.