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More safety for seniors at home with a contactless fall detection solution

Cham, Switzerland – Sedimentum launches a contactless emergency product for Swiss households: "SAFE-living", the intelligent fall detection service. An innovative solution that doesn't require wearing a bracelet or pressing an emergency button. The subscription-based model will provide seniors more safety at home and their relatives peace of mind.

Worldwide, over 16 million people fall at home each year and need immediate medical attention^{1 2}. 82% of seniors' falls occur at home alone. Nowadays, a part of the older population already owns an emergency system. However, in 8 out of 10 cases, these systems are not used at all since either the person has lost consciousness, can't stand up anymore, or can't reach the button³. It's not the fall which is dangerous but the time gap until help arrives. Immediate medical care not only prevents severe complications such as thrombosis or muscle and tissue damage but also minimises long-term injuries or even saves lives.

Sedimentum, the Healthtech startup based in Cham, offers "SAFE-living" –an intelligent fall detection service as a subscription model to private clients in Switzerland to increase household safety and autonomy. This innovative solution doesn't require wearing a bracelet or pressing an emergency button. Based on AI-technology, the fall detector measures movements and sends an alert to Sedimentum's emergency centre in case of a fall incident – all without cameras and microphones!

Highly innovative technology offers more safety at home

A reliable and intelligent technology solution that detects a "real" fall accident had not been created until now. This is due to the fact that recognizing a fall event in a contactless and reliable manner is a highly challenging undertaking. A fall is defined as "an event that results in a person *accidentally* and *uncontrollably* coming to the ground or to a lower level". Therefore, doing a fitness exercise on the floor is definitely not considered a fall. This differentiation is clear for humans; however, it is sometimes not so clear for classic technology solutions.

Nevertheless, this is going to change now with Sedimentum's "SAFE-living" solution. The answer to the problem is Sedimentum's self-developed AI technology which can, for example, differentiate a fitness exercise from an actual fall. The fall detectors from Sedimentum are installed on the ceiling and work contactless and automatically. They don't require a battery charger and the users don't have to carry anything (no wearables). The installation, app and multiple fall detectors for a whole home are included in the subscription costs.

Falls within your own four walls are a serious problem

Before CEO Sandro Cilurzo co-founded Sedimentum, he was responsible for a psychiatric clinic's information and cyber security. "Usually, it's challenging to ensure patient safety 24 hours a day, and even more so in an inpatient environment. As a result, falls are frequently reported. I couldn't walk away from this challenging and complex problem. That's why, I founded Sedimentum," explains Cilurzo.

It quickly became evident that falling isn't just a problem in inpatient facilities; the danger is even more severe at home. Slip and fall accidents can have serious outcomes, especially for older people

¹ <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/falls>

² <https://medalrthelp.org/blog/falls-in-the-elderly-statistics/>

³ <https://www.bmj.com/content/bmj/337/bmj.a2227.full.pdf>

living alone. Being autonomous and safe at home is an essential need for seniors. "The constantly rising market demand of older people, as well as their relatives, confirmed this to us," says Cilurzo. For this reason, Sedimentum's main target is now private households. With the "SAFE-living" solution, the population most at risk of falls can live an autonomous, carefree, and longer life at home. "We offer the "SaaS" solution elderly people have always been looking for: Safety-as-a-Service," Cilurzo explains.

Falls cause high social costs

In Switzerland, the slips and falls of older adults cause annual costs of approximately CHF 1.8 billion. These costs include healing and care, amongst others. The Swiss helpline for accident prevention (called BFU in Switzerland) estimates that falls among seniors cost the Swiss economy approximately CHF 14 billion annually. By 2050, the number of older adults worldwide will double to over 2 billion due to demographic changes in society, and this will aggravate the problem⁴.

About Sedimentum

Sedimentum AG was founded in 2019 and is based in Cham. With its "SAFE-living" solution, the Swiss Healthtech startup's objective is to enable people to live a safe and autonomous life for as long as possible in their own homes. The combination of an intelligent and contactless "SAFE-living" fall detector and an automatic alerting system over the corresponding "SAFE-living" app keeps the time gap between a fall and the necessary help to the minimum and can help to save lives.

Contact

Sedimentum AG, Dorfplatz 6, 6330 Cham

Eugenie Nicoud, Co-Founder & COO, +41 41 562 06 29, eugenie.nicoud@sedimentum.com

Media data:

Image film:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uybCZraIOW8>

Explanation video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bh0VJiB20bM>

Fotos and logos:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1EKlnhjA91TANPvmebD4jKrhgMZ40TEfe>

⁴ https://www.sichergehen.ch/Resources/Persistent/66ff92064c95c243b6629d7ac3b2bea39d84a1fc/2021_Fakten_u_Zahlen_DE.pdf