

CARING-AI

Culturally Adaptive and Responsive AI-Driven Social Assistive Robots for Inclusive Care

ABSTRACT

Canada and Europe are experiencing significant increases in populations aged ≥ 65 , increasing to almost 30% by 2030 in both regions. Migrant older adults can experience even more complex healthcare needs with limited long-term care options and a strained healthcare system. Key issues include limited access to services, communication barriers, and experiences of marginalization or bias. Social Robots (SRs) offer a promising solution to bridge these gaps. SRs are robots with social interaction capabilities that generate social responses in users and can communicate verbally and non-verbally with people. However, while the current market offers various technologies, most are not co-designed with end-users, less with migrant older adults. Till date, to our knowledge no studies have assessed the use of SRs for migrant older adults in EU/CA. The proposed study is a collaboration between 7 countries spanning Canada and Europe, including Austria, Denmark, France, Netherlands, Portugal, and Spain. The research investigators are global experts in the domains of robotics, older adults, clinical care, and mental health.

The project encompasses 3 phases. Phase 1: Qualitative research to understand the needs, barriers, and opportunities of SRs in the delivery of care for the migrant older population, informal carers, healthcare professionals, policy and decision/makers and AI experts/academics. Phase 2: Proof-of-concept in 5 countries (CA, FR, NL, AU, ES) of a SR in two care settings: cross-sectional study in primary care and longitudinal study in community care, analyzing also the social return on investment. Phase 3: Knowledge translation and policy labs in the pilot sites with end-users, policymakers, industry partners, health and care managers, researchers and community actors. If successful, co-designed SRs have the potential to engage patients and reduce the barriers to care for vulnerable populations.

KEYWORDS

- Social Robot
- Immigrants
- Older Adults
- Primary Care
- Community Based Care
- Artificial Intelligence

DURATION

30 months

PARTNERS

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