The newsletter of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth (ISfTeH) is published quarterly for members of the global telemedicine and eHealth community to provide updates about ISfTeH members and activities, as well as other telemedicine and eHealth news.

Updates from the ISfTeH Global Telemedicine & eHealth Network (January 2016)

Pick up interesting and useful information in this issue about new ISO quality planning guidelines for telehealth, more on telehealth standards from Telehealth Quality Group, new Russian telemedicine journal, our new corporate member International SOS, updates from the ISfTeH WoW working group and their activities during the recent ISfTeH conference in Rio de Janeiro, successful telemedicine services in Slovenia for patients with diabetes and heart failure, news and registration for the upcoming Med-e-Tel conference, and more. Enjoy reading!

STAY CONNECTED:

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Reader,

As in the past, this first letter of the year is a pleasant duty for me, as it comes after a restful period and visits with family and friends. I trust that the Holiday Season has been a joyful time for you too, and that you are full of resolution and drive for a great year ahead. In keeping with this mood let me start by wishing you a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous Year in 2016. With the Society's electoral cycle now firmly established, it makes sense to start another tradition - that of extending our sincere thanks to Board members whose terms have come to an end, and who will be leaving the Board. In this instance we are grateful to Prof. Rifat Latifi (USA) who served a term as Board representative of our Institutional Members, and Dr. Moretlo Molefi (South Africa), who was a coopted member of the Board, after serving several terms as the elected representative of Institutional Members.
Special thanks to Mr. Frank Lievens (Belgium), who indicated earlier in the year, his intention not to run for another term as the Board representative for Individual Members. As most of you know, Frank has been on the Board since 2003. Over the last twelve years he has made tremendous contributions to the Society as a whole, and to the Board in particular, most recently serving as Secretary/Treasurer. His contributions are such that his name became synonymous with the Society's, given his flag-bearing presence at numerous events throughout the world and over the years. This letter is not the appropriate forum to sing his praises. Suffice it to say that Frank will be sorely missed on the Board. But we know that we have not seen the last of his contributions to the Society.

Congratulations to Dr. Andy Fischer (Switzerland), our President, who was re-elected to another term on the Board, in the National Member association category. We also extend a warm welcome to two new Board members; Dr. Regina Ungerer (Brazil), representing Individual Members and Dr. Piotr Skarzynski (Poland) who is the new representative of Institutional Members.

In our well-intentioned focus on thanking those who are leaving office, we often forget to also show our gratitude to those who remain, having done an excellent job this past year, and who, in all probability, will continue to render great service to the Society. In this vein, we extend our thanks to returning Board members - Prof. Anthony Maeder (Australia), Dr. Adolfo Sparenberg (Brazil), Dr. Pirkko Kouri (Finland), Dr. André Petitet (France), Dr. Markus Lindlar (Germany) and Dr. Roberto Rocci (Italy).

We are also grateful to the chairs and members of the various committees and working groups of the ISfTeH, as well as other volunteers who helped put on our conferences and other activities in 2015. Thanks to their inputs, we celebrated a major milestone in October, when our Brazilian national member association hosted the 20th International Conference of the ISfTeH in Rio de Janeiro on October 28-30, 2015.

We have a new and exciting year ahead. I very much look forward to your continued engagement with the Society and its various structures and activities in 2016.

Sincerely,

Prof. S. Yunkap Kwankam
Executive Director
International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth

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**ISO/TS 13131 Health informatics - Telehealth services - Quality planning guidelines**

In January 2015, the ISO/TC 215 Health Informatics Committee published the technical specification [ISO/TS 13131 - Health informatics - Telehealth services - Quality planning guidelines](#). This technical specification provides advice and recommendations on how to develop quality objectives and guidelines for Telehealth services, using a risk management process. This will be useful for anyone who is setting up a telehealth service, and provide a review opportunity for those with existing services. The following key requirements are considered in the development of quality objectives and guidelines for Telehealth services:

- management of Telehealth quality processes by the healthcare organisation, which include acute, allied and community health Telehealth providers
- management of financial resources to support Telehealth services;
- processes relating to people, such as workforce planning, healthcare planning, consumer needs, as well as the associated responsibilities;
- provision of infrastructure and facilities resources for Telehealth services, including the physical environment, equipment and devices;
- management of information and technology resources used in Telehealth services, including management of communications and applications.

Use of ISO/TS 13131 can assist with quality management of Telehealth processes to help organisations improve the quality and sustainability of their Telehealth services. The technical specification:

- provides a process to derive quality criteria.
- provides examples of quality criteria.
- should be applied to each health care setting to derive quality criteria specific to that setting.
- supports health and safety assessment of a Telehealth service.


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**New Russian telemedicine journal**

A new Russian telemedicine journal (Russian Journal of Telemedicine) has been launched. This is a peer-review and open access Journal, in Russian language, which focuses on best global and national experience in digital healthcare. The Journal provides relevant information for a wide audience of medical doctors, nurses, social workers, and healthcare managers. The Journal has an international editorial board with a great interest for evidence-based telemedicine.

Paper submissions dedicated to eHealth efficiency evaluation are very welcome! To access the first issue of the Journal, go to [www.iteledem.ru](http://www.iteledem.ru). For more details and information, contact the Editor-in-Chief, **Anton Vladzymyrskyy**, MD, PhD.

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**Join the ISfTeH Teledermatology Working Group**

The ISfTeH Teledermatology Working Group invites members to join its Group. Sample forms are being completed, which can be modified as needed, and a handy reference on books and recent articles regarding teledermatology is being compiled.

To join the Working Group or to request current materials, please contact Byron L. Barksdale, M.D. at [internetdoctors@aol.com](mailto:internetdoctors@aol.com).
For more information about ISfTeH Working Groups or to join the ISfTeH as a member, contact info@isfteh.org.

Update from the ISfTeH Working Group on Women (WoW)

ISfTeH WoW member Anna Schmaus-Klughammer from Klughammer GmbH, Germany gave a presentation at the 7th Congresso Brasileiro de Telemedicina e Telessaúde, held in conjunction with the 20th ISfTeH International Conference, last October, on "Improving women's health in rural areas with telemedicine". During the presentation she explained the importance of cervical cancer screening. The presentation led to further discussions with Brazilian doctors who are actually planning a cervical cancer project in the Amazonas area for indigenous women.

The presentations which were made at the conference made the high standard of telemedicine in Brazil obvious. One of the important initiatives is the "Programa Telessaúde Brasil Redes" (Brazilian Telehealth Network Program) which was created by the federal government in 2007. This project consists of integration of teaching and services through the use of information technology tools to promote tele-assistance and tele-education. The program aims to reach the following objectives:

- Improvement of the quality of primary care attendance within the Brazilian National Health System (Sistema Único de Saúde, SUS);
- Significant reduction of the cost of and time taken for personnel transportation;
- Establishment of healthcare professionals in locations with difficult access;
- Greater speed in the attendance provided;
- Optimization of resources within the system as a whole, thus benefiting approximately 10 million SUS users.

Together with Pirkko Kuori (ISfTeH Board Member) and Claudia Bartz (ICN Telenursing Network Coordinator), Anna Schmaus-Klughammer visited the Clinica da Familia Anna Nery, a day clinic in a favela of Rio de Janeiro. This day clinic is an excellent example of how health of poor people can be improved. Nurses at the clinic use telemedicine in their daily work as well.
The ISfTeH is supportive as to integrate more women in their Board and overall activities. WoW’s objective is to catalyse the interest of the ISfTeH members on gender issues in eHealth and telemedicine. One of the recommendations is that education for girls and women in IT and engineering is the key to ensure better gender balance in the future. The WoW also contributes to motivate organizers of international events in eHealth and Telemedicine, and publishers and scientific editors to ensure that women are equally represented.

ISfTeH members are welcome to register for WoW at wow.isfteh.org and join the group.

Telemedicine service to coach people with diabetes and/or congestive heart failure in Slovenia

The General Hospital Slovenj Gradec and the Primary Health Care Centre Ravne, Slovenia, are partners in the United4Health project (www.united4health.eu). The Slovenian team, supported by a subcontractor, MKS Electronic Systems, started in 2013 to develop telemedicine services for patients with diabetes (DM) and patients with chronic heart failure (CHF). At that time there was no telemedicine service (TM) available in Slovenia, so they started from a green field. Since April 2014 they have been delivering the service to 350 DM and 147 CHF patients, some of them being telemedically coached up to a year and a half.

The clinical outcomes of coaching the 350 DM patients resulted in a reduction of HbA1c (average 0.7 scores). In the group of patients with poorly managed disease (HbA1c over 8.0) 57% of them moved to the group with adequately managed diabetes (HbA1c < 8.0).

In CHF patients the TM monitoring positively influenced blood pressure, heart rate, left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) and ProBNP clinical marker:

- Some patients moved from the high risk group to the normal blood pressure level group. Number of normal blood pressure measurements was 36% higher after 12 months of TM support.
- The number of normal heart rate measurements was 64% higher after 12 months of
TM support.

- The ProBNP clinical marker moved in the positive direction with a decrease of 35%.
- Left ventricular ejection fraction (LVEF) increased an average of 7.5%.

Patient's satisfaction has been measured by interviews (363 responses). The patients were mostly very satisfied with the service (average score 4.4/5). Also the involved clinicians were satisfied as they have been discovering new means of coaching the diabetic patients. New tools for them have been developed helping them to identify the most critical patients by an on-line risk assessment and prediction tool for HbA1c based on daily telemedicine glucose measurements.

The team has established a regional centre for telehealth, called CEZAR, to continue delivering the serviced and to transform the successful regional story into a national one in Slovenia. The CEZAR centre also works on designing new TM services for other groups of patients e.g. following transplantation of heart or kidneys, after discharge from hospital care following myocardial infarct, brain stroke or after bariatric surgery.

One of the lessons learned in the United4Health project is that TM has extreme potential in delivering healthcare to long-term patients especially among the elderly population.

For more information, contact Dr. Drago Rudel of the Slovenian Medical Informatics Society (national member for Slovenia in the ISfTeH) at drago.rudel@mks.si.

Your annual ISfTeH rendez-vous:

**Med-e-Tel 2016**

The next edition of the ISfTeH's annual Med-e-Tel event is taking place on April 6-8, 2016 in Luxembourg. Make plans now to be part of it!
Registration for the event is available at www.medetel.eu.

Med-e-Tel will already start off with a pre-conference Workshop on Telecardiology and Tele-ECG on April 5th. The workshop will focus on telecardiology capacity building, on digital teleelectrocardiography methods and related preventive eHealth strategies. It will feature presentations of practical telecardiology experience, including "15-Years Experience in Brazil with Digital ECG Technologies", "30-Years Experience in Distance Interpretation and Cardiology Counselling in Italy" and "Experience in Czech Republic with Multiparametric eHealth Platforms and Preventive Cardiovascular eHealth Initiatives".

The workshop will also provide a hands-on demonstration and testing of several technologies, devices and platforms.
More details and complete program will be announced in the following weeks.
Participation in this event requires a separate registration. Contact info@medetel.eu for details. Or if you would like to feature your company and solutions at this workshop, also contact info@medetel.eu.

Topics of the main Med-e-Tel conference program (April 6-8) will include practical telemedicine experience and projects, telehealth guidelines and standards, open source software in healthcare, interoperability, economic evaluation of telemedicine/eHealth, smart technologies for independent living, assisting older people with cognitive impairments, disease management, big data, mHealth, pharmacy and m/eHealth, and more. Check the Med-e-Tel website by end of January for full details, or sign up for the Med-e-Tel newsletter to receive regular updates.
Med-e-Tel will also have a local/regional focus, in collaboration with the Luxembourg National eHealth Agency (Agence eSanté), who are responsible for implementing Luxembourg’s national eHealth strategy and rolling out a shared medical record and improving interoperability among healthcare information systems and providers. Currently, the Agency is running a critical test phase of the shared medical record with 10,000 users, which will ultimately lead to the roll out country-wide. Implications and experiences re. data exchange and interoperability will be discussed at Med-e-Tel 2016, together with regional and European colleagues. The Agency is also working with the Luxembourg Ministry of Health and the Secretariat-General of the Benelux to present recent work and initiatives at Med-e-Tel 2016 on personalized medicine and cross-border healthcare.

If you would like to feature your company and solutions at Med-e-Tel (and/or the pre-conference Telecardiology workshop), contact us to discuss sponsorship and expo opportunities.

**Standards for telehealth services: fit for purpose?**

Prescriptive standards that tell us ‘how to do’ things restrict innovation and reduce flexibility. This is as true for telehealth (and telecare) as it is for other products and services. Dr. Malcolm Fisk, Director of the Telehealth Quality Group, points to the need for standards for telehealth services, ranging from social alarms and PERS (personal emergency response systems) to ‘home telehealth’, to evolve in response to the shift in perspective - so that both the impact of new technologies is recognised and there is a clearer and better response to changing needs and choices of service users. The International Code of Practice for Telehealth Services is offered as an exemplar that has responded to the new realities and can ‘fit’ with or be adopted in place of related (and more ‘operational’) codes or standards.

We can approach telehealth from two different directions - from clinical health or social care. Both of these have histories, traditions and professional dogmas that have been re-enforced by standards (or norms). Those standards have given us some of the certainties that have framed our personal or professional lives - and gave us our ‘comfort zones’.

But telehealth cuts across such certainties. It follows that we must question the role of standards as we know them (and which reflect one or other direction), lest our services become trapped within straight-jackets that we have weaved and stitched for ourselves. In this context, are the standards for telehealth fit for purpose? The answer is for some standards, yes - but much change is needed if the opportunities around telehealth are to be properly harnessed.

Read more on the Telehealth Quality Group website, where you can also download a copy of the International Code of Practice for Telehealth Services.

Or contact the TQG for more information about their network of Telehealth Service Providers and how you can join them.

**Upcoming ISfTeH meetings and conferences**
Med-e-Tel 2016
6-8 April 2016
Luxembourg, Luxembourg
www.medetel.eu

21th ISfTeH International Conference
in conjunction with
7th International Conference on Transforming Health with IT
21-22 October 2016
Chennai, India
www.transformhealth-it.org

Other ISfTeH supported events:

Forum de la Santé Numérique
Société Tunisienne de Télémédecine et eSanté
11-13 February 2016
Hammamet, Tunisia
www.telemedecine-tunisie.com.tn

BIOSTEC 2016
21-23 February 2016
Rome, Italy
www.biostec.org

ICT4AWE 2016
21-22 April 2016
Rome, Italy
www.ict4ageingwell.org

CARS 2016 - Computer Assisted Radiology and Surgery
21-25 June 2016
Heidelberg, Germany
www.cars-int.org

eHealth 360° Summit
14-17 June 2016
Budapest, Hungary
www.ehealth360.org

3rd eCardiology and eHealth Congress
26-28 October 2016
Berlin, Germany
www.e-cardiohealth.com

ISfTeH Supported Events Calendar and Other Telemedicine/eHealth Events

Corporate Member Spotlight

International SOS is very pleased to become a corporate member of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth and we look forward to working with fellow organisations and colleagues in the promotion and advancement of global telehealth solutions.

International SOS has been at the forefront of telehealth
services for over 30 years since its inception in 1985. The core of our business is providing medical and travel security advice and assistance for millions of people around the world.

Therefore, it is vitally important that we employ strict processes to ensure quality in the delivery of telehealth services. As such, in October 2015, International SOS was the first company in the world to be certified in accordance with the International Organization for Standardization's (ISO) newly published Guidelines for the delivery of telehealth service.

The certificate was awarded by BSI (British Standards Institution), the business standards company and a founding member of ISO. International SOS has also achieved global certification to ISO 9001:2008 Quality Management Systems for its Assistance Centres, International SOS Clinics and Medical Services.

By achieving certification to ISO/TS 13131, International SOS has demonstrated that it has adopted best practice for its telehealth services, which we consider a fundamental requirement for delivering safe health services from a distance.

The certification also recognises our industry leadership in developing and deploying user-friendly technological solutions and the high standard of medical services across our platforms.

In addition to investing in quality, International SOS continues to focus on the development of advanced global telehealth solutions around the world, leveraging the progressive enhancements in telecommunications technologies.

International SOS is committed to delivering best in class telehealth services to our members and continuing to set the benchmark for quality, customer experience, and medical excellence.

For more information, contact Simon Marshall, Senior Manager TeleHealth & Projects at International SOS, or go to www.internationalsos.com.
Institutional Member Spotlight

The **Universidad del Valle** (Bolivia) was founded on October 4th, 1988 by Eng. M.Sc. Gonzalo Ruiz Martinez, having obtained, in compliance with the Constitution of the State, its legal status by the Supreme Resolution 205336 dated November 4th, 1988, signed by the former Constitutional President of the Republic, Dr. Victor Paz Estenssoro, and the Minister of Education. The Organic Statute was adopted at its seventy eight articles and its study programs.

Based on the experience gained in recent years in groups formed by professors and students from different faculties, significant research, experimentation and prototyping has been done, resulting in the establishment of the Research Institute of Informatics and Electronics (IIIE) of the Universidad del Valle by University Council Resolution No. 012/2014 of September 30th, 2014 located on the Tiquipaya campus in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

The IIIE's mission is the development of research projects that generate and disseminate knowledge through science and technology to strengthen the academic level in order to contribute effectively to overcome problems affecting or emerging from the technological development of the Bolivian society.

The main objectives include:

- Promote scientific research, experimental development and technological research, in order to solve scientific and technological problems related to the field of computer science, electronics, biomedical and telecommunication systems.
- Strengthen research skills in students and professors of The Faculty of Computer Science and Electronics to create a culture of research in the university community.
- Enact the search for new knowledge and encourage the development of innovative projects that respond to the reality in order to improve the quality of living of the society.

IIIE converges within the different areas involving electronics and computers: **computer science, electronics, telecommunications and biomedical systems** where research lines such as **robotics, augmented reality, telemetry systems and telemicine** are merged. Research of telemetry systems and telemedicine, through sequential processes of discovery and invention give new solutions which are studied to mainly improve health care at a distance. Among developed projects it can be referenced: the monitoring of physiological parameters using a telemetry system implemented in a drone, designed to provide accurate and objective data primarily for medical care of patients in inaccessible places. On the other hand, the optimization of digital filters in acquisition systems for electrocardiography signal (telecardiology) for diagnosis and subsequent monitoring of data in real time through the mobile communications network is currently studied.

The IIIE transfers technology to encounter the institute's mission, and as part of its academic services seeks to increase the dissemination of knowledge, through training and constant updating. The Universidad del Valle has also constructed the **first modern University Hospital of Bolivia**, and currently the second University Hospital is being constructed which means that the IIIE will continue to **grow in areas like biomedical engineering and telemicine**.

For more information visit **www.univalle.edu**
New ISfTeH members

The ISfTeH is pleased to welcome the following new members to its global network:

**Individual Members:**
- Benedikt Brueckle, Germany
- Ayotunde Joseph Owosho, Nigeria
- Claudia Bartz, USA
- Hans de Raad, The Netherlands
- Eduardo Iacono, Argentina
- Charles Mpofu, New Zealand
- Eduardo Iacono, Argentina

**Nurse Members:**
- Gabriele Cataldi, Italy
- Ingrid de Almeida, Brazil
- Glaucia Castro, Brazil
- Mercy Avbuluimen, Nigeria
- Uchenna Njoka, Nigeria

**Student Members:**
- Camille Goujeau, France
- Geoffrey Chaponneau, France
- Sodiq Anifowoshe, Estonia
- Órlane Saussan, France
- Tumelo Mapila, Botswana
- Amélie Loche, France
- Fanny Loche, France
- Quentin Szymaniski, France
- Lucie Prouet, France
- Jonathan Teoh, Australia
- Reshat Bekteshi, Kosova
- Christian Oliveira, Brazil
- Amandeep Singh, Estonia
- Wendy Yang, USA
- Skander Essafi, Tunisia
- Aliyah Lou Evangelista, Thailand
- Adeleye Adewale Samuel, Nigeria
- Leutrim Hajdari, Kosova
- Ryan Syafriadni, Malaysia
- Juan Rodriguez, Spain
- Saitesh Pathak, Bangladesh
- Juliana Mecres, Brazil
- Yulia Smal, Russia
- Habeeb Hanafi, Nigeria
- Ana Maria Bender Seidenfuss, Brazil
- Leutrim Hajdari, Kosova

Click here for full member list or to join as a new member.

**Connected nursing care shaping the future in population health**

TeleNurse Network offers timely access to quality healthcare with experienced and bilingual providers, in accordance with the Institute of Medicine mandates, via the modality of videoconferencing.

TeleNurse Network provides the clinical support for continuous care, frequent education, and virtual visits offering clinical oversight of patient's health and wellness monitoring used outside the conventional hospital/Homecare/SNF setting. As a full-service Telehealth solution, we partner with our clients to deliver solutions that solve complicated clinical issues, eliminating cost, complexity, and confusion in chronic care and patient monitoring.

Here's what we offer companies and organizations:

- Reduce 30-day readmission
- Increase revenue with CPT 99490
- Improve HCAHPS scores
- Bundle Payment Coordination

Join us for a free webinar on Health and Happiness - Register at Eventbrite.

For more information, contact: Marisela S. Cigliuti, BSN, RN, CEO of TeleNurse Network.
ISfTeH Students' Blog

A Students’ Blog (login required) has been set up on the ISfTeH website as part of the "Heroes of Telemedicine and eHealth" project, aiming to educate especially (medical) students about telemedicine.

The project is meant to share stories and experiences of people involved in telemedicine, and will also feature video presentations, webinars and more.

So far, six articles have been posted (login required):
- The Virtual Doctors - The Story
- Telemedicine and the youth - a new approach towards eHealth
- Communicating Care to the fields where modern medicine can’t go
- Reshat’s story - The passion for technology and the art of medicine
- Being part of Telemedicine and eHealth
- Heroes of Telemedicine and eHealth

stressing the importance of Telemedicine and eHealth as a newly developed infrastructure in Europe and elsewhere.

ISfTeH student members are encouraged to interact via this Blog, to share stories, make comments or ask questions.

If you want to join the ISfTeH as a member, or if you want to join the ISfTeH Student Working Group, contact info@isfteh.org.

"Communicating Care"

One of the interesting and inspiring stories in the Students' Blog, shared by ISfTeH Student Working Group Coordinator Jehona Krasniqi of Kosovo, is that of UK Charity "The Virtual Doctors" and their activities in Africa:

When health officer Kennedy Mulenga was faced with a male patient developing breasts at the remote Ngwerere Clinic 30 kilometers north of the Zambian capital, Lusaka, he logged onto Virtual Doctors to get help solving the medical mystery. After taking notes and creating a patient file he took a photo with the camera in his computer and then uploaded all the information to the Internet cloud. A UK-based doctor then reviewed the file and offered diagnostic advice: the HIV-positive patient was experiencing gynecomastia, the swelling of breast tissue and a side effect of antiretroviral medicine, but was in no danger.

Virtual Doctors uses telemedicine software to improve local primary healthcare in rural areas lacking doctors. It was started by former safari guide Huw Jones, now based in the UK, developing the technology. "It's really very simple to do and I'm surprised there's not more of it," says Jones. "There is lots of research it seems but not so much action, and so we went for it."

Zambia has roughly 1,600 doctors for a population of about 14 million, of whom about 9 million live ruraly, and relies heavily on remote healthcare workers like Mulenga. He has worked for six years at Ngwerere Clinic, using Virtual Doctors for three years. "It's difficult on your own," Mulenga says. "There's always stuff you can't diagnose and when you need a specialist. So if it's complicated you have to refer a patient to a hospital, but with Virtual Doctors the clinic has a doctor." (source)
The Virtual Doctors’ story began in 1998 when Huw Jones was driving through the remote Zambian bush and suddenly came upon a trail of sticky blood on the dusty road. After following the trail for several miles, Jones caught up with a heavily pregnant woman slumped on a bicycle as her husband pedalled frantically in the relentless heat to get her to the nearest hospital, some 60 kilometers away. Despite Jones’ efforts, after such huge loss of blood, the woman and her unborn baby died in the jeep on the way; but the concept for the Virtual Doctor service, which would use the internet to save lives in rural Africa, was born. (source)

An interesting slogan used by another UK charity, *The Swinfen Charitable Trust* (the longest-operating telemedicine charity in the world), sums it up quite nicely: "We Communicate Care". (source)

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**Board Member Spotlight - Meet Regina Ungerer**

I was born in Brazil from a German family and since I can remember, I wanted to be a Medical Doctor. In 1980, it became a reality and I specialized in Paediatrics and Neonatology.

In 1987, I became part of a group of experts that were interested in primary health care and maternal and childcare that led me to become head of a newly created Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in a refurbished Maternity ward.

After a Masters (MSc) in the field of Mother and Child Health, I joined the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz) in Rio de Janeiro as a Technical and International Cooperation Assistant, and became project coordinator of a "Health Promotion in Action Project" developed in partnership with the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA).

At that moment, the world was already changing and the First Global Conference on Health Promotion had just been held, calling for action to achieve Health for All by the year 2000 and beyond, as recommended by the Declaration on Primary Health Care of Alma-Ata in 1978. It was also the year that the Internet Mail Access Protocol (IMAP) was created opening a new era of communication to everyone.

In 2005, I joined the World Health Organization to coordinate the ePORTUGUESE Programme, a platform to strengthen collaboration among Portuguese-speaking countries in the areas of health information and capacity building of Human Resources for Health using new information and communication technologies.

In 2015, I joined the Fiocruz Centre for Global Health and I am currently working towards the Sustainable Development Goals. I hold a specialized executive diploma in Global Health Diplomacy from the Geneva Graduate Institute and I have been working in the field of Public Health and health promotion for more than 30 years.

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**Join the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth**

- Are you heading a national or regional telemedicine/eHealth
organization?
- Do you offer telemedicine products and solutions?
- Are you doing research on telemedicine and eHealth applications and technologies?
- Does your organization provide (or wants to offer) care services by means of telemedicine/eHealth technologies?
- Are you engaged in healthcare policy?

If so, you should consider joining the ISfTeH network to expand your global reach, enhance your network, broaden your knowledge and learn about key issues and new ideas in telemedicine and eHealth by interacting and engaging in partnerships with other ISfTeH members from around the world.

Or if you are interested in obtaining exposure in future editions of this newsletter (through advertising, feature articles, etc.), contact us at info@isfteh.org.

For more information: www.isfteh.org

Partners & Corporate Members

The ISfTeH is proud to work together with the following Partners, representing doctors, nurses, students, industry and policy makers:

ISfTeH Corporate Members and supporters:

If your organization would like to collaborate with the ISfTeH or if you would like to become a member, contact us at info@isfteh.org.

Questions, suggestions? Our board members listen to you!
The ISfTeH board members will be pleased to hear from you with any questions or suggestions you may have related to the Society itself or regarding any telemedicine and eHealth applications or services that you are working on or that you are looking for:

Submit your questions/suggestions via info@isfteh.org.

ISfTeH Lifetime Achievement Awards

The ISfTeH occasionally recognizes and honours a person who has made great efforts in the development of telemedicine and eHealth, creating awareness and driving its implementation and use. Our three Lifetime Achievement Award laureates so far are:

Watch this space for future ISfTeH Lifetime Achievement Awards!

STAY CONNECTED:

Join the ISfTeH Global Network
Click here for membership application