Clinical testing and Data Validation of a Novel Continuous Vital Sign Monitoring System in Cancer Patients – a cross border (DK– DE) collaboration project

The project is a part of the EU’s INTERREG 5a Programme - Innocan (Innovative hightechnological cancer treatment Denmark-Germany), and the design include elements according to Medical Technology Assessment. Collaborating partners include private companies aiming to get new welfare-technological solutions into the market

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Publication date:
2016

Citation for published version (APA):
Bjerregaard, L. B. S., Dynesen, A. W., Llambias, M. T., Mærkedahl, M., Steen, B. H., Vestergaard, K., & Eriksen, K. K. (2016). Clinical testing and Data Validation of a Novel Continuous Vital Sign Monitoring System in Cancer Patients – a cross border (DK– DE) collaboration project: The project is a part of the EU's INTERREG 5a Programme - Innocan (Innovative hightechnological cancer treatment Denmark-Germany), and the design include elements according to Medical Technology Assessment. Collaborating partners include private companies aiming to get new welfare-technological solutions into the market. Poster session presented at Bridging the gap, Billund, Denmark.
Background: The incidence of cancer is increasing, and development of better treatment methods increase the number of people living with a cancer disease; and the number of years living with a cancer disease. To relieve the pressure on specialized hospital wards, there is a need to develop smarter monitoring systems and also to integrate patients and relatives in the treatment in their home as well as in the hospital.

Aim: The aim of this study is to implement and validate vital sign (pulse, temperature, Blood test etc) technologies in hospital wards as well as in patient’s home and to gain knowledge about how patients and relatives experience and perceive use of vital sign technologies. Further, nurses’ perception, attitudes and experience of nursing and care practices in relation to vital sign monitoring is explored.

Methods: The project is testing four innovative vital sign technologies in patients admitted to partner hospitals in Denmark and in Germany. The user perspective include qualitative data obtained by anthropologic observational studies, and qualitative interviews with patients, relatives and staff members. The validation of the vital sign technologies is performed by quantitative analysis and compared to usual measures of vital signs.

Results: No final results have been processed yet. However, it appears that much attention must be paid to the implementation process as this is crucial to the results.