



19th June, 2024

PRESS RELEASE: Launch of the project RE:HOME

Partners of RE:HOME project held a kickoff meeting on June 3rd & 4th to officially launch the project.

Smart technologies for personalized home care for neurological pediatric patients



With an indicative financial allocation of EU funding of **€6.47 million** and a total project budget of €10.7 million, the specific objective of RE:HOME is ensuring equal access to health care and fostering resilience of health systems, including primary care, and promoting the transition from institutional to family and community-based care.

In NWE, Europe's most densely populated region, there are approximately 12,000 children with neurological disorders who face lifelong challenges, including severe mobility limitations. These children require personalized rehabilitation plans that address their specific needs and abilities. However, the lack of standardized practices hinders the development of comprehensive programs that can be easily implemented across various healthcare settings.



Despite advancements in medical technology and rehabilitation practices, the current landscape of motor rehabilitation lacks access to advanced technological solutions. The scarcity of advanced technologies, including exoskeletons for children, contributes to the classification of the NWE area as a medical desert. To address these challenges and improve the field of neurological pediatric rehabilitation, the RE:HOME project aims to achieve the following objectives:

1. Improve access to new technologies by delivering new exoskeleton modules for robot-assisted rehabilitation, smart garments, and also an IT platform to telemonitor and facilitate the transfer of digital technologies.
2. Establish standardized transnational training programs for both hospital and home use. Urban areas, Belgium and the Netherlands will serve as pilot countries, where training and testing sessions will be developed.
3. Implement a joint training scheme that targets healthcare professionals, parents, children, and the public. This improves access to information and knowledge about rehabilitation technologies and practice.

Different target groups have been identified: Higher education and research organisations (students from universities), Hospitals and medical centres, General public, SME and Interest groups including NGOs (parents associations and children).

To learn more about RE:HOME, click here <https://re-home.nweurope.eu/>

The Duration of the project is 4 years (2024-2028)



Description of the partners

Junia: JUNIA is an engineering school offering HEI, ISA and ISEN degrees, research activities and services to companies.

Thomas More is a Flemish University of Applied Sciences with international allure. Mobilab & Care is a research group at Thomas More that conducts innovative research in the physical, psychological, and social areas. We focus on prevention, rehabilitation, and ongoing support to enhance the quality of life for people requiring care or support, and to promote full societal inclusion for everyone.

CENTEXBEL: Centexbel is the Belgian collective research competence center with its expertise lies in the fields of textile, plastic, and composite since 1949. The existing knowledge in textiles and polymer materials enables a holistic approach to developing new materials and new structured textiles, including smart textile, textile sensors. In addition to technological platforms, Centexbel also boasts accredited laboratories (chemical, physical, microbiological) for material and textile tests. Centexbel is actively involved in numerous EU and regional projects as a partner and often as a coordinator, always trying to innovate and support the manufacturing industry.

CITC: The CITC is a technical centre whose purpose is to support the development, integration and proper use of technologies dedicated to the Internet of Things (IoT), Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Cybersecurity among supply and demand actors by promoting synergies between companies, research organisations and training.

Kinetic Analysis B.V. : As part of the Kinetic Analysis Group of companies, this Dutch SME specializes in human motion data. With a multidisciplinary team ranging from designers, hardware and software developers, data scientists, and clinical experts, they bring academic knowledge to the market in different sports- and healthcare contexts.

Pediatric medical and rehabilitation Center Marc Sautelet: Paediatric Rehabilitation Hospital with expertise in neurological rehabilitation, specific evaluations, and exoskeletons.

Sint Maartenskliniek: SMK specializes hospital for posture and movement disorders. SMK has its own research department and a long-standing (inter)nationally leading position in the treatment of patients with (neurological) musculoskeletal disorders, including children with Cerebral Palsy.

Moveshelf Labs BV: Moveshelf provides a solution for clinical centers to standardize movement analysis and to make movement measurements results, from cameras and wearables, directly available in the electronic health record (EHR) system.

Smart-Q Softwaresysteme GmbH : Since 2010 smart-Q has been developing and selling software applications for special areas of application in the fields of medicine and care. The focus is on web-based documentation solutions.

Radboud University: Radboud University is a leading Dutch university, known for its international orientation, wide range of academic disciplines, interdisciplinary research and push towards creating societal impact on regional, national and international levels.



KU Leuven: KU Leuven is Belgium's largest and oldest university. It encompasses both a technical and a clinical partner. This clinical group ensures the multidisciplinary follow up of +/- 1000 children with cerebral palsy using high-tech infrastructure for clinical motion analysis.

University of Applied Health Sciences: Founded in 2009, HS Gesundheit is the first state-run university for health professionals in Germany. Students acquire knowledge and skills at three learning locations (university, skills lab, practice facilities) and the digital environments developed.

Stay tuned, further information will follow soon.

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