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Wireless RERC Updates

Disability Pride Pittsburgh Recap

The Wireless RERC would like to thank everyone who stopped by our Disability Pride Pittsburgh booth on Saturday, August 26 at Schenley Plaza in Pittsburgh.

Our team had a great time connecting with the community and listening to Libby Powers, our Consumer Advisory Committee Chair, speak at this exciting event! [Learn more about Disability Pride PA events.](#)



Wireless RERC Updates (continued)

Mainstream Smart Home Technology Publication

The Wireless RERC team's work on the Assist Functional Performance Index (AFPI) was recently published in *Assistive Technology*, the official journal of RESNA.

Fairman, A. D., Foschi Walko, P., Ding, D., Morris, L., Boateng, J., Murphy, K., and Terhost, L. (2023). Reliability and Validity Testing of ASSIST Functional Performance Index. *Assistive Technology*. doi.org/10.1080/10400435.2023.2245004

2023 AAATE Conference – Assistive Technology: Shaping a Sustainable and Inclusive World

Sabine Lobnig, one of our Scientific Advisory Board members, co-hosted a Special Thematic Session titled “The Assistive Potential of Digital Consumer Technology” at the 2023 Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE) Conference in Paris, France, September 1. Andrea D. Fairman-Laferrier from the RERC team joined the session as a panelist and discussed our work on the application of cognitive training strategies in the service delivery of mainstream smart home technologies. **Learn more about the AAATE conference.**



11th Annual Wheelchair Wash and Tune-Up

The Wireless RERC team will be volunteering at the upcoming UPMC Rehabilitation Institute's 11th Annual Wheelchair Wash & Tune-Up on Friday, September 29 from 4:00–7:00 PM at 100 Technology Drive Suite 210, Pittsburgh, PA 15219. Registration closes on September 22—**sign up today!**

iMHere Mobile Health App Helping to Simplify Complex Self-Care

The UPMC Adult Spina Bifida Clinic, directed by Wireless RERC Co-Director, Brad Dicianno, is making it easier for patients to manage their condition with the iMHere app linked to a dashboard in the clinic's electronic health record (EHR). Clinicians can easily order the app to promote patient empowerment by improving coordination and communication, self-management skills, and progress tracking between visits. **Learn more about the integration of the iMHere app into EHR.**

Tech News

Brilliant's New Plug-In Smart Home Control Panel

The new plug-in version of Brilliant's wired smart switch is simpler to install and just as easy to use. Controlling lights, thermostats, locks and more with Brilliant's smart controller's touchscreen display is now a plug-in away and will not require any rewiring. Integrations are still limited, but the company says it is exploring Matter support.



New JBL Smart Speakers Unite Alexa and Google Assistant

Three new JBL Authentics smart speakers can now use both Alexa and Google Assistant simultaneously, meaning if you have a multi-assistant household, either can be evoked to start and stop requests.

Samsung Galaxy Watch Update: Now with Irregular Heart Rhythm Detection

Samsung has begun rolling out an update to its Galaxy Watches with a new feature called Irregular Heart Rhythm Notification (IHRN).

The feature, similar to Fitbit's continuous heartbeat and rhythm readings, enabled in the Samsung Health app, will monitor then alert the user if irregular patterns are detected.



More Matter Devices in More Categories Now Available

If you're looking to upgrade devices or are just starting to create a smart home that works together, we've got you covered with a [Thread how-to](#) and information on some [Thread obstacles](#) to be aware of, as well as the first [Matter outdoor plug-in switch](#).

Want even more Matter? [Review past editions of Tech Topics in the News.](#)

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