

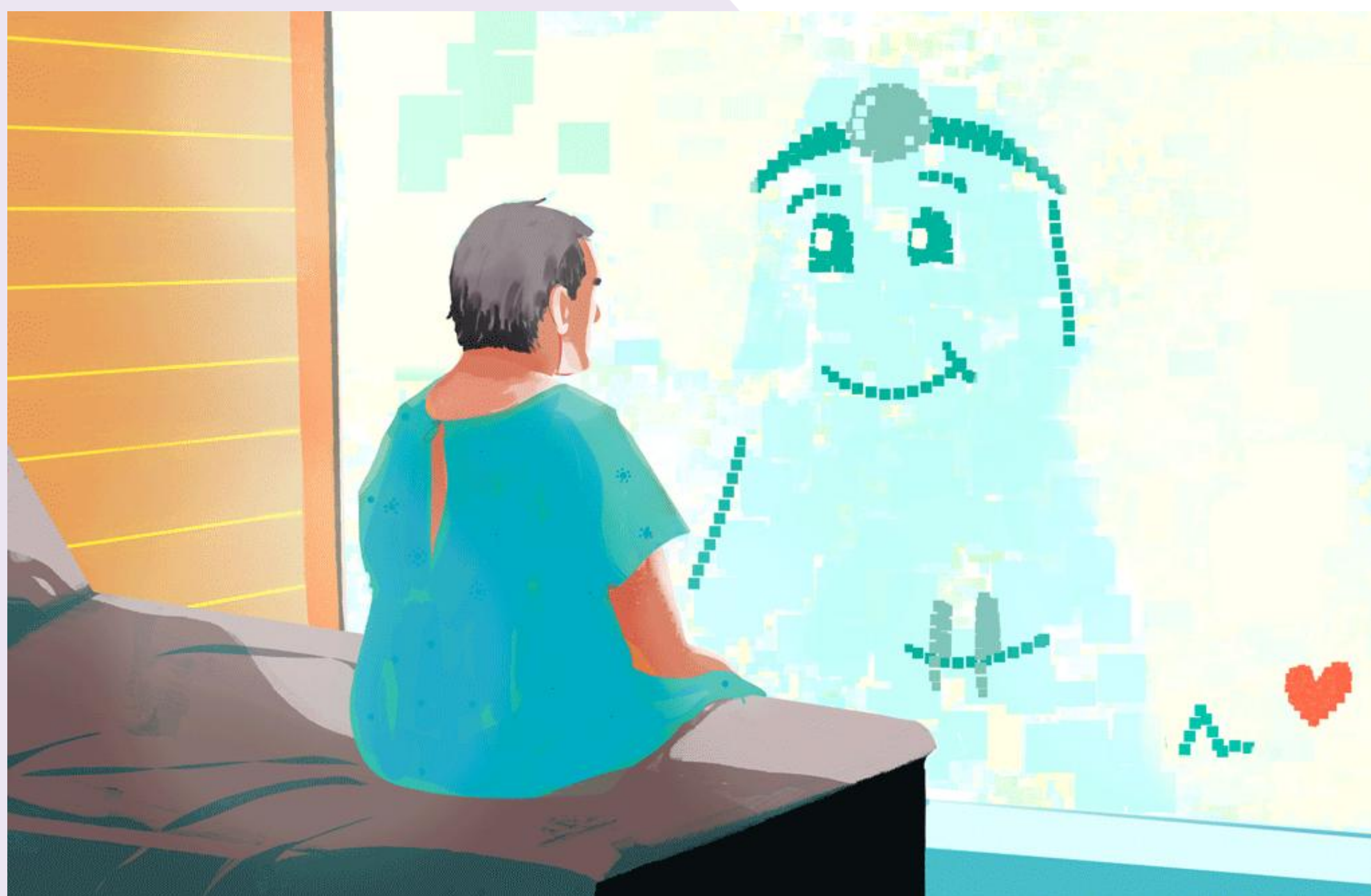
APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY FOR TECHNOLOGIES OF CARE

 Kellie Morrissey (kellie.morrissey@ucc.ie), John McCarthy, Sarah Foley, Luigina Ciolfi, Sarah Robinson, Conor Linehan, Doireann Peeló, & Stephanie Murphy

CARING & TECH

“Care” is a concept with layered meanings. In psychology, it might be understood through concepts such as attachment theory, therapeutic practice, or social and relational dynamics that allow human flourishing. When we think about care in everyday terms, it is often understood as looking after those who are most vulnerable or in need of support. Care ethics, particularly in feminist traditions, extends this by positioning care as a political and moral practice, marked by attentiveness, responsibility, and responsiveness in conditions of dependency and power.

Advances in technology hold the promise of supporting such care by extending attentiveness and connection. Yet when technology enters the picture, care risks being reshaped, or even commodified, by design logics and market imperatives.



Good care involves
“persistent tinkering
in a world full of
complex ambivalence
and shifting tensions”
(Mol et al., 2015)

OUR APPROACH

At UCC’s School of Applied Psychology, we have historically tackled this tension through researching, designing, and deploying technologies that help us care for one another in ethical and responsible ways. Our position as *applied* psychologists equips us to understand human needs, behaviours, and relationships in context.

From technologies that support people living with dementia in long-term care, to investigations into how software developers might embed care into their design practices, our work foregrounds care as both method and outcome through our use of sensitive, participatory research.

LEERO



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