

Remote Monitoring of Patients Suffering From Early Symptoms of Dementia

Andrew Reeves
Pervasive ICT Research Centre, BT



Outline

- Introduction
- Telecare Pilot
- Body sensors
- Conclusions



Introduction

- Government green paper "Independence, Well-being and Choice" (March 2005)
- Key proposals include "*harnessing technology to deliver the right outcomes for adult social care*"
- Recognises telecare as having huge potential to support individuals to live at home and to complement traditional care
- Direct reference of the Liverpool telecare trial
- Case study...



Background

- Dementia – a state of progressive mental deterioration
- A dysfunction which restricts an individual's ability to live independently in their own home
- Most common form – Alzheimer's Disease (AD)
- Increasing risk with age
 - 5% age over 60
 - 20% age over 80
- Early symptoms may include mild forgetfulness

Statistics from www.alzheimers.org.uk



BSN ideas...

- Limitations to ambient sensors
- Wearable communication
- Location/context
- Physiological - possible triggers for wandering
 - Stress
 - Depression
 - Anxiety

"... it should not be taken for granted that his or her need to wander is simply a matter of pathology that requires management rather than understanding."

– BMJ "Electronic tagging of people with dementia who wander" (2002)



Conclusions

- Integration of ambient and body sensors – potential to provide an enhanced level of care
- Provided an example based on deployed system
- Suggested contributions body sensors could offer
- More information/discussion – exhibition/paper



Acknowledgements

- Liverpool City Council (LCC)
- Liverpool Direct Limited (LDL)
- Telecare pilot clients and carers

