Aguirre presents the pilot project of biometric identification of patients with Alzheimer's and cognitive disorders.

Presidency of Regional Government of Madrid

March 7, 2011

The president is accompanied by the Vice President and counselor of culture and sports, Ignacio Gonzalez and health minister, Javier Fernandez Lasquetty and family counselor and social affairs Engracia Hidalgo.

The President of the Community of Madrid, Esperanza Aguirre, accompanied by Vice President and Minister of Culture and Sport, Ignacio Gonzalez, the Minister of Health, Javier Fernandez Lasquetty and Family Counselor and Social Affairs, Engracia Hidalgo, presented the pilot project biometric identification for patients with Alzheimer's disease and cognitive disorders. For Esperanza Aguirre this is the first public event headed after undergoing breast cáncer surgery last February 22 at the Hospital Clinico San Carlos.

This project will start in the Vallecas and Parla health centers.

The regional president, Esperanza Aguirre, has introduced a new biometric identification project that will allow locals the opportunity to be identified by recording their fingerprints, test phase will be applied March 8 in the geographic area of Vallecas and Parla.

The Project also includes the participation of ambulances of Emergency Service Community, Summa 112, and creates a database of patients to facilitate their identification and treatment. This system will provide, on a voluntary basis, the digital fingerprint registry of patients treated at two health centers, a Specialty Center, nursing homes, two day centers for Alzheimer's patients and the Hospital Infanta Leonor of Vallecas.

In the community there is more than 50,000 Alzheimer patients and 450,000 families are affected indirectly by the consequences of this disease. With this project the regional government is looking to provide in a voluntary basis the registration of the affected patients so that, in an emergency, they can be identified immediately in a health center of the Summa 112 and that its professionals can access their administrative data identification and clinical information electronically.

One of the advantages of this system is that fingerprint recognition can be incorporated into the ambulances such that, in cases were the patient requires to be transferred his/her information can be dictated to the medical unit. It will provide benefits to citizens who use the health system and health professionals, as the unique patient identification by using fingerprint will make a significant improvement in patient safety in and healthcare.

Fingerprint registration is voluntary and is conducted in selected centers. To do this, the patient of their relatives or guardians must sign a consent use of digital fingerprint, respecting all safety requirements defined by the Spanish Organic Law on Data Protection.

Pilot test in Vallecas and Parla

To start the test, the Health Department will begin work in a real enviornment, to assess its performance. The first beneficiaries are residents of the geographical area of Parla and Vallecas. The fingerprint identification will be offered on a voluntary basis to patients of Health Center Federica Montseny and will be installed in the Emergency Department of Primary Care located in the same hospital.

Additionally it'll be provided to patients of the Health Center Rafael Alberti, the Infanta Leonor Hospital, The Federica Montseny Specialty center, the elderly and patients of the Queen Sofia Foundation Alzheimer day center and the day center of Parla. To complete the project, the Summa 112 will join the pilot to install one of its ambulances with this system, which allows rapid and unambiguous identification of a citizen and consultation of electronic clinical information.

In the coming weeks the necessary actions to start the test will be completed , among which include the provision to the centers of the sensors and the equipment configuration, plan professional training and awareness campaign in system own centers dedicated to the pilot.