

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 (October 2018)

Read in this issue about ISfTeH elections, the next ISfTeH annual meeting, 'Iberian' initiatives and collaboration, various stories focusing on midwives, nurses, maternal and newborn health, webinars from open source and telenursing working groups, exciting times for teleconsultation in France, new collaboration for telemedicine development, Apollo Telemedicine's initiatives in India, new publications, upcoming events, and much, much more! Take your (large) coffee and update yourself on some of what is happening in the ISfTeH global network.

STAY CONNECTED:



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Reader,

Here we are again, at the end of another summer. I trust that it was one of relaxation and fun with family and friends for you too.

Every year at this time we delve more deeply into the weighty subject of governance of our Society. It is election time, again. Who do we want to provide leadership and direction in the affairs of the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth?

It is staggering to note the stark contrasts surrounding democracy around the world. In some societies, people go to war to try to have a say in how they are governed. In others, democracy is taken for granted, to the extent that participation in the one act with which people are endowed by democracy - the right to vote - is grossly undervalued. When less than half of the electorate go to the polls in an election, and a victor is chosen by a simple majority, this means as little as one quarter of the electorate can have their will imposed on the remaining seventy-five percent. I trust this will not be the case with the ISfTeH. We each have the right to vote in our specific category of membership, some by representative democracy through their nationally elected official (for the Nationals and Associates positions on the Board), and some by direct democracy (for the Individuals category). It is more complicated with Institutions and Corporates. But even there, members of our community can influence who gets elected onto the Board.

Without a crystal ball, how do we know what these people will do if elected? We can get a sense of this from their manifestos. The rules require that every candidate for a position on the Board of the ISfTeH must submit a statement of intent - their reasons for seeking office, their hopes and aspirations for the Society and what they would do if elected. The Nominations and Governance Committee of the Board makes a judgment on these declarations in its work of paring down the

number of candidates to not more than two for each open position.

We are starting a new tradition with the upcoming election, and with this issue of the Newsletter, of publishing the manifestos of all candidates running for a position on the Board of the Society. This year, the following seats on the Board are up for election: one representative of the National Member, one representative of the Institutional Members and one representative of the Individual Members. The following members are now running for those seats:

National Members:

Andy Fischer (Swiss Society for Telemedicine & eHealth)

Vitalii Ostashko (Ukrainian Association of Development IT in Medicine)

Institutional Members:

Krishnan Ganapathy (Apollo Telehealth Networking Foundation)

Piotr Henryk Skarzynski (Institute of Physiology & Pathology of Hearing)

Individual Members:

Claudia Bartz

Michele Griffith

This will help publicize what the candidates have declared as their positions on various issues of importance to the life of our Society. If you are an ISfTeH member, I urge you to read these carefully, so as to better inform the vote you will cast. We trust that you will come out in your numbers (electronically, that is) and choose the best people to run the affairs of the ISfTeH. See you virtually at the polls. And if you are not a member of the ISfTeH yet, I urge you to consider joining us and getting more closely involved in our global telemedicine and eHealth network!

Sincerely,

Prof. S. Yunkap Kwankam

Executive Director

International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth

Present your activities at the next annual meeting of the ISfTeH global network



The **24th ISfTeH International Conference** is taking place on March 19-20, 2019 in Lisbon, Portugal, in conjunction with the annual **Portugal eHealth Summit** (organized by ISfTeH institutional member, **Centro Nacional TeleSaúde**).

The Portugal eHealth Summit is the largest eHealth event in Europe, bringing together some 10,000 stakeholders from the Portuguese National Health Service. By adding on our ISfTeH International Conference, we will bring an extra international dimension to this meeting and provide opportunities for telemedicine and telehealth providers, technology developers and policy makers, to bring their own (international) experience and knowledge to the table, as well as to learn from the Portuguese eHealth initiatives.



Submit your own presentation proposal for the ISfTeH International Conference [here](#).

For some additional preliminary information, click [here](#). Or contact info@isfteh.org.

Supporting nurses and midwives

The ISfTeH **Working Group on Women (WoW)**, together with the ISfTeH **Telenursing WG** and the ISfTeH **Iberian WG**, provide eHealth and telemedicine expertise and support to nurses and midwives around the world through the WeObservatory: www.m2025-weobservatory.org.

The **WeObservatory** initiates and manages various innovative projects, mobile apps, MOOCs, and more, to support nurses, midwives, health workers, pregnant women, young mothers and their newborn babies. You can access more details on all of these at www.m2025-weobservatory.org. Specific apps, projects, MOOCs, articles for nurses and midwives are available here: [nurses - midwives](#).

A call for submissions to the next edition of the **JISfTeH** Special Issue on Women in eHealth is also still **open**.

ISfTeH 'Iberian' initiative drives collaboration among Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries



Iberian and Iberian-American Working Group
ISfTeH

The newly established **'Iberian' Working Group** in the ISfTeH reports that the Faculty of Medicine at the Federal University of Goiás (UFG) in Brazil, and the Peruvian University Cayetano Heredia (UPCH), have set up an agreement to exchange technical-scientific knowledge of undergraduate and graduate students. The agreement provides for a mutual and wide collaboration between the two institutions, which includes visits and exchange of teachers and students, focused on research, teaching and university management. More details and other news from the **Núcleo de Telessaúde e Telemedicina de Goiás (NUTTS)** at UFG is available [here](#). They also offer a **YouTube channel** with recordings of past presentations and teleconferences on a wide range of topics.

Members of the group have also just published a free book (in Spanish) focusing on education in HIV/AIDS: **Aprendiendo sin Fronteras, El Mundo en un Click: Educando en el VIH/SIDA e ITS**. And they announce that the 19th International Conference on **Human Retrovirology: HTLV and Related Viruses** will take place in Lima, Peru in April 2019.

The upcoming **24th ISfTeH International Conference** in Lisbon, Portugal (March 19-20, 2019), will obviously be an excellent platform for international exchange and interaction with 'Iberian' colleagues from the **SITT** (ISfTeH National Member for Spain and Portugal) and the Portuguese **National Center for Telehealth** (ISfTeH Institutional Member), as well as other members from Latin and South America who have already confirmed their participation.

Open source solutions in healthcare



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The ISfTeH **Open Source Working Group** recently presented a **webinar** on open source solutions in healthcare, looking at examples of operational systems and sustainable support services.

Dr. Etienne Saliez (Belgium) of the ISfTeH Open Source WG coordinated a panel of experts, including Luis Falcon (Spain) from **GNU Health**, Monika Hubler (Switzerland) from **iPath**, Thomas Karopka (Germany), Senior Project Manager eHealth at **BioCon Valley**, and Stuart Mackintosh (UK), Founder/CEO of **OpusVL** and Chair of **OpenUK** (the UK Open Source Industry Association).

During the webinar, a review of the current activities of the WG was presented, the **Medfloss** data base of open source software for healthcare was introduced, short presentations of several long-running open source projects (GNU Health and iPath) were provided as well as challenges/solutions when deploying and supporting open source applications.

The full webinar can still be accessed [here](#).

Future meetings and webinars are under planning, and will look at the reuse of software components; analysis of healthcare requirements of most common interest and approaches for integration; deeper discussions on open source management issues in healthcare; review of the

Your feedback, questions and suggestions re. the use of open source software in healthcare and/or regarding this past or future webinars are welcome at etienne@cctos.org.

Telenursing: research, national strategies and practical implementation



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In a recent **webinar**, the ISfTeH **Telenursing Working Group** discussed nursing research and telecare/telehealth for the older persons (in care/nursing homes). The scene was set by Clarissa Rodrigues (Brazil) from the Global Research and Innovation Network (GRINN) who presented on "*Intervention research in nursing: where we are now and why we need it*" and by Patricia Dias (Brazil) from AGM Telessaúde who presented "*Tele-assistance strategies to support older persons in care/nursing homes.*" Based on the discussions that took place, the Telenursing WG decided to investigate more closely the needs of its members regarding research skills. A short survey has been created and will be distributed among WG members. Based on the outcomes, the WG will collect or develop resources that will help nurses to improve their research skills. If you have specific suggestions or if you have expertise in an area that you think would be relevant for the improvement of the research competence of nurses, contact **Kostas Antypas**, coordinator of the Telenursing WG.

You can still watch a recording of this past webinar [here](#).

A next webinar of the Telenursing WG will focus on "*Nordic eHealth national strategies for nurses: content, vision and results.*" The National Nurses Associations in several Nordic countries have developed eHealth strategies. The webinar will focus on why these countries developed these strategies, what do they include and what was the effect of these strategies in the work of nurses using eHealth.

The Telenursing WG also welcomes info about interesting experiences, implementation examples or research projects in the field of telenursing and eHealth, for presentation in future webinars. For more information about the upcoming webinar or for any suggestions about future topics, contact **Kostas Antypas**.

Teleconsultation in France: 3, 2, 1, Go!



September 15, 2018 was a very important day for telemedicine in France. From that date, patients and medical doctors can connect via teleconsultation, with the **remote consultation** being **reimbursed by the National Health Insurance**.

A secure videoconferencing tool has to be used for each online consultation. All data is stored at a healthcare certified host. And most importantly, the use of teleconsultation is a medical prescription and must be done within the official care path validated by the general practitioner.

Starting in 2019, tele-expertise (doctor-to-doctor) will also be recognized as an official medical act. These are important steps to improve access to care and communication between healthcare professionals.

The implementation in daily practice care will take some time. But ultimately, telemedicine will have a positive impact on patients, healthcare providers and the healthcare system:

- Access to care will become easier for patients living far away from healthcare providers and those with reduced mobility
- Follow-up of chronic diseases like diabetes, heart failure or hypertension will improve
- Prevention processes will be facilitated especially for patients with professional constraints and limited availability
- New jobs like digital medical assistants will be created
- Patient centered care will become a reality
- Digitally coordinated medical teams will replace isolated healthcare providers
- Continuing education and in-service training will be made easier

So the scope of telemedicine implementation far exceeds a simple videoconference between a

patient and a doctor.

For more information on the new legislation and reimbursement schemes in France, we will be pleased to put you in touch with our national member **CATEL** and associate member **Agir pour la Télémédecine!** Contact us at info@isfteh.org.

This article was kindly provided by ISfTeH member Fadi Jamal, [Izycardio](#).

New collaboration to drive telemedicine development

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A cooperation agreement for the **Development of Telemedicine Technologies for Medicine and Education** has been signed in Moscow on October 3rd between the **Central Clinical Hospital of the Russian Academy of Sciences** and the ISfTeH. The agreement covers a mutual exchange of knowledge, scientific and methodological information and will lead to joint research work (between ISfTeH members) and collaboration on telemedicine implementation.

For more information or to get in touch with the Central Clinical Hospital, contact info@isfteh.org.



Frank Lievens, Executive Secretary, ISfTeH, and Prof. Alexey Nikitin, Director, Central Clinical Hospital of the Russian Academy of Sciences, signing the cooperation agreement

Apollo Telemedicine Networking Foundation making great strides in providing timely and quality healthcare



Apollo Telemedicine Networking Foundation (ATNF) has been implementing the **Himachal Pradesh Telehealth Services programme** in the Himalayas for over 3 years now. 12,240 teleconsultations, including 935 emergency teleconsults, have been provided. The Programme which began as a proof of concept under the aegis of National Health Mission, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Himachal Pradesh, has now been accepted by the local communities, and is being scaled up to similar remote locations. A third telemedicine centre in the Himalayas is being commissioned shortly. ATNF will be managing, implementing and providing health care services to the local communities in Pangi. This includes providing specialty and super specialty teleconsultations, emergency teleconsultations for stabilization of emergency cases, laboratory tests, and outreach camps. The project aims to provide timely and quality health care services in the remote location of Pangi, and promote wellness the e-Way!



In another part of India (Andhra Pradesh), ATNF is implementing the **Mukhyamantri e-Eye Kendram (MeEK) teleophthalmology project**, with the objective to provide quality and preventive eye care services to rural communities. Over 115 Community Health Centres (CHC), across 13 districts, have been identified for providing teleophthalmology services. Digital eye care devices like Fundus Camera (for capturing fundus images), and Auto-refractometer (for refractive error measurement) have been deployed, along with state of the art software customized for the project, ICT equipment, and internet connectivity. Free eye screening services are provided, and patients identified with refractive errors are also provided with free spectacles. Within 8 months the program has screened nearly 500,000 individuals. Promoting awareness on eye care is resulting in early detection of preventable causes of reduced vision.

ATNF is also implementing a community based **ICT enabled Non Communicable Disease (NCD) screening program**. The objective is to screen economically backward sections of the society. Specific communities like urban slums and industries are screened for risk factors of select NCDs. Awareness is created about Diabetes, Hypertension, Heart Disease, Anaemia and Cancer, by screening for risk factors. They include obesity, abdominal obesity, Random Blood Sugar, Blood Pressure, Haemoglobin, HbA1C (for confirmation of diabetic risk status) and Lipid profile (hyperlipidaemia). The program is currently operational in Bengaluru, Coimbatore, Delhi NCR, Kolkata, Pune, and Vijayawada cities across India. In the last 5 months over 180,000 participants have been screened. Since 2015, nearly 700,000 have been screened. Over 15,000 beneficiaries have also been exposed to a specific Social Health Education (SHE) program.

And finally, Prof. K. Ganapathy, Director of ATNF, has recently been invited to be on the Editorial Board of the **European Journal for Biomedical Informatics**.

Humanitarian eHealth for mother and child health in Indonesia



leHTS, the Indonesian eHealth and Telemedicine Society (national member in the ISfTeH), executed two projects this year centering on humanitarian eHealth, specifically the use of mobile health for mother and child health.

One **project**, *Bunda Cermat (Smart/Conscientious Mother)*, already started in the second half of 2017 and engages midwives and volunteer mothers to support the **nutritional and financial literacy and practices** using a combination of mobile technologies and more traditional methods. This project is made possible by the support of a Grand Challenges Canada Stars in Global Health grant, with trainings already conducted in Bali, Surabaya and Bandung area of Indonesia.

The other **project** started mid-2018 and aims to develop and implement a decentralized and multifaceted integrated program supporting willingness and timeliness to **vaccinate**, while helping health workers and people of influence in the community increase their competence and confidence in countering anti vaccine narratives. This will happen through (i) Equipping midwives with adaptive counter messages (driven by machine learning) to help clarify misconceptions in anti-vaccination arguments, focusing on both health based as well as religious based counter arguments, (ii) giving mothers customized, timely messages based on pregnancy stage or child age and perception towards vaccination through messaging and multiple social media channels, and (iii) engaging local religious leaders to develop and spread their narrative in supporting timely vaccination, including equipping them with appropriate medical and technical knowledge. This project is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's Grand Challenges Explorations Grant.



Nutritional and Financial Literacy Workshop at Karangasem, Bali (13 July 2018, organized in cooperation with IEEE Indonesia)

leHTS conducts its activities in cooperation with various stakeholders and other organizations in Indonesia and internationally. leHTS partners with relevant health officers and actors for implementation activities, with the Biomedical Engineering Research Group of Institut Teknologi Bandung as its primary research partner, as well as IEEE SIGHT (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technologies) and IBES (Indonesian Biomedical Engineering Society).

Global new-born health: how can technology help improve health in low-income countries?



At a recent symposium on "Global new-born health - How can new technology help improve health in low-income countries?" organized by **NorSahel** in collaboration with the Kavli Foundation and Laerdal Global Health in Oslo (Norway), ISfTeH members Hassan Ghazal (President of the Moroccan Society for Telemedicine & eHealth) and Olav Eielsen (from the Regional Centre for Emergency Medical Research and Development (**RAKOS**), at **Stavanger University Hospital**, Norway) presented on the challenges concerning the generation, collection and sharing of health data in low-income settings in the light of new technology, and on the potential to collect data through a specific app.

Additional speakers included Jennifer Requejo from John Hopkins and Technical Deputy Director of **WHO/UN Countdown 2030**, and Silvija Seres from the **Kavli Foundation**, an expert on AI-technology.

According to Olav Eielsen the symposium proved how valuable the ISfTeH network is: "*It was important that the organization was represented in this meeting. Dr. Hassan Ghazal held a truly important and interesting lecture and received great response afterwards. And because of his presence and participation in the symposium, we'll now be collaborating together on our **Mali project**. In this meeting, RAKOS got to demonstrate the value of the ISfTeH global network.*"

World's "great minds" in healthcare technology contribute to medical/health informatics study programs at European Campus Rottal-Inn



Since the establishment of **European Campus Rottal-Inn (ECRI)** of the **Deggendorf Institute of Technology (DIT/THD)** three years ago, the faculty and staff at the Campus have organized several dozens of invited lectures, seminars, and workshops by prominent specialists in the fields of studies that are taught at ECRI (notably, Medical and Health Informatics, and other Applied Health Sciences), not only from Germany, but from around the globe. Some of the world-renowned experts who conducted supplementary educational activities at ECRI are:

- Professor **Dipak Kalra** from University College London, President of the European Institute for Health Records (EuroRec) and Founding President of the European Institute for Innovation through Health Data, one of the global leaders in development and

implementation of Health Information Technology;

- Professor **Jay H. Sanders** of Johns Hopkins Medicine, commonly known as the "Father of Telemedicine", CEO of The Global Telemedicine Group, Founding Board Member, President Emeritus and Fellow of the American Telemedicine Association (ATA);
- Professor **Richard Skolnik** of Yale University, one of the most prominent educators, practitioners and researchers in Global Health, who spent decades working with institutions like the World Health Organization and the World Bank, implementing public health projects and programs in various countries around the globe;
- Professor **Nicolas Pallikarakis** of the University of Patras (UPAT), Greece, Head of the Biomedical Technology Unit (BITU), known to be one of the champions of biomedical engineering education and research in the world;
- Professor **Thais Russomano** of Porto Alegre (Brazil), Senior Lecturer at Faculty of Life Sciences and Medicine of the King's College London, one of the prominent educators, researchers and enthusiasts of space physiology and aerospace medicine, as well as telemedicine and eHealth;
- Professor **Miroslav Končar** from the University of Zagreb, Chair of the Croatia Chapter of HL7 International.

According to the feedback from the students, those invited keynotes, workshops, seminars, and other supplementary activities, are greatly enriching learning experiences, not infrequently - unique, once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.

Some of the guests visited the Campus in person, while in at least half of the cases the lectures were organized distantly, using web-based videoconferencing. The students are usually following the webinars from the classroom; however, the platform also allows authorized users to connect to the "virtual lecture room" remotely and to follow the talk from the comfort of their homes, or even on the go.



Prof. Georgi Chaltikyan moderating a virtual (web-based videoconferencing) invited keynote lecture

Professor Georgi Chaltikyan, Program Director of M.Sc. Medical Informatics (MMI) who organizes and conducts the videoconferencing experiences at THD-ECRI, further elaborates on the subject: *"I am convinced that providing our students with an opportunity to learn from the thought leaders in the fields of their studies should be an indispensable part of the curricula, as it helps the learners greatly broaden their horizon, be exposed to global professional communities in various domains, and put into wider perspective what they are taught by their local faculty. Benefiting from the excellent infrastructure, audiovisual and videoconferencing capabilities we have at ECRI, and from a given experience in organizing clinical and educational audiovisual links, we regularly organize these so-called Virtual International Invited Keynotes ("VIKs"). Since it might be a definite challenge for a busy professional who is based in the US, Asia, Australia, or even in Europe, to visit us in person, use of video-conferencing allows us to circumvent time and distance barriers, and to increase the number of guest speakers, thus allowing our students not only to benefit from excellent educational and research environment at ECRI, but also to feel themselves truly in the center of global academic community."*

Tried and tested iPath Telemedicine Network is looking for support



iPath, in operation for 20 years, and previously maintained and funded through the University of Basel, and through Basys Data GmbH, is now looking for new funding. In order to harness the wealth of 20 years of research, the platform needs to be rewritten in a programming language that is compatible with today's IT demands. Long-time users of iPath have

founded a gGmbH (non-profit limited liability company) in order to be able to maintain the platform with a legal status and keeping up some of the projects and activities that were initiated in the following countries: Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bosnia, Brazil, China, Germany, Eritrea, UK, Haiti, India, Yemen, Cambodia, Kenya, Lithuania, Mali, Malawi, Nepal, Nigeria, Palestine, Solomon Island, Rwanda, Tanzania, Transkei, Sudan, Switzerland, Ukraine, Vietnam.

To maintain, develop and use the platform for teaching, deep learning projects as well as national telemedicine projects, additional funding is needed. iPath also wants to expand its platform into other medical specialties. With a platform that has been running smoothly for many years, that is easy to use, and with the years of experience in the field, iPath can contribute to eHealth projects worldwide.

The iPath working platform can be found at www.ipath-network.com. Info on the new gGmbH is available under www.ipathnetwork.org. For more information, contact [Monika Hubler](#).

Digital health ecosystems: a vision for Africa



"Achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in Africa: Stronger Together" was the topic of the **3rd Africa Health Business Symposium** held earlier this week on October 8th-9th in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Opened by South African Minister of Health, Aaron Motsoaledi, the conference assembled more than 350 participants representing 31 African and 14 countries outside of Africa. Among the delegates were 6 Ministers of Health, Ministry of Health officials, influential health leaders from the continent and global health champions.

Countries in Africa (and globally) aspiring to realise Universal Health Coverage shared knowledge and lessons learned, and explored innovative solutions to meet this challenge.

The final session focused on "*The Future of Healthcare: The Digital Promise.*" Prof. Dr. Karl Stroetmann of empirica in Bonn, Germany (and member of DGG, ISfTeH national member for Germany) contributed as the opening statement a Digital Health Vision for Africa entitled "*From siloed applications to Digital Health Ecosystems - strengthening health system transformation and UHC in African countries.*" To **move from national eHealth policies to sustainable digital service provision**, he identified four building blocks and explored six core implementation domains mandatory for establishing a successful national Digital Health Ecosystem, which should be based on an open platform architecture combined with an open standards national interoperability framework. Details of the presentation can be found [here](#).

Digital health - building a futureproof workforce

health.enabled

With the rapidly increasing interest and activity in digital health globally, particularly in low and middle-income countries, this is creating an increase in demand for a skilled digital health workforce and for the professionalization of the field. There is a significant gap between the demand and the supply of skilled digital health strategists, architects, and implementers at national and sub-national levels and few institutions are providing either pre-or in-service training or certification.

HealthEnabled, together with **Digital Frontiers Institute**, organize an online seminar series (over the course October/November 2018) to **assess the skills needs, gaps, and overall workforce composition needed to fully harness the potential of digital health**.

The seminar will use the WHO/ITU eHealth Strategy Toolkit to guide the discussion and each week will focus on one or two aspects of digital health and what skills are needed to inform and advance activities in each area and overall. The seminars will draw on the experience of participants and current trends/knowledge/evidence to frame each discussion.

HealthEnabled and Digital Frontiers Institute **invites digital health leaders and experts to participate in this seminar series**. For more information or to check on possibilities to participate, submit your request [here](#).

Bavarian Telemedicine Day



The **Bavarian Telemedicine Alliance** (Bayerische TelemedAllianz - BTA) announces the 7th **Bavarian Telemedicine Day** which will take place on March 21, 2019 in Munich. The BTA incubates and assists telemedicine and eHealth projects across Germany, especially Bavaria and the Bavarian State Ministry of Health and Nursing in Germany. The aim of their annual Telemedicine Day is to inform both the professional audience and the public about current trends and new possibilities of telemedicine, eHealth and other health information technology.



Information about the previous edition of the Telemedicine Day that took place earlier this year is currently still available at www.telemedizintag.de.

A new approach to standards for active and healthy ageing



At European and international level, **standards** are considered more and more as an **important driver for the development and design of products and services that are better adapted to the needs, wishes and challenges of older people**. **PROGRESSIVE**, a European funded project, is working towards more and better involvement of older people in the traditional standardization processes, by providing an adequate ethical framework, guidance on co-production/co-creation strategies and methodologies, good practice examples, and more.

To this end, PROGRESSIVE has also initiated a new **STAIR-AHA platform** within the European Standardization Organizations CEN/CENELEC. This platform (**STAndards, Innovation and Research for Active and Healthy Ageing**) will promote the inclusion and engagement of older people in the discussion on how standards can help ensure that digital tools and services can help cope with the challenges of Europe's ageing population, and to identify potential improvements in certain standards (that underpin ICT based products and services, incl. obviously eHealth/telehealth solutions).

The STAIR-AHA is organizing a first **meeting** on **October 31, 2018** in **Berlin**, Germany (at DIN, the German Institute for Standardization). If you are active in the "Silver Economy", you should consider joining this meeting. Both people and organizations who are already well acquainted with the world of standards, as well as those who may not yet be actively involved in standardization committees or initiatives are welcome!

More information and an agenda of the meeting can be found [here](#). If you would like to join, register [here](#), or contact info@progressivestandards.org.

National member spotlight - eHealth Development Association of Jordan



The eHealth Development Association (eHDA) of Jordan was established on April 19, 2018 and was accepted as the national member representing Jordan in the ISfTeH two months later.

Establishing eHDA reflects the state of development of eHealth, health informatics and telemedicine education, training and practices in the country. Jordanian health informaticians recognized that it's high time to get the collective effort of specialists together to make a maximum impact on eHealth standardization, data privacy and security, skill development, education, research, publishing and networking.

The main motive behind this voluntary effort has been the desire to build bridges of communication with specialists and interested professionals in this field and to bring about the collective effort, sharing experience, networking, developing this sector and making full use of the Jordanian, Arab and international experiences in the use of computer and telecommunication services in medicine and healthcare delivery.

The Jordanian experience in building eHealth applications and their deployment in healthcare centers, clinics and hospitals is worth studying and serious work to coordinate efforts and improve the capacity of professionals is due.

The founding members agreed on the vision of the Association to aspire for "Excellence, innovation, and pioneering in the use of ICT in the health sector in Jordan". The statute of the Association stated the following objectives to achieve:

1. Support cooperation between non-governmental organizations on the one hand and governmental and non-governmental institutions on the other;
2. Support national telemedicine and eHealth organizations;
3. Promote the cause of telemedicine and eHealth within the country, as well as with international institutions or organizations;
4. Contribute to the dissemination and exchange of knowledge, information and technologies relating to eHealth applications;
5. Promote initial and supplementary theoretical and practical training in the field of telemedicine and eHealth, including its applications throughout the health sector regardless of professional or geographical limits;
6. Support daily activities relating to eHealth research and development and its application
7. Bring together eHealth users, scientists and researchers and sponsors, advisers and manufacturers and distributors and their scientific personnel;
8. Promote the formulation and publication of rules for good practice and also guidelines and information on such practice;
9. Support activities relating to the establishment of appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks for telemedicine and eHealth applications.

The Founding members elected Dr. Najeeb Al-Shorbaji as the President of the Association for a two-year term. Recruitment of members has started with a target of 50 members by end of this year. The Association organized its **first national seminar of eHealth** in Jordan on October 5th in collaboration with the German Jordan University.

Corporate member spotlight - Lush Era Vietnam



Lush Era Vietnam Ltd. is provider of the **Dr.HereOnline** Services Platform, with locations in Taipei, Tokyo, Los Angeles and Hanoi. Dr.HereOnline is a mobile platform that enables the delivery of healthcare services regardless of the geographic location and time.



The company has recently signed a partnership agreement to jointly provide "**Smart Clinic**"

solutions to MeiYu United Clinic and Health Management Center. Smart Clinic is a set of application services based on the Dr.HereOnline service platform to provide services in terms of clinical digitalization, and care/health management services to their members/patients. These services will help MeiYu to increase the patient retention as well as patient satisfaction, and to help transform MeiYu into a primary healthcare clinic, delivering convenient, patient/customer oriented, and cost-effective healthcare.

For more information contact huong@lush-era.com or visit www.dochereonline.com.

Board member spotlight - Eric Bacon

Eric Bacon, President of AMD Global Telemedicine (USA), has a dedication and passion for effectuating change through the use of innovative technology and increasing access to quality healthcare for the world's most underserved and remote populations. For the past two decades, he has spent the better part of his career, designing new telemedicine devices and technology solutions which have been deployed in over fifty countries and used in millions of consults. Eric's role at **AMD Global Telemedicine** has allowed him to play a vital role in the digital transformation of the healthcare industry.



Through Eric's international experience, he has participated in the design and deployment of some of the world's largest telemedicine programs. This involvement in so many programs, has provided Eric a unique perspective of the challenges that not only pilot but also established telemedicine programs face. These challenges vary wildly from geographical limitations, connectivity, clinical regulations and reimbursement policies. Through these experiences he has a unique ability to assist the members of ISFTeH with the growth of their associations and programs.

Eric has an extensive background in financial reporting, international manufacturing and regulatory affairs. Preceding his current role as President of AMD Global Telemedicine, Eric served as Vice President Finance and Operations. Prior to AMD, Eric worked in finance for a software engineering company and as a public accountant with KPMG in Boston.

He currently serves as a member of a Healthcare Advisory Group for one of the world's largest technology companies and is a member of many trade and industry associations. Eric currently presents at numerous telemedicine and healthcare IT forums throughout the world. Eric holds a Bachelors Degree from Nichols College.

Society for Medical Informatics of Bosnia & Herzegovina presents *Acta Informatica Medica*



Acta Informatica Medica is a peer-reviewed, open access journal publishing original articles, professional articles, reviews, viewpoints, and case studies, covering issues in Medical and Health informatics.

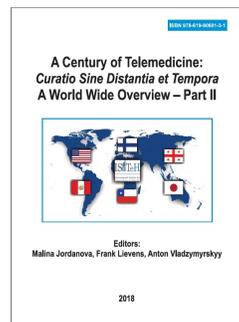


The journal is the official organ of the **Society for Medical Informatics of Bosnia and Herzegovina** (national member in the ISfTeH) and published by the Academy of Medical Sciences of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

At an EFMI (European federation for Medical Informatics) Council meeting, during the **MIE 2018** conference held in Sweden earlier this year, the journal also became the official journal of EFMI.

New volume of "A Century of Telemedicine" published

Part 2 of the book series "A Century of Telemedicine - A World Wide Overview" has just been published. This second edition covers reports by ISfTeH members from **Chile, Finland, Georgia, Japan, Peru** and **USA** with a view on history and status of telemedicine in their countries. The book can be downloaded [here](#) from the ISfTeH website. Part 3 is currently already under preparation for publication in 2019.



New material published on JISfTeH

Three new papers have recently been published in the **Journal of the International Society for Telemedicine and eHealth (JISfTeH)**:

- Reza Sadeghian and colleagues from the Universities of Washington South Alabama present a study on the *The Feasibility and Satisfaction of Using Telemedicine to Provide Tertiary Paediatric Obesity Care*
- Valery Stolyar and colleagues from the RUDN-University in Russia expand on the work in telemedicine education in their paper *Experience and Perspectives of Remote Interactive Training in Medicine*
- Anthony Khoury, an osteopathic student at the New York Institute of Technology, presents an interesting review of *Motion Capture for Telemedicine: A Review of Nintendo Wii, Microsoft Kinect, and PlayStation Move*

Read these and other papers in the **current issue of the JISfTeH**.

The **abstracts of the 22nd ISfTeH Conference** held last December in conjunction with the Moroccan Society for Telemedicine & eHealth are also available from the **Journal**.

Recordings and proceedings of the 23rd ISfTeH International Conference, hosted last March by the Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth, are also available. If you would like to access the recording and proceedings, contact us at info@isfteh.org.

The ISfTeH website now also features a link to all past **Med-e-Tel proceedings**. You can download them from www.isfteh.org/media/category/knowledge_resources. Hard copies are available upon request (contact info@isfteh.org).



Upcoming ISfTeH supported meetings and conferences

24th ISfTeH International Conference
(in conjunction with the Portugal eHealth Summit)
19-20 March 2019
Lisbon, Portugal
www.isfteh.org



ISfTeH Supported Events:

Global Telehealth 2018

10-11 October 2018
Colombo, Sri Lanka
dhw2018.org/globaltelehealth

SFT-18 - Successes and Failures in Telehealth
9th Annual Meeting of the Australasian Telehealth Society

22-24 October 2018
Darwin, Australia
event.icebergevents.com.au/sft-2018

5th European Congress on eCardiology and eHealth

29-30 October 2018
Moscow, Russian Federation
www.ecardiohealth2018.org

Telemedicon'18 - 14th International Conference of the Telemedicine Society of India

1-3 November 2018
Amaravati, India
telemedicon2018.com

1st International Conference on eHealth and Telehealth (ICEHAT)

1-3 November 2018
Kathmandu, Nepal
icehatdisharc.org

EuSoMII Annual Meeting 2018

3 November 2018
Rotterdam, The Netherlands
www.eusomii.pro

11th International Conference on Brain Informatics (BI'18)

International Workshop on Computational Intelligence for Processing Brain Images
(Workshop organized and chaired by Prof. Abdel-Badeeh Salem, ISfTeH member)

7-9 December 2018
Arlington, TX, USA
ecsjournal.org/cibi2018

Portugal eHealth Summit

19-22 March 2019
Lisbon, Portugal
www.ehealthsummit.pt

Pro Digital Health

4-5 April 2019
Poitiers, France
www.pro-digital-health.com

Global Summit Telemedicine & Digital Health

4-6 April 2019
São Paulo, Brazil
www.telemedicinesummit.com.br

Revolutionizing Healthcare with IT

13-14 September 2019
Hyderabad, India
www.transformhealth-it.org

New ISfTeH members



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

National Member:



SIBIM, Ivory Coast

Institutional Member:



*University Children's Hospital Basel,
Switzerland*

Individual Members:

Michelangelo Bartolo, Italy

Ashivini Goel, India

Dari Alhuwail, Kuwait

Ravyn Ramos, USA

Jefferson Fernandes, Brazil

Stephen Katebe, UK

Fabio Ferrari, Italy

Muhammad Thesa Ghozali, Indonesia

Marco Conti, Switzerland

Nurse Members:

Simone Godoy, Brazil

Kirsten Dauterive, USA

Cristiano Alves dos Santos, Brazil

Fiona Fitzgerald, Australia

Student Members:

Lamya Juthy, Bangladesh

Ishan Tiwari, India

Syeda Zoha, Pakistan

[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, Telecardiology, Teledentistry, Teledermatology, Tele-urology. Contact 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.

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:



Andy Fischer



Pirkko Kouri



Neil Nerwich



Eric Bacon



Philippe De Lorme



Hassan Ghazal



Michelle Griffith



Saroj Mishra



Piotr Skarzynski



Adolfo
Sparenberg



Regina Ungerer



Rajendra Pratap
Gupta

Management Board



Yunkap
Kwankam



Frederic
Lievens



Frank
Lievens



Maurice
Mars

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 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!

STAY CONNECTED:



Join the ISfTeH Global Network
Click here for membership application

