

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.



International Society for  
Telemedicine & eHealth  
NGO in Official Relations with WHO



## Updates from the ISfTeH Global Telemedicine & eHealth Network (January 2018)

Read in this issue about new ISfTeH board members, the Transatlantic Telehealth Research Network between Denmark and USA, WHO's directory of national eHealth strategies and policies, ISfTeH's upcoming International Conference in Finland, mentoring for Women in eHealth, ISfTeH members InTouch Health and Avizia achieve certifications, self-contained telehealth clinics from AMD Telemedicine, early cancer, cardiovascular and diabetes screening and diagnosis tools from NovioSys, info about Med-e-Tel, and more. Enjoy reading!

STAY CONNECTED:



### Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Reader,

Here we are at the beginning of yet another year, with all its hopes and aspirations for each of us individually, and collectively as the ISfTeH family. Accept my best wishes for good health, joy and prosperity in 2018. And as with every January in the recent past, this is a time of transition for the Society, from one group of governing directors to another.

Our tradition calls for us to extend our sincere thanks to Board members who will be leaving the Board, even as we welcome new members. In that spirit the Society extends its gratitude to Dr. André Petitet (France) and Dr. Markus Lindlar (Germany) who held two of the five Board positions for National members. André is easily the longest serving Board member, who has been on the Board since 2010, with the added responsibility of Secretary/Treasurer of the Society during the past year. Markus served his full three-year term, despite serious health challenges over the better part of the last two years. Our thanks to these dear colleagues whose drive to bring the benefits of Telemedicine and eHealth to all people of the world through their work with the ISfTeH will be remembered by many for a long time. We also thank Dr. Mauro Fedà (Italy), who served out the term of his colleague Dr. Roberto Ricci, as representative of Corporates on the ISfTeH Board. Finally, we are thankful to Ms. Mina Abdulla Hamoodi (United Arab Emirates) for her services as a coopted member. We wish them all well, and trust that their departure from the Board will not diminish their drive to support the goals of the Society whenever they can.

As some leave, others come in to replace them. This year, we welcome a sizable crop of new Board members. Congratulations to Dr. Philippe De Lorme (France) and Prof. Saroj Mishra (India), newly elected Board members in the National Member category, and Dr. Neil Nerwich (Australia),

elected in the Corporates category. To these officials, elected by you the membership, we add two coopted Board members, "drafted" by the Board to bring their particular skillsets to the service of the Society. They are Eric Bacon, President of AMD Global Telemedicine (USA) and Dr. Michele Griffith, Medical Director at TIAA-CREF (USA).

Board members who are part-way through their terms, and who we thank for their continuing service to the Society are: Dr. Andy Fischer (Switzerland), our President; Dr. Pirkko Kouri (Finland), our Vice President; Dr. Adolfo Sparenberg (Brazil); Dr. Regina Ungerer (Brazil); Asst. Prof. Piotr Skarzynski (Poland); and Mr. Rajendra Gupta (India). They have been exemplary in the exercise of their duties this past year, and we trust they will continue to render great service to the Society.

In the same vein, we extend our thanks to the chairs and members of the various committees and working groups of the ISfTeH, as well as other volunteers who helped to make our major conferences - Med-e-Tel and the 22nd International Conference in Casablanca, Morocco - and our other activities in 2017, a success.

The next major event on our calendar is the 23rd ISfTeH International Conference, which is only a few months away. This will be a special event, held on a cruise, which will sail between Helsinki and Stockholm and back on March 15-17. We look forward to that kicking off another year of dedicated services from the Board, and especially the engagement with energy and enthusiasm of you, the membership of the Society - an excellent recipe for success in 2018.

Sincerely,

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

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## Global directory of national eHealth policies



Since 2010 the Global Observatory for eHealth (GOe) of the World Health Organization has been creating and updating an online directory of eHealth-related national policies and strategies from Member States. It includes national eHealth policies or strategies and plans, and national telehealth policies have also been added to broaden the coverage. This resource is designed to support the development of eHealth strategies by governments through easy access to existing policy and strategy documents worldwide. In addition, it gives an indication of which countries have existing national strategies, and where additional resources might be best allocated to aid in the policy development process. The directory includes documents that outline the vision, goals, and approaches for the use of ICT for health at a national level. It also includes meta-data about each of these documents, a brief summary of the content, and a link to the full text document in the original language of publication.

The WHO encourages contributions and suggestions from Member States, and invites countries to add their policy and strategy documents to this resource. These and any comments can be sent to [GOEsurvey@who.int](mailto:GOEsurvey@who.int).

The directory can be accessed at [www.who.int/goe/policies/countries/en](http://www.who.int/goe/policies/countries/en).

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## Transatlantic Telehealth Research Network joins ISfTeH as institutional member



The **Transatlantic Telehealth Research Network** (TTRN) recently joined the ISfTeH as an institutional member. The TTRN is dedicated to developing cutting-edge research and innovation within telehealth with partners in Denmark and USA. The research is interdisciplinary (medicine, engineering, nursing, organizational, economic, policy) and focuses on developing new diagnostic, preventive care and treatment methods/technologies for patients in their own homes utilizing telehealth. Problem-based, user-driven innovation is a key issue in the international and interdisciplinary TTRN, whose mission is to:

- perform interdisciplinary research network on telehealth

- develop synergy between telehealth programs in the United States and Denmark
- collaborate on developing and testing new and emerging telehealth technologies
- exchange and perform knowledge-sharing for clinicians, PhD students and senior researchers within the field of telehealth

The TTRN annually holds a **conference** on telehealth with a specific theme. The conference is every other year in Denmark and in the USA. The next TTRN conference will be in Copenhagen in September 2018. More information will be made available soon.

TTRN also organizes every year a **PhD course** for interdisciplinary research within telehealth. The next PhD course will take place August 13-17, 2018 at UC Berkeley and UC Davis in California. More information will also be available soon on the [TTRN website](#).

For **more information**, contact [Birthe Dinesen](#), Professor & Head of Laboratory for Welfare Technologies - Telehealth & Telerehabilitation, Department of Health Science and Technology, Aalborg University, Denmark or consult the TTRN website at <http://citris-uc.org/telehealth/project/transatlantic-telehealth-research-network>.

## InTouch Health achieves HITRUST CSF certification to further mitigate risk in third party privacy, security and compliance



**InTouch Health**, corporate member in the ISfTeH, has earned Certified status for information security by the Health Information Trust (HITRUST) Alliance. With the HITRUST CSF Certified Status, InTouch Health's telehealth services meet key healthcare international regulations and requirements for protecting and securing sensitive, private healthcare information.

Healthcare providers around the globe are under great pressure to meet complex compliance requirements that include technical and process elements such as HIPAA, ISO, and others. The HITRUST CSF is the gold-standard that needs to be met, and InTouch Health is pleased to be able to demonstrate its commitment by achieving HITRUST CSF Certification.

Read the [full announcement](#) to learn more about what HITRUST means and how it distinguishes InTouch Health as an organization that people can count on to keep their information safe.

## Avizia becomes first telehealth provider to earn URAC telehealth accreditation



Telehealth provider **Avizia**, a corporate member in the ISfTeH, has become the first telehealth provider in the US to achieve **URAC telehealth accreditation**. For Avizia Chief Executive Officer Mike Baird, it is not only about demonstrating his organization's commitment to delivering the highest level of quality, it is also about promoting the entire concept of telehealth in the minds of patients and providers.

Baird and his Avizia team will use URAC accreditation as a "showcase for providers in the marketplace," he told The URAC Report. With accreditation, Avizia's leaders will assume thought leader positions from which they can make a compelling case that telehealth care can be equal or superior to the care patients have been getting from an in-person visit, he said. It is one of the ways patients and others can "look under the hood" to assure themselves about telehealth capabilities broadly, and Avizia's skillset more specifically, Baird said.

The importance of accreditation has never been clearer, practitioners say. Telehealth remains a relatively new area of medicine, noted Robert Bernstein, MD, Avizia's vice president of clinical affairs. "Consumers see it has a lot of value, but they also believe it has risk," said Bernstein. Bernstein and others at Avizia quickly recognized the value of accreditation by a bona fide third party. The program's transparency makes "patients feel more comfortable, and that makes it a strong sell to health systems," Bernstein explained.

Avizia's commitment to quality has led its high clinical standards. As an example, Avizia's average visit time is 20 minutes, far longer than average visit times reported by leading fee-for-service commercial providers. Likewise, Avizia's providers prescribe medication in approximately

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## 2018/2019 edition of the International Code of Practice for Telehealth Services released

Telehealth  
Quality  
Group

The **Telehealth Quality Group** (TQG) has released the 2018/19 version of its International Code of Practice for Telehealth Services, a quality benchmark and guideline for telehealth services (which was originally developed as part of a project funded by the European Commission). Headline news associated with the release of the new edition of the Code is the partnership that is being built between the TQG and **Community Resourcing Worldwide** (CRW). CRW is supporting the 'roll-out' of the Code in Australia. This follows successive visits to Australia by TQG Directors Malcolm Fisk and Kevin Doughty, and study visits made by CRW, led by Anne Livingstone, to different countries in Europe. The work in Australia will complement that of the TQG.

What's new in the 2018/19 Edition? A big push is made towards 'fitness for purpose' of services taking account of the interoperability of the technologies, not just from hubs to remote centres but also around devices for the person or the home. Performance measures will now also be required to be 'honestly and openly' displayed on service websites. And an absolute need for cybersecurity measures to be in place is reaffirmed and strengthened.

According to Malcolm Fisk: "Greater interoperability means greater choice; openness with performance indicators means greater accountability; and more attention to cybersecurity means greater trust. Each of these reflects the consumer and service user perspective that has been taken by the TQG itself and the International Code of Practice since its inception."

For more information, contact [info@telehealth.global](mailto:info@telehealth.global).

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## Self-sustainable telehealth clinics provide healthcare technology to aid in disaster and medically underserved areas



**AMD Global Telemedicine**, longtime member of the ISfTeH and pioneer of clinical Telemedicine Encounter Management Solutions (TEMS), and **Jenysis Global** have announced a partnership to offer rapidly deployable, self-contained telehealth clinics that aid in disaster recovery, medically underserved communities, or military and remote work environments.

The self-contained telehealth clinics, called **Jenysis Healthcare Solutions**, were built with the mission of enhancing the health, safety and welfare of the global community by providing access to care through telemedicine. To service the medical needs of remote communities in despair, these clinics are delivered fully equipped with telemedicine technologies, medical equipment and a completely sustainable infrastructure that includes water, power, HVAC and satellite. The telehealth clinic can be quickly deployed in areas where terrestrial communication lines are unreliable, damaged or non-existent, and provide immediate access to medical care.



"In recent years, with the increase in natural disasters, healthcare preparedness programs are critical components of the healthcare strategy for each country," commented **Eric Bacon**,

President of AMD Global Telemedicine. "Integrating telehealth technologies into these portable clinics allows patients to be seen by hundreds of remote healthcare specialists, providing them access to care they would not otherwise obtain. Instead of worrying about the logistics of bringing in the healthcare specialists you need and the infrastructure to support them, you virtually connect to them for medical consultations and examinations."

"Access to remote healthcare is a global priority. The ability to mobilize for the delivery of medical service after disasters or crisis is critical," commented Susan Horsefall, President of Jenysis Global. "JHS has teamed up with AMD to provide a robust integrated platform which rapidly deploys infrastructure and medical services to needy environments."

Jenysis Healthcare Solutions is an all-in-one expandable unit that accommodates various medical needs and specialties, from basic telehealth consultations and primary care to emergency and trauma care. For more information on Jenysis Healthcare Solutions visit [www.amdtelemedicine.com](http://www.amdtelemedicine.com).

Learn [here](#) how the Jenysis Healthcare Solutions make **disaster preparedness easier** and the steps AMD Global Telemedicine is taking to make this happen.

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## Mentoring for women and eHealth



The ISfTeH Working Group on Women (WoW) and the Telenursing Working Group (TWG) are collaborating on a mentoring column for the **Millennia2025 Women's Observatory for eHealth**. The goal of this education project is to increase the number of women mentor-protégé dyads in the areas of eHealth (strategy and policy development) and Telehealth (applications of information and communication technologies to healthcare delivery). The importance of mentors who can share their knowledge and skills with protégés who are less experienced and therefore less confident in their own capabilities cannot be ignored. Women (family members and nurses) are the most constant presence when healthcare is necessary and being delivered. And women are fully capable of contributing to all facets of telehealth worldwide. The Mentoring Columns can be found on the [WeMentors pages](#).

The first column is on the WeMentors home page and is titled "**Looking for a Mentor in Four Tips**." First, decide what you want from a mentor. Second, look at yourself. Third, what qualities would you like in a mentor. Fourth, consider your availability.

The second column presents ideas on the topic "**Mentoring: Successful Communication**."

The third column is on the topic of "**Time Management for Mentors and Proteges**."

Contact [Veronique Thouvenot](#) (WoW) or [Claudia Bartz](#) (TWG) for more information.

And remember the call for submissions for the third JISfTeH **Special Issue on Women in eHealth**. Your contribution is very welcome!

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## ISfTeH Teledentistry Working Group showing advances in teledentistry in Brazil



WG Teledentistry

The **8th Annual Congress** of the **Brazilian Telemedicine and Telehealth Association** (ABTMs), national member for Brazil in the ISfTeH, was held in Gramado, Brazil last November. During the event, Prof. [Marcia Rendeiro](#) and Prof. [Caren Bavaresco](#), Coordinator and Vice-Coordinator of the ISfTeH Teledentistry Working Group, together with Prof. [Mary Caroline Skelton](#), member of the WG, organized a **Teledentistry Symposium**.

Various teledentistry initiatives that are currently implemented in Brazil as well as their results and impact were presented, including a presentation by Prof. Maria Inês Meurer (UFSC) on the results of a distance course, elaborated using the inverted classroom methodology. Prof. Vinicius Carrard (UFRGS) presented the Teleconsulting Program in Stomatology, which is of fundamental importance for the early detection of oral cancer cases, as well as for the reduction of unnecessary referrals to the secondary care health units. Juliana Matos (Master student in Telemedicine and Telehealth at UERJ and postgraduate student of Prof. Márcia Rendeiro), presented the construction of an app for the Management of the Patient Carrier of Hereditary Coagulopathies, for health

professionals in primary health care. Finally, Prof. Myriam Brew presented "OdontoDrops", a YouTube channel that presents videos related to oral health, produced by students (guided by Prof. Caren Bavaresco). Over 50 conference delegates attended the Teledentistry Symposium and expressed great interest in being involved in international activities of the ISfTeH Teledentistry Working Group.

Following on from the symposium at the Brazilian conference, the ISfTeH Teledentistry Working Group also presented a **Teledentistry Webinar** in December '17 in which the "Activities of the Special Interest Group on Teledentistry of the Brazilian University Network of Telemedicine (RUTE)" was presented by Prof. **Ana Estela Haddad**, Director of Institutional Relations of the ABTms and Adjunct-Coordinator of the ISfTeH Teledentistry Working Group. A second presentation during the webinar was provided by Deise Garrido, Financial Director of the ABTms, who spoke about the "eLearning Course in Dentistry for Patients with Special Needs" provided by the Faculty of Dentistry of the University of São Paulo (FO-USP) in partnership with the Open University of SUS of the Federal University of Maranhão (UNA-SUS/UFMA). A recording of this webinar can still be accessed [here](#).

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## Details of 23rd ISfTeH International Conference announced



This year's **ISfTeH International Conference** is coming up in 2 months from now and is organized by the ISfTeH's Finnish national member, the **Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth**.

The Finnish Society will indeed host the 23rd ISfTeH International Conference at its "*eHealth2018 - Health Communities Facing Cyber Transformation*" event, which takes place aboard a Cruise on the Baltic Sea between Helsinki, Finland and Stockholm, Sweden, on 15-17 March 2018.

The event consists of a **two-day conference program** aboard the cruise, and also a morning of **site visits in Stockholm**. Speakers include representatives from the Finnish Heart Association, European Commission, Cancer Society, Karolinska Institute, Finnish Coast Guard, European Network of Living Labs, and many others.

Several companies and organizations will show their telemedicine/eHealth solutions in an **exhibition** area. And the **eHealth Game Jam** is also organized by Games for Health Finland in conjunction with the conference.

Preliminary conference program details and practical information are available on this [conference flyer](#).

Registration for the conference is available until February 27th at [www.tinyurl.com/eHealth2018](http://www.tinyurl.com/eHealth2018). Registration includes a cabin on the cruise, access to all conference sessions, all meals, and site visits in Stockholm. An additional discount on the registration fees is available for FSTeH and ISfTeH members ([contact us](#) to obtain your discount code). Early registration is encouraged, as places are limited (some cabin options are already sold out)!

If you are interested in participating at the conference or in the exhibition, or if you have any other questions about the event, contact us at [info@isfteh.org](mailto:info@isfteh.org).

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## Corporate member spotlight - NovioSys



**NovioSys**, ISfTeH corporate member, is a Dutch start-up company founded in 2015 (and now part of the Czech **MAPO Group**), aiming to transfer telemedicine and telematic products that were initially developed in the Czech Republic, into international markets.

NovioSys is located on the NovioTechCampus in Nijmegen, The Netherlands and its founders have a long-term cooperation with Dutch partners such as NXP Semiconductors, MobiHealth and NovioSense, and also Philips in the past, as well as with other leading companies such as Olympus Optical, EADS and Alcatel.

"Our aim is to launch digital health products, some of which have been 20 years in development in the Czech Republic, into international markets via NovioTechCampus and Nijmegen based

Health Valley," says Petr Nemeč, CEO of NovioSys.

NovioSys has developed a product set called "*HealthAnalyst*", consisting of *BioAnalyst*, *CardioAnalyst* and *GeneAnalyst*, for **early screening and diagnostics**, specifically in those fields where negative impact on the population is most serious: from **cardiovascular disease**, over **carcinoma** to an increasing number of patients with **diabetes**. It is the speed and accuracy of diagnostics that is crucial for the solution of these medical problems.

NovioSys will be presenting HealthAnalyst at the upcoming "**Innovation for Health**" event on February 1st, 2018 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

For more information, see [www.noviosys.com](http://www.noviosys.com). Or contact [info@noviosys.com](mailto:info@noviosys.com) to find out about collaboration opportunities and for a more in-depth discussion of early stage screening and how NovioSys' tools can support better diagnosis and better outcomes.

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## Board member spotlight - Neil Nerwich

Dr. Neil Nerwich, Group Medical Director of Assistance for **International SOS** and the MedAire organisations, has been recently appointed to the Board of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth.



Previously based in London, Dr. Nerwich currently resides in Sydney, Australia overseeing the dynamic and expanding International SOS Assistance and MedAire Services through multiple assistance and response centre platforms specialising in extensive telehealth enabled medical support and assistance services on an international basis.

With over 10,000 group employees working in 70 countries, International SOS works in partnership with businesses, governments and non-governmental organizations to offer international standards of medical care. For over 20 years, Dr. Nerwich has been highly focused on the quality, scalability, robustness and compliance of telemedical services on an international basis, including extreme remote environments such as the Arctic Circle, remote land based sites such as rural central Africa, offshore environments, including installations, vessels and yachts, and inflight ground to air support for both commercial airlines and charter aircraft. This has involved the maximum leverage of developments in telecommunication technologies combined with the formulation and deployment of rigorous standards, telemedical delivery guidelines and protocols, global regulatory and data privacy compliance and well-structured training and education programs.

Dr. Nerwich has overseen medical assistance services relating to multiple disaster and mass casualty events and has a particular interest in leveraging of telemedical services to assist responders in the management and response to such events.

Dr. Nerwich has a background in general practice, emergency medicine, aviation medicine and tropical medicine, his qualifications including Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery with Honours, Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of General Practitioners, Diploma of Tropical Medicine and Certificate of Civil Aviation Medicine.

Dr. Nerwich is honoured to be appointed a Board Member position and greatly looks forward to serving the interests of the ISfTeH and its members.

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## What's up with Med-e-Tel in 2018?



Med-e-Tel has been one of the main, annual ISfTeH events since 2002. Over the past 15 years, the event has brought together thousands of telemedicine and eHealth stakeholders and experts from around the world in Luxembourg to share their experience, to provide insights in new technologies and solutions, and to discuss implementation strategies.

As many of you already know, the event will not take place this year. The ISfTeH is currently exploring some new options and opportunities which have come up. In the meantime, you can still browse past presentations and information at [www.medetel.eu](http://www.medetel.eu).

For more networking, sharing and exchange opportunities, we encourage you to join the ISfTeH as a member. Sign up [here](#). Or contact [info@isfteh.org](mailto:info@isfteh.org) for more information.

And there is of course also still this year's edition of the "ISfTeH International Conference" (23rd edition) in Finland on March 15-17, 2018. More details can be found [here](#).

## SITT and partners host 2nd Forum Telesalut@



**SITT** (Hiberiae Societas Telemedicinae et Telesanitas), the national member for Portugal and Spain in the ISfTeH, is hosting its 2nd *Forum Telesalut@* this week, on January 19th and 20th, in Funchal, on the island of Madeira (Portugal). The event is also held in conjunction with the 4th *Jornada Luso-Brasileira de Telemedicina e Telesaúde* (Portuguese-Brazilian Telemedicine and Telehealth Meeting) and the 1st *Encontro Regional de Telesaúde da RAM* (Regional Telehealth Meeting of the Autonomous Region of Madeira). The conference is co-organized by the *Ordem dos Enfermeiros Secção Regional da Madeira* (Portuguese Order of Nurses, Madeira Regional Section) and supported by the local government, the City of Funchal and two Agencies from the Portuguese Ministry of Health (ACSS and SPMS), as well as the Universidade da Madeira (UM), Universidade do Estado do Amazonas (UEA), Universidade da Beira Interior (UBI) and IPATIMUP - Universidade do Porto and companies such as DELL, GMV, Linde, Logibérica, aiVision, NOS, Siemens, Vitalmobile and ZM Way.

The two-day **conference program** features speakers from Portugal, Azores, Madeira, Spain, Italy, Cape Verde, Brazil and other countries, and from local and national Health Authorities, and will cover the following themes:

- The vision of eHealth in Europe
- Synchronous and asynchronous teleconsultations
- The organization of eHealth in Portugal (CNTS)
- Teledermatology
- Telehomecare and telemonitoring
- eHealth in Madeira and Azores (Autonomous Regions of Portugal)
- Telepathology/digital pathology
- Digital status of health and their results and optimization
- eHealth in Iberoamerica (Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Uruguay, Argentina/Euskadi)



## Open University organizes 2nd Digital Health & Wellbeing Conference



**The Open University** (UK), an institutional member in the ISfTeH, organizes the **2nd Digital Health & Wellbeing Conference** on May 1st-3rd, 2018 at their campus in Milton Keynes, UK. The conference is organized by the Open University's Health & Wellbeing Priority Research Area.

The theme of this year's conference is "*Fusion - All things Digital Health & Wellbeing*". The event aims to challenge research and practitioners to explore, uncover and inspire the ethos of Digital

Health & Wellbeing and how this can be deployed across varying environments, research and practice, innovation, health, public services, community and non-profit organizations.

For more information about the conference, registration and sponsorship opportunities, see <http://wels.open.ac.uk/research/research-centres/digital-health-wellbeing-conference>, follow @DConf2018 on Twitter, or contact Hannah Marston at [hannah.marston@open.ac.uk](mailto:hannah.marston@open.ac.uk) or by phone at +44 7815507547.

An early bird registration rate for the conference is available until February 13th!

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## Knowledge engineering in medical and bio-informatics: developing intelligent systems



Within the frame of the **International Conference on Communication, Management and Information Technology (ICCMIT'18)**, taking place in Madrid next April, the coordinator of the ISfTeH Working Group on Medical and Bio-Informatics, Prof. Abdel-Badeeh Salem, will organize a workshop on **Knowledge Engineering in Medical and Bio-Informatics (KEMBI)**.

Knowledge engineering (KE) deals with the development of intelligent information systems in which knowledge and reasoning play pivotal role. KEMBI will bring researchers, developers, practitioners, and users together to present their latest research, results, and ideas in all areas of knowledge engineering, machine learning and artificial intelligence in life and health sciences. KEMBI provides a forum for the exchange of ideas between physicians and computer scientists, and knowledge engineers to address the important issues in those areas. Papers related to methodologies, techniques and applications in bio-medical informatics and smart eHealth systems are especially solicited.

Topics of interest include the following:

- Health Care Information Systems
- Computational Intelligence in life sciences
- Machine Learning in Big Biomedical Data Analytics
- Knowledge Engineering in Health Sciences
- Clinical Information Systems
- Medical Image Processing and Techniques
- Medical Intelligent Systems for different medical tasks
- Medical Expert Systems
- Bioinformatics and Biostatistics
- Telemedicine Software, Portals, Devices and Telehealth
- Web-based and Remote Medicine
- Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery in Medicine
- Machine Learning-based Medical Systems
- Artificial Intelligence Techniques in Health Sciences
- Medical Databanks, Databases, and Knowledge Bases
- Neurocomputing in Medicine
- Ontology and Medical Information Science
- Bioethics and Health Informatics

For more information about paper submissions or participation in the workshop, contact Prof. Dr. **Abdel-Badeeh Salem**, Prof. of Computer Science, Faculty of Computer and Information Sciences, Head of Artificial Intelligence and Knowledge Engineering Research Labs, Ain Shams University, Egypt.

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## Report of the 22nd ISfTeH International Conference in Casablanca



The Moroccan Society for Telemedicine & eHealth (MSfTeH) hosted the 22nd edition of the ISfTeH International Conference last December in the vibrant city of Casablanca, famous for the 1942 film by the same name.

The conference had the privilege of welcoming a number of key speakers such as Dr. **Najeeb Al Shorbaji**, former Director of the Knowledge Sharing Department (and responsible for eHealth) at

the World Health Organization, who presented the WHO strategy for promoting eHealth globally. **Luis Falcon**, President of GNU Solidario, provided a half day workshop on the GNU Health EMR/HIS system. Prof. **Peter Tonellato** from Harvard Medical School, presented on Personalized Medicine during the North Africa Student Symposium in Bioinformatics. **Fatima Rashid Al Ali**, CEO of the Abu Dhabi Telemedicine Centre, presented on their pioneer role as a Telemedicine Centre in the Arab world. **Samia Chakri**, Director of 'Maroc Digital' at the Moroccan Ministry of Industry and Digital Economy, explained the central position that the eHealth component occupies in the National Digital Strategy. Dr. **Hassan Ghazal**, President of the Moroccan Society for Telemedicine & eHealth, reminded how instrumental the ISfTeH had been in the creation of the national Moroccan Society for Telemedicine and its contribution to the development of telemedicine in the country. Dr. **Karim Ouldin** of the University Mohammed VI for Health Sciences in Casablanca, insisted on the importance of the public private synergies in the deployment of telemedicine. **Eric Bacon**, President of AMD Global Telemedicine, presented the evolution of telemedicine technologies. Dr. **Andy Fisher**, President of the ISfTeH, provided insights into the role of the ISfTeH as a tool to promote telemedicine deployment throughout the world. Dr. **Samir Kaddar**, President of C3M (the organization of Moroccan physicians abroad), saw telemedicine as a means to be used by the diaspora to contribute in leveraging the health system in Morocco. **Anouar Yadini**, President of the Moroccan Association of Medical Device Distributors, claimed that the future of medical devices is "to be connected". Dr. **Dan Gerendasy**, Chief Officer for International Cooperation at the US National Library of Medicine (NLM), shared his views on the need for suitable curricula to accompany and accelerate the developments in telemedicine and eHealth. Dr. **Ousmane Ly**, General Director of the National Agency for Telehealth in Mali, described the importance of such agencies for implementing eHealth national strategies. And finally the local representatives of the **International Federation of Medical Students (IFMSA)**, stretched the importance of involving the young digital generation in curriculum and career development in order to embrace telemedicine and eHealth.

The conference also featured a "startathon" for young entrepreneurs and a special session on Telemedicine for Africa which featured contributions from Morocco, Mali, South Africa, Botswana and Ivory Coast as well as examples of joint projects between European and African countries. This panel was conceived to encourage discussion and sharing of ideas and opinions between participants on the future of telemedicine in Africa and how to achieve its implementation in low-resource settings.

As a **direct outcome of the conference**, a Master program in Health Informatics was designed (in collaboration with Dan Gerendasy from the US NLM) and in the meantime already submitted for accreditation to the Moroccan Ministry for Higher Education.

Details of the conference are still available at [www.msftteh.org/mehealth2017](http://www.msftteh.org/mehealth2017).

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## JISfTeH publishes abstracts of the 4th European Congress on eCardiology and eHealth



The **Journal of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth (JISfTeH)** has published the abstracts of the 4th European Congress on eCardiology and eHealth. The abstracts can be accessed [here](#).

The JISfTeH accepts paper submissions on all aspects of telemedicine and eHealth. Go [here](#) for online submission of your paper proposals. Or contact [info@isfteh.org](mailto:info@isfteh.org) for more information.

The JISfTeH is a peer reviewed, open access, online journal.

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## Upcoming ISfTeH meetings and conferences

**23rd ISfTeH International Conference**  
15-17 March 2017  
Helsinki, Finland / Stockholm, Sweden  
[www.telemedicine.fi](http://www.telemedicine.fi)



**Other ISfTeH supported events:**

**II Forum Telesalut@ da SITT**  
19-20 January 2018  
Funchal, Madeira, Portugal  
[sitt-iberica.org](http://sitt-iberica.org)

**BIOSTEC 2018 - 11th International Joint Conference on Biomedical Engineering Systems and Technologies**  
19-21 January 2018  
Funchal, Madeira, Portugal  
[www.biostec.org](http://www.biostec.org)

**3rd Annual Healthcare Insurance Innovation Summit**  
15-16 February 2018  
London, UK  
[c-parity.com/3rd-annual-healthcare-insurance-innovation-summit/](http://c-parity.com/3rd-annual-healthcare-insurance-innovation-summit/)

**CATEL Visio**  
22 March 2018  
France  
[www.catelvisio.fr](http://www.catelvisio.fr)

**ICT4AWE 2018. 4th International Conference on ICT for Ageing Well and e-Health**  
22-23 March 2018  
Funchal, Madeira, Portugal  
[www.ict4ageingwell.org](http://www.ict4ageingwell.org)

**eHEALTH SUMMIT 2018**  
12-14 June 2018  
Budapest, Hungary  
[ehealth360.org/2017](http://ehealth360.org/2017)

## ISfTeH Supported Events Calendar and Other Telemedicine/eHealth Events

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### New ISfTeH members

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



#### Associate Member:



*American TeleDentistry Association,  
USA*

#### Institutional Members:



*Center of Hearing and Speech  
Medincus, Ukraine*



*Center of Hearing and Speech  
Medincus, Kyrgyzstan*

#### Individual Members:

*Namongon Adama Soro, Ivory Coast*    *Phanish Chandra, India*  
*Abba Mohammed, Nigeria*            *Mehari Gebreyohannis, USA*  
*Alexandru Mischie, France*            *Peter Raus, Belgium*  
*David Olatayo Olayiwola, Nigeria*

#### Nurse Member:

*Nicovie Duplessis, USA*

#### Student Members:

*Muhammet Bilal Turan, Estonia*

*Dehan Ammaralda Handiana,*

*Chubueze Igwe, Nigeria*

Saad Mumtaz, Pakistan  
Ram Prakash Suriyanarayanan,  
Germany  
Muntazir Ali Sayed, India  
Fellipe Carlos Correa Batista, Brazil  
Jennifer Parsons, UK  
Aurobind G, India

Indonesia  
Alfitra Putra, Malaysia  
Syafwendra Syafri, Indonesia  
Muhammad Arrifa, Malaysia  
Lucas Boneli, Brazil  
Sabbir Hossen, Bangladesh  
Muhammad Umair Ihsan, Pakistan

Jason Enewold, USA  
Nana Akyaa Okyere Acheampong,  
USA  
Nashir Maruf, Indonesia  
Jessica Daunoras, USA  
Gina Stevens, USA  
Bryan Daunt, USA  
Kristen Powers, USA

[Click here for full member list or to join as a new member](#)

## Join the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth and participate in ISfTeH Working Groups



- 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.

As a member, you will also be able to participate in or actively contribute to the **ISfTeH Working Groups** (WGs), or start up new initiatives. Current WGs include among others Open Source Software, Chronic Disease Management, Social Media, Telenursing, Students, Women and eHealth, Tele-audiology, Teledentistry, Tele-urology. Contact [info@isfteh.org](mailto:info@isfteh.org) if you are interested in any of these topics or want to join a Working Group.

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](mailto:info@isfteh.org).

**For more information:** [www.isfteh.org](http://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](mailto: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:



Andy Fischer



Pirkko Kouri



Eric Bacon



Philippe De Lorme



Hassan Ghazal



Michelle Griffith



Sarj Mishra



Neil Nerwich



Piotr Skarzynski



Addfo Sparenberg



Regina Ungerer



Rajendra Pratap Gupta

## Management Board



Yunkap Kwankam



Frederic Lievens



Frank Lievens



Maurice Mars

Submit your questions/suggestions via [info@isfteh.org](mailto:info@isfteh.org).

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## 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 four Lifetime Achievement Award laureates so far are:



Louis Lareng



Ron Merrell



Gyorgy Miklos  
Bohm



Prathap C.  
Reddy

Watch this space for future ISfTeH Lifetime Achievement Awards!

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STAY CONNECTED:



Join the ISfTeH Global Network  
[Click here for membership application](#)

International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth | [info@isfteh.org](mailto:info@isfteh.org) | [www.isfteh.org](http://www.isfteh.org)