Taking Precautions

How many of us take precautions each and every day of our lives? We brush our teeth; we take vitamins and exercise; we wear shoes when going outside; we use sun-protective products; we get regular physical checkups; we take medications to prevent a problem; we avoid alcohol and cigarettes during pregnancy; we avoid danger and protect our safety; we take secure measures to protect our hard-earned money; we try to protect ourselves from infections and diseases, etc. There are many more precautions we humans take to live a safe and secure life. The Cambridge Dictionary defines precaution “as an action which is done to prevent something unpleasant or dangerous happening”

Living independently at home requires special precautions that, most experts would agree, are unfamiliar to us. Universal Design is a new idea that had its “roots in both barrier-free design and normalization theory.” The idea here is not to implement devices specifically for a selected set of people but to help with the improvement of the living environments for all people not just those with disabilities. Universal design reduces “the stigma caused by the association of special products and settings with disability” All of society’s members benefit from universal design.

“The curb ramp is often used as a good example. When curb ramps were not universal, people who used wheeled mobility devices were trapped within a boundary of inaccessible sidewalks. When curb ramps became common, not only did people with disabilities gain more mobility in the community, but other citizens like parents with strollers, bicyclists, rollerbladers and skateboarders, soon realize that they benefited also.”

Universal design and taking precautions are a new concept in today’s world. It relates to the world and new environments based on population diversity and each individual person’s experiences. There are social aspects to independent living as well as a resistance to use assistive technology until it is necessary. “The vast majority of people wish to remain living in their own neighborhoods and their existing housing.” More than 89% want to live in their home forever. Statistics show that 9 out of 10 55+ year olds anticipate technology will help them live longer independently and be able to detect diseases before they become untreatable.

No one would want to purchase devices and prosthetics labeled as being “an old person’s” “device or for “an old person” The gap between design and the end user must be closed so that all of society can benefit from innovative technologies-the family members, the caregivers, the medical community and the end-user. The environment, the communication, the information and the ease-of-use are all important progressive issues with practical applications that have been designed and implemented into the Grand Care System.

Consumers as well as end-users must adopt innovation in order to reduce stress and have peace of mind. The functional benefits of this break-through product called the Grand Care System gives valuable opportunities for “emotion, ergonomics, aesthetics, identity, impact, core technology and quality” as well as a social agenda. The Grand Care System addresses REAL NEEDS most effectively and is adaptable to all aspects of a diverse society. It is designed for “Well-Being” The Grand Care System “offers a perspective on life quality that goes beyond the traditional scope of assistive technology in that it aims
to help people make a transformation from an actual state of being to a desired state of being—regardless of ability level. Here, a desired state of being means that we do not necessarily focus on finding out what is wrong but also what could be different, and what quality of life really means from the individual’s perspective.” Grand Care System offers “smart” technology that focuses on its impact in people’s lives—the quality of life and the desired state of well being. It offers greater mobility, less dependency, responds to human needs and satisfies social responsibilities in a positive manner.

The Grand Care System is highly recommended. It is truly a most useful product for all age groups that concentrates on life quality and goes beyond the traditional scope of independent living producing peace of mind, safety and security.

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Works Cited: