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%
- Academia 20%
- Corporate 50%

Top patent applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Google (U.S.)</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liuzhou Yiwang Technology (China)</td>
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<td>National Rehabilitation Center (Republic of Korea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kimberly-Clark (U.S.)</td>
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<td>Johnson &amp; Johnson (U.S.)</td>
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Emerging assistive technology for self-care is a highly fragmented patent landscape, with many different applicants holding small patent portfolios.