



## Emerging self-care assistive technology

# 497

patent families for emerging self-care assistive technology filed across **29 patent offices**

### What technologies are involved?



**Health and emotion monitoring (wearables and non-wearables)**  
262 (53%)



**Smart diapers**  
95 (19%)



**Smart medication dispensing and management**  
93 (19%)



**Feeding assistant robot**  
47 (9%)



84% of inventions were filed for patent protection in one jurisdiction, indicating interest is mainly toward individual markets

### Which are the fastest growing technologies?

**Devices for health and emotion monitoring** are areas of recent patenting activity (77% of related applications published after 2010). **Non-wearable** (e.g., smart carpets, mirrors and platforms) and **wearable** (e.g., smart wristbands, virtual reality headsets, smart clothing and insoles) devices grew on average by **38%** and **26%**, respectively, between 2013 and 2017

### Who is filing?

#### Applicant sector



**Individuals**  
29%



**Corporate**  
50%



**Academia**  
20%

#### Top patent applicants

<b>Google (U.S.)</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Liuzhou Yiwang Technology (China)</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>National Rehabilitation Center (Republic of Korea)</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Kimberly-Clark (U.S.)</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Johnson &amp; Johnson (U.S.)</b>	<b>4</b>

Emerging assistive technology for self-care is a highly fragmented patent landscape, with many different applicants holding small patent portfolios