The Emerging Role of Robotics in Home Health Care

Kevin Malehorn
Worcester, United States., kmalehorn@wpi.edu

Wan Liu
Worcester, United States., tammy_liu@wpi.edu

Hosung Im
Worcester, United States., hosungim@wpi.edu

Conrad Bzura
Worcester, United States., conradbzura@wpi.edu

Taskin Padir
Worcester, United States., tpadir@wpi.edu

See next page for additional authors

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Recommended Citation
Malehorn, Kevin; Liu, Wan; Im, Hosung; Bzura, Conrad; Padir, Taskin; and Tulu, Bengisu, "The Emerging Role of Robotics in Home Health Care" (2012). AMCIS 2012 Proceedings. 62.
http://aisel.aisnet.org/amcis2012/proceedings/Posters/62

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Author
Kevin Malehorn, Wan Liu, Hosung Im, Conrad Bzura, Taskin Padir, and Bengisu Tulu
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Kevin S Malehorn  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
kmalehorn@wpi.edu  

Hosung Im  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
hosungim@wpi.edu  

Taskin Padir  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
tpadir@wpi.edu  

Wan Liu  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
tammy_liu@wpi.edu  

Conrad Bzura  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
conradbzura@wpi.edu  

Bengisu Tulu  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
bengisu@wpi.edu  

ABSTRACT  
The demand for health care continues to exceed the supply of affordable, accessible care due in large part to the rapidly aging baby boomer population. The advancing field of robotics can provide an effective solution to this problem. This study aimed to develop a set of user requirements for a personal home health care robot. To generate these requirements, we conducted nine interviews with robotics professionals and three different focus groups with current and future caregivers and the elderly. Using this data we identified prominent and desired functionalities of robots, as well as what may influence their acceptance into the home setting. Our findings indicate that monitoring robots have the biggest acceptance potential among elderly and caregivers.

Keywords (Required)  
Robotics, home health care, user requirements, user needs.