
Graphene Trace Secures £300k to Tackle Pressure Ulcers

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Graphene Trace, a UK-based startup that aims to use sensors to eradicate the problem of pressure ulcers, has been awarded a £300,000 grant by Innovate UK.

The startup believes its proprietary sensor technology for wheelchair users and hospital inpatients could reduce pressure ulcer onset by up to 95%. CEO Scott Dean said the grant will fund the creation of a prototype for its pressure ulcer prevention technology and bring it a step closer to going to market.

Dean said: “The Innovate [UK](#) grant of £300k will be transformative for our startup, taking us from the proof of concept in lab we have now to a fully-fledged demonstrator prototype and begin trialing it with end users. We are in the process of fundraising for working capital to manage the grant project.”

“The original idea was to use sensors to monitor a serious sleep disorder called sleep apnea, in which a patient’s breathing repeatedly stops and starts. The idea was developed at a graphene hackathon in 2019 but when we started researching it there was a lot of pressure from clinicians to tackle ulcer prevention.”

[Graphene Trace](#)’s mission is to empower wheelchair users and hospitals to protect against pressure ulcers by developing a smart pressure sensing fabric that continuously monitors user pressure distribution and sends alerts when there is an increased risk of developing a pressure ulcer.

Dean said: “The Innovate [UK](#) grant is our biggest to date. I was very fortunate to take part in the Innovate [UK](#) Innovation to Commercialization of University Research (ICURE) program, which funded a global market research and customer validation journey. This ICURE

programme was instrumental in us getting awarded the Innovate [UK](#) grant.

“I am a first-time co-founder and have been developing the idea alongside my PhD at the University of Manchester. Now having just completed my PhD the timing is perfect to really accelerate the growth of the idea.”

Read the [original article](#) on Graphene-Info.