

WEAR IT SMART

2021

SMART GARMENTS AND WEARABLES FOR HEALTHCARE

OCTOBER 21ST - MONTREAL
CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



The healthcare sector is currently facing numerous challenges such as an aging population, scarcity of labor, and a diversification and increase in patients' needs. However, these various challenges can also be envisioned as innovation opportunities for both companies and researchers. Concurrently, new technologies are emerging and their integration opens up promising perspectives for companies. Among them, digital, information and communication technologies or the growing importance of software are shaping the future of healthcare. Accordingly, the Internet of Things, cloud computing, data analysis, or artificial intelligence can provide solutions to overcome the healthcare sector's issues. However, to benefit from these technologies, their integration to the patients' routines through garments or wearables can be envisioned.

Indeed, smart garments and wearables can collect data through the integration of sensors, be fitted with artificial intelligence capacities connected to a warning system, and allow remote monitoring or even diagnosis; while maintaining the traditional characteristics of garments and accessories regarding aesthetics, ergonomics and comfort for the patients. The resulting apparel is beneficial to both patients and medical teams. However, development of such products is complex and requires high level of skills and expertise. To that extent, Wear It Smart 2021 is envisioned as a catalyst event around the theme of smart garments and wearables for healthcare.

As part of this event, speakers are invited to share their experience and vision of tomorrow's smart clothing for healthcare, as well as the challenges they face. Researchers can participate through presentations of their research supporting the development of these new products from a technological or methodological perspective. Contributions can be the sharing of an entrepreneurship journey, testimonies on the opportunities and issues of this sector, research work related to project development, examples of usage such as telemedicine, or even to upcoming technologies.

Finally, discussions will take place through workshops and panels around the benefits/role of smart garments and wearables in healthcare and the issues related to their development. In that respect, the successful development of smart clothing lies in multidisciplinary collaboration, material selection, connectivity, cybersecurity, heterogeneous data collection and analysis, as well as the mastery and integration of new technologies such as artificial intelligence and flexible electronics. In addition, regulation, ethics and standardization aspects specific to medical products play a key role in the launch, market development and adoption of such garments.

This get-together will be one of the many events to mark Vestechpro's 10th Anniversary. WIS 2021 will take place on Wednesday, October 21th 2021 in Montreal, at the Maison du développement durable. An online edition could be proposed if the health situation requires it.