

Title	認知症高齢者介護のための食事摂取量計測及び記録システムの開発
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Development of a system that can measure and record food intake for caring the elderly who suffers Alzheimer

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We developed a system that supports care-giver providing the meal for caring the elderly who suffers Alzheimer or dementia. This system can measure and record food intake of the elderly who suffers Alzheimer or dementia. The care-giver can also find new supporting for eating by inspecting those records.

It is very important for the elderly who suffers Alzheimer or dementia to eat meals. It means nutritional support and pleasures for them. But, if dementia progressively worsens, the elderly forgets to eat, because the cognitive function decreases. The elderly who suffers Alzheimer or dementia thus eats less meal that care-giver provides.

Care-giver tries various ingenuities of the meals that they provide to arouse appetite of the elderly who suffers Alzheimer or dementia. Now, the ingenuities are recorded by word or oral explanation, and are transmitted to another care-giver. Other care-giver however cannot understand what ingenuities the care-givers concretely care only from character information.

Therefore, we developed a system that can measure and record food intake of the elderly who suffers Alzheimer or dementia. This system consisting of digital scale and camera, and the record is saved to database.

We evaluated this system to investigate its usability. Three care-givers operated this system during a week, and this subject was one person who decreased the meal intake in a group home. Then, this system evaluated by the questionnaire and the interview. As a result, we confirmed the utility of this system.