PErvasive Technologies Related to Assistive Environments (PETRA)
2022 Conference Workshop on Ethics and AgeTech,
Corfu, Greece
29th June-1st July 2022

Call for Papers

Workshop on Ethical Issues in AgeTech to Support Healthy Ageing (EAT)

Workshop organizer: Andrew Sixsmith PhD
Simon Fraser University, Canada
andrew_sixsmith@sfu.ca
https://www.sfu.ca/gerontology/about/people/andrew-sixsmith.html

AgeTech refers to the use of emerging and advanced technologies in areas such as artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, machine learning, e-health, and mobile technologies to support the health, independence and well-being of older people (Sixsmith 2021). AgeTech has been explored in terms of supporting older people to remain at home for longer (Verloo et al., 2020), to provide social connectedness (Baez et al., 2019), support wellbeing (Astell et al., 2016) and mental health (Andrews et al., 2019) and link the older person to their wider community (Fleming et al., 2018). However, the use of technology to provide support older people to age well in place may also bring with it the potential to increase inequalities in access to health and health outcomes for vulnerable and marginalised people. Research has indicated a crucial need to fully understand who and in what ways AgeTech can have both positive benefits for older people or further exacerbate experiences of marginalisation (Sixsmith 2006). A critical discussion of ethical design, digital equity and policy pathways is required if we are to fully understand the positive and negative outcomes and the intended and unintended consequences of AgeTech solutions to drive practical, equitable, and inclusive multilevel solutions to support healthy and active ageing.

The workshop will address and explore some of the ethical challenges of AgeTech, with particular reference to AI-based applications. Topics may include, but are not limited to

-

- Facilitate deeper understanding and discussion of the “double-edged” nature of technology-based interventions
-