

Someone to watch over you

1 Wireless sensors positioned at key points around the home. Other monitors might include pressure pads to detect gait, or weight readers linked to the bed.

2 Software learns the patient's normal patterns of behaviour and detects changes, such as waking up in the night, sleeping too much, losing weight dramatically or increased anxiety.

3 Data is transferred to remote location for analysis.

4 In an emergency, alerts are sent by pager, mobile phone or e-mail to ensure rapid response from health professionals.

