

Wearable technology and patient mobility

Advances in wearable technology are coming thick and fast. Even that most conservative of investor, [Warren Buffet, has seen fit to put his weight behind the wearable tech industry.](#)

With these advances comes multiple benefits, none more so than in the medical field. We all understand the idea of smart watches and other gizmos which measure our exercise and [steps.](#) Medical device manufacturers are also designing products which measure many other types of critical patient data, tracking their health in real-time. Going further, the wearable can be an active medical device which gives treatment on the fly.

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One of the advantages is that patients are no longer inhibited by the monitoring or treatment systems. We have seen a number of our customers talking to us about the wearable technology which they are developing in order to increase patient mobility. There is a conflict between being tied down by the

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instrumentation, and getting up and moving about which is good for the patient.

Packing functionality into the wearable medical device is a challenge for designers. The electronics are small/thin in geometry, and will need protection from both the environment and physical impacts and shocks. We have been talking to customers about structural bonding with [adhesives](#), electronic circuit protection with [potting compounds](#) or [encapsulants](#), [thermal management](#), and connectivity with [electrically conductive adhesives](#).

Exciting times!

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