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Smart biometric recording system for real-time evaluation of motility on organism with knee pathology

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Lab rats and rabbits are irreplaceable models for study of the orthopedic pathologies. Traditional analysis of these pathologies is based on postmortem histological analysis or X-ray or invasive sampling, however modern monitoring of orthopedic pathology and regeneration needs the smart and noninvasive methods for quantification of the motility of the limbs and organism. Advances in imaging technologies have enhanced our possibilities to quantify the typical movement of the organism.

Lab animals were held in typical lab cage. We developed an autonomous optical setup which recorded animal position and displayed the trajectory and typical characteristic of the movement (speed, acceleration, shading of the walls of cage, recognition of biorhythmic period).

The system was based on the HD 10 fps camera. Export of the frames was committed to OpenCV and mathematical conversion of motion to x-y coordinates was curbed by set of Python utilities.

Comparison of animals with defects and healthy animals gives basic criterion for automatic recognition of pathological state and basic criterion for evaluation of regeneration process. Upgrade of these biometric system should be used also for clinical and home rehabilitation in the future.

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