

## **Technology Radar: BusinessLab's review of technologies that are making the news, Oct 2013**

An *ActiveAge* Report

### **ActivAge Conference**

A conference next month in Dublin created by St. James's Hospital and the Digital Hub, will explore the role of technology in supporting healthy ageing. It will bring together clinicians, tech innovators, entrepreneurs, eHealth experts and older people to imagine a future of successful ageing. Some of the questions the conference will seek to answer include, what does it mean to be well and older? What are the determinants of health in older age? What healthcare service innovations are emerging in which technology may play a role?

This conference is free to attend but you must reserve your place in advance.

*For more information visit*

<http://www.thedigitalhub.com/activage>

<http://www.businessandleadership.com/leadership/item/42950-digital-hub-and-st-jamess/>

### **Menu Management System**

An Australian community care provider has been using technology to achieve efficiencies in time required for patient menu management.

Resthaven's Relieving Coordinator of Housekeeping Services recently won the Aged and Community Services SA & NT Employee Award for his menu management system. This records and updates residents dietary changes, reducing risk to residents and ensuring consistency and accuracy of data.

The system was developed using an Excel Spreadsheet where all related kitchen, pantry and housekeeping forms are automatically changed simultaneously, once information is entered or updated.

This low-cost project has reduced time inefficiencies, meal and dietary errors and food wastage. It has now been introduced in all Resthaven's 10 residential aged care facilities in South Australia.

*For more information visit:*

<http://www.resthaven.asn.au/care-n-support/community-services.html>

<http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/2013/10/31/clever-thinking/>

## **Using technology to aid flexible working in health services**

Queensland-based Mater Health Services is using workforce management technology to efficiently create rosters for its clinical staff, 85% of whom work part-time.

The system has helped with fortnightly rosters so staff can better keep track of their hours. The health provider uses Kronos workforce management tools, which alert clinician staff of rostering timetables and changes via their mobile phones or tablets.

The tool allows management to see who is available and wants to work in particular shifts and also allows allocation of shifts from other hospitals. Staff can themselves indicate preferred shifts using their mobile devices.

*For more information please visit*

[http://www.cio.com.au/article/530585/mater\\_health\\_services\\_uses\\_technology\\_aid\\_flexible\\_working\\_/?utm\\_medium=rss&utm\\_source=authorfeed](http://www.cio.com.au/article/530585/mater_health_services_uses_technology_aid_flexible_working_/?utm_medium=rss&utm_source=authorfeed)

## **Amulet Technology**

A project at Dartmouth College and Clemson University has been focusing on the development of a wearable computing device that can be used in mobile health.

The ‘Amulet’ project has been described as an “electronic bracelet” and a “software framework” that enables developers to create user-friendly, safe, secure and efficient mHealth applications to fit with everyday life.

Mobile health (mHealth) technology provides many opportunities to improve quality of life and reduce healthcare costs but there are still various challenges to be overcome. These relate to usability, manageability, interoperability, security and privacy.

The Amulet serves as a way to send health information. The device can be used to update health providers and can be used with other apps on a patient’s smartphone or smart television.

The researchers involved share a vision where computational jewelry can provide successful body-area mHealth networks.

*For more information visit:*

<http://amulet-project.org/>