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INNOVATION IN ACTION: TURNING IDEAS INTO REALITY

Chapter 58

Smart Rest Pillow with Integrated Wellness Features: Promoting Better Sleep and Mental Relaxation

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ABSTRACT

In today's busy world, many people struggle with getting enough rest, managing stress, or simply finding time to relax. Whether it's due to work, study, or daily pressures, sleep and self-care often take a back seat. To help with this, our group came up with an innovative concept product called the Smartrest Pillow. This smart pillow is designed to help people relax more easily, sleep better, and feel calmer without needing a bunch of separate gadgets or routines. The Smartrest Pillow combines several soothing features into one familiar and comforting item. It has cooling gel memory foam to keep you comfortable throughout the night, built-in Bluetooth speakers to play calming music or nature sounds, and gentle vibrations that help your body unwind like a light massage. There's also an optional aromatherapy feature that slowly releases calming scents like lavender or chamomile to help you fall asleep faster. Everything is controlled through a simple app called CalmCloud, where users can adjust settings, track their sleep patterns, and even set reminders for relaxation or self-care. The pillow's soft bamboo fabric and rechargeable design make it both eco-friendly and easy to use. What makes this pillow special is how it turns something as ordinary as going to bed into a peaceful and personalized experience.Our goal is to make stress relief and mental wellness easier to achieve right from your pillow. By bringing together comfort, smart technology, and relaxation, the Smartrest Pillow encourages better habits and helps people feel more rested, both physically and emotionally.

Key Words: smart pillow, relaxation, mental wellness, sleep aid, health technology

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, many people struggle to get enough rest because of their busy schedules. Whether it's work, school, or daily tasks, people often feel tired, stressed, and uncomfortable. Lack of proper rest can also cause body pain, especially in the neck and back, due to poor sleeping positions. To solve this common problem, we created the Smart Rest Pillow. The Smart Rest Pillow is soft, lightweight, and easy to carry. It gives proper support to your neck and head, making it easier to rest anywhere, anytime. You can use it at home, at your workplace, in the car, or while traveling. It is particularly helpful for students, office workers, and anyone who is always on the go. With this pillow, taking a short break can become more relaxing and comfortable.

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

In today's fast-paced world, more people are looking for simple and natural ways to reduce stress and anxiety. One method that's gaining popularity is vibration therapy, which uses gentle vibrations to help the body relax. Along with this, relaxing sounds and calming scents have also been shown to support mental well-being.

Recent studies suggest that vibration therapy can help reduce anxiety, stress, and depression. Saskovets et al (2024) found that vibration therapy helped lower stress hormone levels and improved mood in animal studies. This shows potential benefits for human mental health as well.

In a review of older adults, (Miksis, J.2022) reported that vibration therapy improved energy levels and emotional wellness. Similarly, (Davis, M.2024) found that college students who used vibration therapy showed reduced depression and anxiety, and better overall wellbeing.

Vibration therapy helps activate the parasympathetic nervous system, which is the body's natural calm mode. Sá-Caputo et al. (2024) explained that this system lowers stress and supports relaxation. Treatment Indiana (2025) also highlighted that regular vibration therapy helps reduce cortisol, the body's main stress hormone, leading to better mood balance. In addition, NeuroLaunch (2024) suggested that vibration therapy may boost serotonin levels, a key brain chemical linked to happiness and calm feelings.

Soothing sounds, such as calming music or nature sounds, have also been proven to reduce anxiety and stress. A 2025 study in the *Journal of Mental Health Research* showed that relaxing sounds can help lower heart rate and stress levels, improving emotional stability (Zhang et al., 2025).

Calming scents also play a powerful role. Lavender, chamomile, and other essential oils have long been known to ease tension. According to the Cleveland Clinic (2024), aromatherapy helps people feel more relaxed and can even improve sleep. Fragrances can create a peaceful environment that supports stress relief when used regularly (Caldwell, E, 2025).

The *Smartrest Pillow* takes all these proven tools, gentle vibration, soothing sounds, and calming scents and combines them into one smart product with other features like cooling

gel and soft memory foam. It's designed to help users relax, sleep better, and improve their overall mental well-being in a simple, natural way.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

This assignment is using an imaginative idea to introduce a stress relief product called the SmartRest Pillow to university students. This assignment focuses on showing how the product helps students feel more relax and reduce stress especially during exam week.

3.1 Target Audience

This assignment is focused on university students, specifically in busy areas like UiTM Puncak Alam. Commonly students often deal with a burden from studies and need ways to release their stress. They are also relied on modern and tech-friendly tools, so a product like the SmartRest Pillow suits their lifestyle.

3.2 Student Habits and Self Care

Many students have a hard time, especially during exams. Some of them don't get enough or don't have breaks while studying. This routine can affect their health and work quality. Not all students know how to handle their stress in a balanced way, so this assignment shows that user friendly tools like the SmartRest Pillow can help.

This innovative product was made to represent real student life and inspire students to take care of their mental health. It sends the point that relaxing and using helpful products is a must for doing well in school and feeling good overall.

4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

During finals week, we discovered how beneficial the Smartrest Pillow was for assisting us in coping with both mental and physical stress. Many of us initially felt overburdened, irritated, and unable to concentrate, particularly Aishah, who was exhausted. However, we soon realized a difference after using the pillow: the cooling gel and mild vibrations relieved our tense muscles, and the soothing noises from the Bluetooth speakers helped to slow down our racing thoughts. After utilizing it, even Jiha and Ain, who were initially dubious, were pleasantly pleased by how much more at ease and in control we felt.

Like Farisya, the cushion seemed like the ideal complement to our self-care regimens for those of us who already place a high priority on wellness. The transformation of this experience from one of personal relief to one that we wished to share with others was particularly potent. Because of how much it benefited us, we started telling others about it, sharing it on social media, and arguing that it would be a helpful tool for students in times of stress.

All things considered, we discovered that the Smartrest Pillow enhanced not only our physical comfort but also our emotional health, making us feel more at ease, concentrated, and ready for our tests. This experience reminded us of the importance of supporting one

another as well as ourselves and demonstrated how wellness-focused technologies can be helpful in managing academic stress.

5.0 RECOMMENDATION

We strongly suggest the Smart Rest Pillow to students looking for smooth and useful tools to reduce academic stress and enhance their well being after carefully examining user experience and comments. The Smart Rest Pillow is an intelligent and AI-integrated product that goes beyond ordinary comfort in light of the increasing mental health issues that students face today. It actively promotes better sleep, increased concentration and emotional control all of which are essential for both academic and personal success.

Additionally, Our product's transforms from a simple pillow into a smart wellness partner by integrating AI features like guided breathing or relaxing techniques through a linked app, real-time stress monitoring with sensors and individualized sleep tracking. These tools give users practical insights to enhance their mental and sleep health and assist them in understanding their stress patterns.

Last but not least, we advise students to include the Smart Rest Pillow into their self care on a regular basis, particularly during exam season and when they are working on pressure filled group projects. Furthermore, we urge academic institutions and student associations to support the use of smart wellness products like Smart Rest through mental health campaigns, digital wellness initiatives, events, or starting kits. In addition to helping out students to present universities as progressive and student focused.

6.0 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, using the Smartrest Pillow during finals week demonstrated to us how decisive it is to put self care first when dealing with academic stress. A basic curiosity developed into a useful tool that assisted us in coping with our mental and physical stress. When we needed it most, the cooling gel, vibration therapy, and Bluetooth speakers combined to create a calming environment that let us relax, recharge and refocus. Beyond only helping people individually. The cushion also improved our sense of community since we banded together to share its advantages and help one another get through a trying time. Apart from that, taking care of our well-being is not a luxury, it is important for our success and mental health as this experience reminded us.

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