

Day 2, Tuesday 22 June 2021 Arab Health By Informa Markets The official daily newspaper of the Arab Health Exhibition

His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum opens Arab Health and Medlab Middle East

By Daily Dose Staff

is Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman of Dubai Airports and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group, officially opened Arab Heath and Medlab Middle East Exhibition and Congress 2021, yesterday.

Under the show theme of 'United by business, driving the industry forward', the co-located events welcomed more than 20,000 attendees during the four-day healthcare and laboratory showcases.

A total of 1,500 exhibitors from 62 countries are present showcasing the latest innovation and new technology as the healthcare sector bounces back following the challenges of COVID-19.

Commenting on the opening of the exhibition, Wouter Molman, Executive Vice President for Informa Markets, said: "As the largest exhibitions for the healthcare and laboratory industry in the MENA region, we have an integral role to play in developing the healthcare sector at both a regional level and also globally.

"Last year, Arab Health and Medlab Middle East generated more than AED 3.7 billion worth of business during the 2020 edition of the show, denoting a 3.7 per cent year-on-year increase. The exhibitions also contributed millions to the Dubai economy through direct and indirect spending from visitors and exhibitors.

"The past 18 months have impacted every sector of business in the world, none more so than the healthcare industry. Having the opportunity to return to a live, in-person event will be instrumental in supporting recovery."

Companies showcasing their latest innovations, including Arab Health's official artificial intelligence (AI) partner Canon Medical, the event's official AI sponsor, will highlight a range of solutions, including a new Automation Platform for HIT, the latest ultrasound technologies, and the company's Advanced Intelligent Clear-IQ Engine for both CT and MR.

Kentaro Suzuki, Medical Division Manager,



Canon Middle East, said: "Canon Medical will continue to invest in the UAE and the Middle East, as it is a key region for our business, and we have already built a range of important and high-profile partnerships in the region.

"Participants who attend Arab Health will get to see firsthand the evolution of diagnostic imaging technologies. Nothing matches the experience of exploring these innovations up close and personal, which is why we are proud to be leading a range of live demonstrations that will showcase the productivity, operational, and workflow benefits of our solutions.

"Last but not least, on behalf of Canon Medical, we would like to thank the UAE Government for controlling the pandemic and making the UAE one of the safest countries in the world to live."

A range of conferences will take place as part of Arab Health Congress today, including two new conferences, Public Health and Pharma & Drug Discovery. Returning tracks include Radiology, Obs & Gyn, Surgery, and PMR. In addition, the Medlab Middle East Congress agenda begins today with Laboratory Management and Haematology.

Both events feature several keynote speeches and scientific lectures, industry briefings, product demonstrations and networking opportunities, as well as a series of pre-arranged one-to-one meetings, with an emphasis on creating lasting relationships.

Arab Health opens with innovation at

Arab Health opened on Monday with a massive tribute to the technologies powering the region's healthcare revolution. With a nod to robotics, artificial intelligence, virtual doctors, mobile testing centers and more, day two promises a lot more discoveries for attendees across pavilions.

"We've brought together $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$ series of industry

heavyweights at the forefront of innovation and technology in the healthcare sector," Ross Williams, exhibition director at Arab Health, said. "Now, more than ever, advances in medical devices are going to play a critical role in global recovery post-Covid-19. In line with the UAE's increasing budget allocation for the healthcare sector and ongoing healthcare development projects, we expect to play a pivotal role in the continued growth."

Innovations on display on the exhibition floor included Dubai Health Care City's Genome Research Centre, a first in the region for studying genetic diseases and causes. It also features Project C37, a private medical co-working space for doctors. Dubai Health Care City also reveals the results of the first study in the region on spinal muscular atrophy using genetic sequencing to treat newborns. You can learn more about these advancements by visiting their stand A30 in Hall 6.



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Danniyeh Royal Trading: providing halal sanitisation solutions

Over-reliance on alcohol-based options and an increase in demand for alternative solutions is diversifying development of traditional sanitisation products.

n th the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, the importance of maintaining highest hygiene standards by using healthcare mandated products, such as sanitisers, in curbing the spread of infection in public places and healthcare facilities cannot be underestimated.

There has been a significant increase in demand for sanitisers, resulting in supply constraints.

Hand sanitisers containing alcohol can disrupt the skin's natural pH and barrier, leaving it open to allergens that can penetrate beneath the surface and induce an autoimmune reaction. Reddening, itching, blisters, swelling, peeling, and cracking are all symptoms of this reaction. According to a new study from Brigham Young University, alcoholfree sanitiser is just as effective as alcohol-based alternatives at disinfecting surfaces from the COVID-19 virus.

The researchers at BYU have hypothesised that the CDC's preference for alcohol sanitiser emerged from the possibility that there may be a lack of information on what works to disinfect SARS-CoV-2.

Danniyeh Royal Trading is a locally owned company, with a wide range of products manufactured in the UAE. They specialise in 100 % natural sanitiser products, which are halal certified and vegan. Multipurpose and disinfectant, the company's line of sanitisers has 99.999 percent kill rate within 30 seconds of application, which eradicates virus and bacteria. Innocuous to the end user, the inspiration behind introducing their line of products to the market has been a response to the gap in supplying alternatives to alcohol based sanitisers.



Samiya Elbek

"We have a genuine need to support healthcare frontliners fighting the battle against COVID-19 by supplying them with diversified products. D anniyeh have been working with major government entities for over a decade, in providing solutions for a wide range of products which fulfill client specific needs," says Samiya Elbeb, Managing Director.

Working closely with their in-house team of medical specialists, according to Elbeb keeps Danniyeh aligned with innovating solutions and products which serve client and patient outcomes.

"Our process of development is focused on client requirements and maintaining international, world class standards. We serve our government and are aligned with their vision to support healthcare through innovative solutions to ensure safety of all," she concludes.



The world's first anti-COVID-19 medication set to roll out from Abu Dhabi

Abu Dhabi is the first city in the world to receive shipment of a new anti-Covid-19 medication.

he world's newest anti-viral treatment for COVID-19, Sotrovimab, is now available for early treatment of certain categories COVID-19 patients in the UAE. This was announced following a landmark agreement between the Abu Dhabi Department of Health, Rafed, and GlaxoSmithKline (GSK). Abu Dhabi received the first shipment of Sotrovimab on June 16, making the capital the first location globally to receive this drug.

Sotrovimab is a monoclonal antibody treatment delivered through intravenous therapy. Sotrovimab can be used to treat adults and children above the age of 12 who meet certain criteria and are at risk of progressing to severe COVID-19, as per protocols that have been developed by the National Scientific Committee. Studies have shown the medicine to prevent hospitalisation and death in 85% of early selected treatment cases. It can also work on all known variations of COVID-19 to date.

The USA Food and Drug Agency has approved the drug under 'emergency use', as has the UAE

Ministry of Health and Prevention (MoHAP) following a national assessment. Abu Dhabi Department of Health and Rafed executed its agreement with the manufacturer to ensure deliveries as early as June and July, enabling patients in the UAE to be among the first in the world to access the new therapy. The National Scientific Committee in MoHAP and Abu Dhabi Department of Health have worked on the treatment protocols that will guide doctors in defining at-risk patients and ensuring that they have access to Sotrovimab according to their risk profile and eligibility criteria.

Abu Dhabi-based Rafed will manage the procurement, storage and distribution of Sotrovimab in a specialised cold-storage facility.

"This medicine is at the forefront of pharmaceutical advancement and is a powerful tool in our fight to end this pandemic," HE Dr. Jamal Mohamed Kaabi, Undersecretary for the Abu Dhabi Department of Health, said. "We look forward to implement the eligibility criteria for emergency use of Sotrovimab as part of Abu Dhabi's commitment

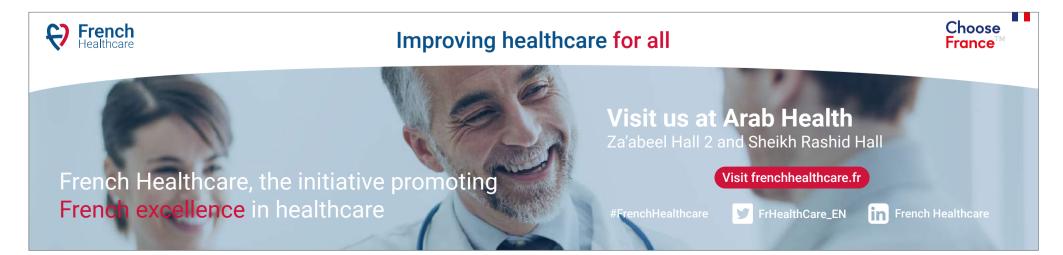


to lead an all-encompassing COVID -19 response in prevention, treatment and care."

Sotrovimab represents a massive breakthrough in the fight against COVID-19. "Through our close collaboration and partnership with the Department of Health and GSK, we have been able to work swiftly in the procurement of the medication to ensure an effective and timely rollout across the UAE. The Rafed Distribution Center continues to fulfil its mission of better serving the

UAE public and extending Abu Dhabi's Covid-19 response to the world," Rashed Al Qubaisi, CEO of

As the Department of Health Abu Dhabi finalises a framework to determine eligibility for Sotrovimab treatment, Etihad Cargo has already transported the first batch of Sotrovimab into the UAE and hopes it is one of many shipments as the nation continues the fight against the biggest pandemic to affect the world in modern times.



Today at a glance

Arab Health 2020 Congress

Conference	Room	Location	Start	Finish
Total Radiology	Sheikh Maktoum Hall	Dubai World Trade Centre	09:20	17:35
Public Health	Abu Dhabi B	Dubai World Trade Centre	09:20	16:40
Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation	Dubai D	Dubai World Trade Centre	08:30	17:35
Obs & Gyn	Grand Ballroom, Level 4	Conrad Dubai	08:50	17:00
Surgery	The Ballroom, Level 4	Conrad Dubai	09:50	17:50
Surgery	The Ballroom, Level 4	Conrad Dubai	08:45	18:00

Medlab Middle East 2021 Congress

Conference	Room	Location	Start	Finish
Histopathology	Bankok Room	Za'abeel Hall 6, Dubai World Trade Centre	09:45	17:45
COVID-19 Special Edition	Dubai Room	Za'abeel Hall 1, Dubai World Trade Centre	09:45	18:00



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Register here: <u>Arab Health Focus Day</u> <u>Medlab Middle East Focus Day</u>





Spotlight on Italy's innovative start-up ecosystem

By Deepa Narwani, Senior Editor

is Excellency Nicola Lener, Ambassador of Italy to the UAE, officially inaugurated the Italian Trade Agency pavilion yesterday, along with Giuseppe Finocchiaro, Italian Consul-General in Dubai and Amedeo Scarpa, Italian Trade Commissioner, Dubai Office/UAE, Oman and Pakistan, Italian Trade Agency (ITA). Fiftyone Italian companies, including eight innovative start-ups, were selected by ITA in its official pavilion to be present at Arab Health.

In an interview with the Daily Dose on the sidelines of the show, Lener said: "Italy is showcasing its innovation capacity in the health sector at Arab Health, which is exciting. Italian companies are investing a lot in healthcare, and the government is supporting them. As a result, we have a very innovative ecosystem in Italy with more than 14,000 start-ups supported by the government who plan to invest 1 billion Euros. Italian healthcare start-ups are some of the most innovative in the world. We are showcasing the ideas, projects, and products of eight start-ups here. There are also other 51 Italian companies showcasing their products, equipment and technologies."

He stressed that COVID-19 has turned out to be a significant catalyst for innovation in Italy, not just in healthcare but also in other sectors. These include mobility, environment, technologies such as cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, and energy use. "We are showcasing and investing a lot of resources to foster the use of technology and digitalisation. In fact, digitalisation has been one of the main pillars of our national recovery and resilience plan."

According to Lener, the UAE and Italy have



From L-R: His Excellency Nicola Lener and Amedeo Scarpa

traditionally had very strong economic relations. The trade exchange between the two countries was more than 8 billion Euros in 2020 and increased across all sectors.

Italy is renowned internationally for its excellence in the Biotech, Pharma and Medical Devices sectors, the three major life science sectors. There are currently 4,323 Italian companies operating in the Medical Devices sector with a total value of 16.7 billion Euros, of which 5.7 billion Euros of this were exported in 2020, a 1.2 per cent increase compared to 2019. On the other side, the UAE's Medical Devices market is expected to reach AED 5.6 billion (US\$1.5bn) by 2025, with an annual compound growth rate (CAGR) of 4.4 per cent from 2020, and our manufacturers are in a

strong position to support the county's growth.

Scarpa shared that even during the pandemic, the trade relations between Italy and the UAE witnessed significant growth. Highlighting the healthcare sector, he shared that the demand is expected to grow 4.4 per cent each year from now until 2025, specifically for medical devices. Growth will also be seen in the life sciences sector in pharmaceuticals and biotech. "That's why we're here. The demand is there; the Italian offer too, demonstrating the good trade relations between the two countries," he added.

When asked about future plans, Scarpa said that Italy is getting ready to participate at Expo 2020 Dubai, where the theme is "Beauty connects people". "When you say beauty, it is related to

healthcare, good food, good style and strong relations. So, we are preparing a great programme for Expo 2020."

He also said that ITA is looking forward to Gitex Future Stars and engaging with the considerable number of incubators in the UAE and want to involve them in the incubation and developing innovative programmes for SMEs and start-ups.

He concluded: "For the first time, Arab Health has made an area dedicated to start-ups from all over the world. Out of these, eight start-ups are from Italy, which means 25 per cent of the total start-ups exhibiting at Aran Health are Italian!

Visit the Italian Pavilion in Hall 7

How post-COVID radiology will be shaped by data-driven insights powered by AI

By Matthew Brady, Head of Content



t a Total Radiology session during Arab Health 2021 on "Digital Prognosis: COVID-19, data and the future of the industry", GE Healthcare's Catherine Estrampes, President and CEO EMEA, and Prof Dr Mathias Goyen, Chief Medical Officer EMEA, combined to consider new radiology opportunities in the pandemic.

Acknowledging that 2020 was "extremely challenging", Estrampes nonetheless highlighted four key trends emerging in the pandemic, with digital at the centre of each:

- A growing acceptance of virtual or remote interactions (such as the Arab Health conference itself);
- 2. Greater acceptance of AI tools and AI-powered solutions. An example during COVID-19 was its critical care suite was deployed around the world to help with identification and quick triage of Covid patients;
- Rapid innovation in order to ensure that in infectious situations infected patients are separated from non-infected quickly. GE Healthcare's CT in Box was deployed quickly around the world for this purpose, keeping healthcare staff safe; and
- 4. Rethinking of delivery care models. Hospitals are focused on taking care of the sickest, while there is α more integrated delivery

care model deployed with the acceleration of home monitoring and outpatient centres.

Looking ahead, at a post-Covid future she saw three challenges.

First, precision health - how can data be turned into insights with the help of AI tools for more personalised, individualised and targeted care? GE Healthcare aims to be a "primary partner" to providers and governments around precision diagnostics and monitoring

Second, there is a need for a more contemporary digital structure or architecture based on outcomes. GE Healthcare's virtual ICU solution was deployed around the world, including the Middle East, allowing clinicians to remotely and simultaneously monitor highly critical patients in the ICU. 220 'Command Centers' were additionally deployed worldwide, to better manage the operations of a hospital using AI and digital technologies.

The third challenge is how to foster collaboration around aggregated data, between hospitals and departments. Estrampes shared the example of accelerated collaboration during the pandemic between GE Healthcare and the University of Oxford around predictive applications.

Shifting the focus of rehabilitative care in India

By Deepa Narwani, Senior Editor



OVID-19 is continuing to wreak havoc in India. According to a recent World Health Organization (WHO) report, hospitals in India were fighting for beds and oxygen in April and May in response to the deadly surge in infections. The country accounted for nearly half the coronavirus cases reported worldwide and a quarter of the deaths.

In an interview with *Daily Dose*, Dr Nirmal Surya, Consultant, Neurologist, Surya Neuro Centre; Founder Trustee & Chairman, Epilepsy Foundation of India, Mumbai, India, said that the situation started getting bad for India in March where significant number of cases were reported as the virus became much more virulent. The other complications included Mucormycosis or black fungus. "That's a major problem. High mortality rates were reported, along with a rise in neurological problems. We also saw more younger people getting affected," he explained.

Due to the wide-ranging lockdowns in the country in 2020, rehabilitation services came to a complete standstill. For outpatient services, therapists started adopting telemedicine and tele-neurorehabilitation. By the time the second



Dr Nirmal Surya

wave hit, the therapists were better prepared as most of them had received both the vaccination doses and had sufficient PPE kits to feel confident to continue going to the hospitals. So, while rehabilitation services were affected, the situation was not as bad as when the first wave hit.

Tech to the rescue

Before COVID-19 hit, telemedicine was not legal in India. However, in March 2020, the Government of India came up with guidelines about how telemedicine can be practised. Dr Surya explained that telemedicine could be done for people who require follow-ups. So, any patient who might have been treated in the past can opt for telemedicine, and the therapist can keep track of the status of their medicines. Also, there has to be an emergency where there is an urgent need to see the physician.

"We have developed various platforms for telemedicine," he said. "Several IT companies in India have created platforms where therapists can conduct only audio or video consultations. The payment gateway is linked, and the situation can be reported immediately, and a prescription can be given if certain requirements are met."

However, he stressed that while some doctors have been consulting through Whatsapp videos, they need to be careful and maintain reports.

"There are some challenges, but there are guidelines in place that will keep on improving the various organisations who have started the training. In my organisation, we have been doing systematic training programmes. Recently, we conducted these for paediatric telemedicine and looked at how paediatric patients will be examined," he added.

Some other challenges that telemedicine poses include issues with bandwidth. For instance, patients in villages might not have a smartphone or a carer next to them who understand the rehabilitation exercises being taught.

Dr Surya emphasised: "Telerehabilitation need to go hand in hand with the family. In the long



term, the family person at home does exercises for the patient under their supervision. For 10 years, I have been talking about this, but people were not accepting. But COVID has changed this, and both the patients and families see the benefit."

Another challenge, according to him, is that with telerehabilitation, how does the therapist assess the muscle? How can they assess the various activities available? "We are working on developing various acts of the exercises, which can be accessed through the mobile phone and can be done with the home. We are currently working on learning the exercise protocols for stroke, Parkinson's, and neck and back pain," he added.

Dr Surya stressed that rehabilitation is changing, and multidisciplinary teams will have to plan out similar treatment programmes for patients at home. The family will become a key point along with telemedicine and telerehabilitation.

"We need to develop long-term mobile apps with proper exercise protocols, which is easy to follow. So that patient need not travel to the hospital unnecessarily. They should come only for a specific reason and when they require urgent care. But once they improve from their condition and go home, the therapy should change and incorporate home care," he concluded.

Dr Surya is participating in the panel discussion 'COVID 19 pandemic and rehabilitation – the global experience' at 12:55 at the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Conference.

France, a global player in medical devices at the cutting edge of innovation

France has a strong presence at Arab Health 2021, bringing 51 businesses to further herald its medical expertise. Located in the French Healthcare pavilion organized by Business France in Za'abeel Hall 2 and Sheikh Rashid Hall, they are unveiling their latest innovations designed to take up major challenges in healthcare.

French Healthcare shows off its strong medtech expertise at Arab Health 2021

As a high point for innovation at Arab Health every year, French Healthcare businesses have formed strong bonds with countries in the region over recent years. France enjoys an excellent reputation, not only for its innovation capacity but also for the partnerships and commercial relations it sustains with Middle Eastern firms.

The most represented sectors in 2021 at the French Healthcare pavilion are consumer goods, diagnostic tests, digital health, hospital and medical equipment, medical gas equipment, orthopedics and physiotherapy/rehabilitation.

Among the French healthcare businesses, the following businesses will be displaying their newest solutions: Sublimed (treatment of chronic pain), Lamidey Noury (a leading French manufacturer of electrosurgical solutions), Noraker (reconstruction of patients after orthopedic or dental surgery), TMM Software (digitalization of patients pathway), Hoppen (digital solutions for healthcare centers), Chronolife (Predictive artificial intelligence of patients' health status) and Scaleo Medical (innovative medical devices).

French Healthcare: a collective brand to merge the strengths of the French ecosystem globally

French Healthcare is a public-private initiative aimed at bringing together French businesses, researchers and healthcare professionals to jointly promote their activities, expertise, technologies and innovations internationally. Amongst its numerous fields of competence, France stands out in patient care, oncology, surgical devices, orthopedics, radiology, treatment of medical waste, sterilization and disinfection, to name just a few.

An all-new website!

To promote the many advantages of the French healthcare industry, French Healthcare has launched a new website, with the latest news, events and innovations in pharma, biotech, medtech and digital health. If you are looking to get innovative solutions, get mappings of French solutions, get medical treatment or training in France, develop a business, medical or scientific partnership with a French firm, or invest in France, please visit: www.frenchhealthcare.fr.

Re-inventing oncology through French Healthcare excellence

France stands out around the world, thanks to its effective and innovative healthcare solutions to fight cancer. It has one of the best cancer cure rates and is positioned as a leader in cancer research, with more than 130 research projects and 13 Nobel Prizes in medicine. France is recognized the world over for its excellence in oncology, the top quality of its infrastructures using cutting-edge technologies, its longstanding expertise in care, patient management (prevention, diagnosis and treatment) and research, as well as for its global approach to oncology, offering industrial, technical and scientific expertise. Oncology is the leading therapeutic area of the French HealthTech industry.

To highlight French expertise and innovative solutions in the field of oncological treatment, the French Healthcare Association and Business France have organized a webinar available ondemand on the Main Stage of the Arab Health –



Swapcard platform:

https://connections.arabhealthonline. com/event/arab-health/planning/ UGxhbm5pbmdfNTA1MjIz

French excellence in this medical branch extends well beyond the field of medicine to encompass pharmaceuticals, biotechnologies, medtech and its pool of digital health players, spearheading French startups in the health sector. To reveal the breadth of this expertise, the French Healthcare Association and Business France have published a Cancer Map, which highlights all the French solutions in the field of oncological treatment: consultancy and training expertise, organizational and industrial solutions, partnerships for research, medical training for foreign professionals in France and treatment of international patients in France.

France: a cutting-edge world-class player in medical industry

The swiftness and scale of the Covid-19 pandemic cast the light on the crucial importance of scientific and medical innovation. It also offered a reminder of the importance of global public health issues in prevention, diagnosis and therapeutic innovation. France is one of the key players in this dynamic and has many key strengths that form the architecture of an efficient and innovative health system. If

France is now recognized as having designed one of the most successful and equitable public health models in the OECD, it is because it has long built up a training system premised on excellence for healthcare professionals, hailed worldwide for their expertise. France's basic research is also internationally renowned for the avant-gardism and importance of its work, while its pharmaceutical industry forms another major pillar of France's medical excellence, through the role played by its first-rate international players combined with the innovation dynamics of the startup ecosystems and SMEs established across the country.

With more than 1,500 businesses, mostly (93%) SMEs, and €30 billion in annual revenues, including €9 billion from exports – an increase of 10% between 2017 and 2019 – France is the second biggest market in Europe. These firms of all sizes employ nearly 90,000 people working in a large number of fields, such as e-health, surgical robotics, telemedicine, optical technologies, wound healing, medical imaging and many more. The key to the French medtech successes is innovation and R&D. With 3,750 patents per year, France is ranked fifth in the world for the filing of international patents in the medical device sector. (source: SNITEM, 2019)

In the United Arab Emirates, France is the fourth largest supplier of pharmaceutical products

and has developed substantial economic and commercial activity, with many subsidiaries already established in the health sector, such as Sanofi, Ipsen, Servier, Air Liquide and Hygienair.

France: an attractive destination for healthcare businesses to expand or invest

France has set the ambition of becoming the leading nation for industry and innovation in healthcare. To strengthen its position as a global hub for healthtech and to become the leading European nation for healthcare, France, which already has a strong export industry, wants to welcome foreign businesses and has developed an active policy to attract them. The aim is to reinforce the growth of a positive healthcare ecosystem and, in so doing, dynamize the development of each of its stakeholders.

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Solutions for hybrid operating room

Case Study: Freiberg Hospital

Article provided by Hillrom



Dr. Thomas Zimmermann, Chief Physician at Freiberg Hospital, Germany

The Hybrid OR: No longer a trend

"Hybrid operating rooms are state-of-theart. Nothing can be done any more without interventional surgery," says Dr. Thomas Zimmermann, Chief Physician at Freiberg Hospital.

In 2012, Freiberg Hospital added to its range of services by offering vascular surgery to its patients. However, getting there was a long journey preceded by extensive planning of the hybrid OR in consultation with all the. relevant stakeholders.

"You can only set up a vascular surgery service if you also offer interventions. Without a hybrid OR, that is practically impossible. Physicians who specialize purely in vascular surgery don't exist anymore — they have to be able to perform interventional surgery," Dr. Zimmermann explains.

Vascular surgery has now grown beyond the boundaries of the town of Freiberg. Located in a district of Central Saxony with a population of approximately 250,000, the hospital is running at full capacity.



A major advantage of the hybrid OR is the flexibility, specifically for anesthetists, who can choose between positioning at the head or foot end.

"Here in Freiberg, we are able to diagnose and treat patients ourselves and, therefore, offer everything from a single source. As a result, we have a lot of patients and the cost of the hybrid OR was amortized quickly."

One of the major advantages of the new hybrid OR is that it can be used across a number of disciplines. Vascular surgery accounts for up to 80 per cent of the room's usage with interventional pelvic and limb angiography, but also performs stent implantation and treatment for aortic aneurysms.

Ideal for patient positioning

Due to the range of possible interventions, Freiberg Hospital opted for the TS 7500 System Table from the company Hillrom. The table's exchangeable tabletop system is compatible with the other OR tables used at the clinic and communicates with the Siemens Artis zeego®. Both the OR table and the imaging system can be

controlled simultaneously using the Artis zeego® mobile control module.

Since May of 2016, the Carbon FloatLine tabletop has been in use in the hybrid OR. "The table is ideal for positioning, and there are a lot of accessories. I can position patients exactly how I want. We are extremely pleased with the new OR tabletop," enthuses

Dr. Zimmermann. "Previous to the Carbon Floatline, we weren't able to treat extensive aneurysms. The OR tabletop is very well suited to transbrachial and transfemoral procedures. Now, due to its flexibility and maximum scan positioning length of 1.75 m*."

Dr. Zimmermann says he is completely satisfied with the design of his hybrid OR. In addition to the standard set of monitors in the hybrid room, Dr. Zimmerman requested a second set of monitors that can be sterilely adjusted by the surgeon. Hillrom fulfilled this request by expanding the dual-arm configuration of the two TL 5000 OR



Freiberg Hospital, Central Saxony, Germany

lights to include a third light arm to accommodate two monitors.

Due to the wide variety of application possibilities in a hybrid room, staff training is essential in order to utilize the room to its maximum efficiency. "The training sessions were very good and are repeated at regular intervals so that the whole team of doctors and nurses can gradually be trained," explains the Chief Physician. Because the majority of the OR staff has been trained on the hybrid system, it can generally be used 24 hours a day.

"I control the system myself and set up my workstation so that it's just how I need it. That was also a reason why we chose Siemens Artis zeego®. A conventional C-arm would require more personnel."

"We like working with the new system," the Chief Physician summarizes. "Everything is just right for us. We are very pleased."

*The range that can be scanned by Artis zeego® (without head positioning)



Mitigating laboratory errors

Shirely Luciap breaks down interpreting and navigating incidents through practical approaches

By Fatima Abbas, Content Executive

Below is a look at four pointers which have been implemented by the Laboratory and Quality Manager at King's College to migrate errors

Detect

"Be Sherlock, it's important that we detect the error for us to report it. Without detection, we cannot document it, we cannot report it and we cannot find any solution. Very straightforward. Approach"

Ownership

"Be Rambo, sometimes, the level of our ownership is really directly proportional to our action. Sometimes if we don't own the problem, we don't seriously take the action. This happens numerous times, and I've observed it myself that sometimes a technician says 'No, that wasn't labeling happened in the nurses. Why do I need to take an action?it's their fault'. But then it is unfortunate to that way before the specimen is received in the laboratory, laboratory error already occurred. And it's called pre analytical error."

Measure

"Next element is the Wonder Woman, when I call measure it to management, shout out to the women in the house. You cannot manage what you cannot measure. So I want to drill down even better a little bit on this, we need to understand



the magnitude of the error, analyze it, review it drill down into the event, then only then you'll be able to see and find a solution. Check what is the frequency of the event, the severity and probability of occurrence, then you'll be able to build muscle on how you will manage the error"

Analyse

"Measue and analyze data. We take all the complaints from patients, clients, and doctors seriously. We include in our analysis. If you find your KPIs not performing well, drill down even more. If it's performing well, change to a new one. Feel free to roll out satisfaction surveys, to physicians, nurses, and even to your patients. It's one way for you to understand what's going on, listen to the voice of the customer. Your external quality control performances, listen to them, they are communicating every piece of information of what is being worked on in the laboratory.

Portable electrotherapy device shows great results in pain relief



rab Health 2021 is hosting the manufacturers of one of the most innovative medical technologies – the SCENAR devices. Initially created for the Russian space industry, SCENAR is a Class IIa medical device for bio-controlled electrostimulation in order to eliminate pain and other related conditions. This is a portable device that can replace a physiotherapy cabinet.

The concept of a unique portable medical device called SCENAR was created in the 1980s by a group of ambitious Russian scientists. Requested by the government, it was originally developed for the needs of the Soviet army forces and space industry. The idea of replacing the first aid kit with just one simple-to-operate device and having a reliable lightweight portable medical device which positive effects can be easily obtained on the Earth's orbit was fascinating and defined the future way of SCENAR development for many years.

As it happened with other formerly secret technologies like the Internet or GPS, SCENAR became available for everyone and rapidly gained popularity in Russia. From the beginning of the XXI century, it started to spread around the world and now is one of the most advanced treatment devices.

SCENAR uses a unique technology of adjusting to physiological neuro impulses of the body that helps it to activate the recovery processes and achieve quick positive results. Its main purpose is pain management, but it is proven to be effective in the treatment of such conditions as the pain of unknown origin, myositis, fibromyalgia, acute and subacute traumas, edemas, and lymphedemas, neuritis, chronic pain, postsurgical and posttraumatic pains.

The unique effects of SCENAR are based on scientific research, which results were proved by decades of clinical practice. In order to make it even more effective and improve the patient's well-being, the research never ends – currently, the scientific work is carried out in the Institute of Pain (France), Australia, and New Zealand, and recently the research aimed at expanding the scope of application was successfully made in Spain. Overall, there are more than several dozens of scientific works observing SCENAR. All that allowed SCENAR to be officially approved effective not only for pain relief but for treatment purposes as well.

For more info visit https://scenar.com.ru/en/ Visit them at booth no. Z2.L51



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Laboratory leadership starts with accurate benchmarking and a focus on people

Maintaining quality during a pandemic starts with standardising best practice, according to a panel of experts at Medlab.

By Daily Dose Staff

ne of the most important factors to successfully navigate through uncertainty is to be prepared, said Dr Patrick Godbey, founder and laboratory director at Southeastern Pathology Associates. Speaking remotely from Brunswick, Georgia, yesterday, Dr Godbey explained how benchmarking best practices helps keep labs in check, even at times of uncertainty. "Pandemic preparedness comes from having the knowledge and support from worldwide experts. Accredited labs receive clear guidance on the verification and validation of their practices. The most significant changes you'll see is in quality management and infection control," he said.

Dr Godbey is also president of the College of American Pathology (CAP), which explains his advocacy for accreditation and standardisation, particularly for COVID-19 testing. "The foundation of good healthcare is a high quality laboratory. A quality lab that can provide diagnostic confidence comes from preparedness and proficiency testing and external quality assessment (EQA)," he explained. "And not just any accreditation, one built with the expertise of practicing pathologists using a model of guidance of what to do and how to do it," he added.

EQA or proficiency testing provides benchmarking opportunities based on volume of testing, supply and more. It is important to be able to monitor and compare results and standards



across multiple instruments or locations.

For in-person event panellist, Dr Ismail Bakhsh, Consultant Clinical Scientist at National Medical Care Co in Riyadh, a main challenge for

laboratories today is that "change sometimes needs to be forced".

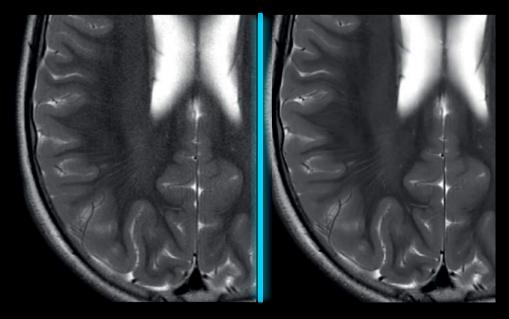
"Laboratories may resist changes to standardisation, consolidation and centralisation,

which are all required to maintain excellence," he explained. "The challenge is also cultural. Having support from the leadership is the key component here. Leadership teams need to advocate for the clients, which are the patients, while also providing a smooth experience for physicians. The lab staff only comes into this cycle towards the end. Change needs to start from the top."

Ultimately, laboratories are like many other businesses and have been affected by the pandemic to varying degrees depending on their location, patient care levels and most importantly, their own work culture. "As with many other organisations, labs of all sizes and specialisations have been impacted by the current coronavirus pandemic," said another panellist Shirley Luciap, Laboratory and Quality Manager at King's College Hospital London in Dubai. Many teams face communication blocks which makes acknowledging errors and maintaining excellence near impossible. "Being in the lab field for the last 20 years, I can connect with the experiences and responses of laboratory staff, and communication is a key area that needs to be improved."

Other topics covered in Medlab on Monday included Changes and advances in the field of pathology, and Current and future Pointof-Care Tests for emerging viruses and future perspectives.

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Role of footwear and assistive technology in alleviating problems related to high-risk foot

By Nachiappan Chockalingam, Director, Centre for Biomechanics and Rehabilitation Technologies, Staffordshire University, Stoke-on-Trent, UK

usculoskeletal conditions were the leading cause of disability in four of the six WHO regions in 2017. It has been estimated that approximately 1.5 per cent of the world's population needs assistive devices to alleviate suffering but only 5–15 per cent of this affected population has access to these devices. Foot related problems and pain are common in approximately 24-30 per cent of the adult population. This is reportedly one of the top 20 reasons for seeing a doctor by people of age 65 or over. In addition, foot problems are associated with reduced mobility, decreased leg strength and an increase in the incidence of falls in frail adults. Foot pain and pathology can be disabling, eventually leading to more complex orthopaedic complaints and footwear is often viewed as a significant factor in the development and persistence of foot pain.

Footwear can alter human gait and the physical characteristics of footwear often impact on dorsal and plantar pressure. Footwear advice is a critical part of patient care and should be considered for every clinical assessment. Individual needs should be matched to the footwear style as well as the physical characteristics. Consideration should also be given to the role footwear has in self-awareness, image, and fashion in addition to its function.

Assessment of current practices of footwear advice provided by healthcare professionals shows that often the advice is based on the clinician's experience and training as well as a personal preference rather than original research.

Also, little is known about the impact of everyday footwear choice on foot biomechanics and the development of pathologies. Our collection of work assesses the impact of footwear choice on foot biomechanics. The novel work on the subject of gaining consensus on where flexibility and support should be given on school shoes for 6 to10-year-olds yielded interesting insights into the current understanding of clinical experts in the field of paediatric footwear. It highlighted the lack of knowledge and confidence in the effects of children's footwear. Our further interdisciplinary work examining modern footwear and

their association with the development of foot pain and pathology in the ageing adult clearly showed that foot health issue does not alter young women's footwear purchases. 162 teenage girls were questioned regarding shoes purchased over six months. The results indicated that footwear choices are activity-specific, and participants chose the style and design of shoes for the image they wanted to portray. Association of footwear choice to foot health was not found to influence their choice of footwear. In older adults, pressurerelated skin lesions on the digits cause significant discomfort. Most foot pain related to ill-fitting shoes occurs in the forefoot or the digital areas and has been associated with poor shoe fit, reduced toe box volume, as well as the contour and shape of the shoe. Off-the-shelf medical-grade footwear is designed as an intervention for chronic lesions on the digits. Our research investigated the effect of an off-the-shelf, medical-grade shoe on dorsal digital pressure and perceived comfort when compared to the participant's preferred shoe. Our work showed medical-grade footwear to be a viable alternative to custom-made prescription footwear and more suitable than a regular everyday shoe when treating digital lesions associated with pressure. One of the key pressure associated complications is related to the diabetic foot. Currently, diabetes is a major cause of lower limb amputation, and it is a significant global challenge. Every 30 seconds a lower limb is amputated somewhere in the world as a consequence of diabetes, and people with diabetes are six times more likely to undergo an amputation because of a non-healing ulcer than people without diabetes. Footwear and orthotic interventions are designed to reduce these ulcer incidences in the foot that is at risk of ulceration.

Whilst, inappropriate or ill-fitting footwear increases foot pain, reduces balance, impedes clinical rehabilitation, and increases hyperkeratotic lesions, they are also the front-line treatment for many of these issues along with orthoses. Anecdotal reports from patients and clinicians suggest foot orthoses achieve much success in alleviating discomforts and symptoms. Yet,

the scientific community has not reached a consensus on their biomechanical effects. The core objective of our research is to study the external factors impacting foot orthoses and to assess biomechanical effects. Our previous work established the effect of simple non-moulded flatbased insoles on three-dimensional foot motion during normal walking. Factors such as casting and practitioner variability, the type of device (custommade orthoses vs. prefabricated orthoses) and the midsole composition have been the focus of further work. Using a single patient clinically assessed by 11 different foot-care specialists, inter-practitioner variability was assessed, finding a large amount of variation introduced by the practitioners themselves. Consequently, we suggested taking great caution, when transferring or generalising results on the biomechanical effects of custommade foot orthoses.

Also, clinicians need a good understanding of the properties and characteristics of materials used to manufacture orthoses to make informed decisions on the most appropriate material to meet their patients' needs. Given that there are no standardised testing methods for assessing materials used in orthoses and that much of the research examining materials are outdated our research has addressed some of the pertinent clinical questions. Our research has influenced the development of materials performance indexes to show that flat insoles made from medium density PU were superior to the other materials for pressure off-loading and when constructed into an orthotic PU provided similar off-loading capabilities as the EVA materials. This work has also resulted in the development of shoe and orthotic designs for foot at risk. Significant changes in the orthotics industry are anticipated shortly due to advances in both material science and technology. While traditionally orthoses were handcrafted recent advances initiated the use of CAD/CAM manufacturing and more recently additive manufacturing/3D printing has started to be utilised in orthoses production. The use of additive manufacturing results in the use of



Nachiappan Chockalingam

different materials in the production of orthoses.

Many external factors influence the effects foot orthoses have on patients, especially those factors present before the orthoses are dispensed to the patients. Nevertheless, orthotic interventions should take as many factors as possible into account to allow accurate, appropriately defined, and predictable outcomes. It is particularly important that children and young people needing orthotic intervention get it quickly and that the orthoses are well fitted and of good quality. If they have to wait many months to obtain the correct orthoses, most will have outgrown them before they are fitted and endured unnecessary pain and immobility. It also undermines the work of the rehabilitation team and sometimes results in the need for further surgery and dependency on a wheelchair. This affects not only their physical health but also their mental health resulting in a compromised psychological, emotional and social

References available on request

Prof Chockalingam will be discussing the 'Role of footwear and assistive technology in alleviating problems related to high-risk foot' at 16:35 at the Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Conference.

New 'lab on wheels' mobile testing stations soon to be norm in MENA

G42 and Seegene ink partnership deal at Medlab on Monday to bring mobile testing stations to the Middle East and North Africa.

By Daily Dose Staff

AE-based healthtech company Group 42 (G42) and South Korean in vitro diagnostic products manufacturer Seegene signed a memorandum of understanding at Medlab yesterday, which cements a partnership to bring mass COVID-19 testing to the region. Seegene's latest innovation is a fully equipped mobile diagnostics and testing station, also marketed as a 'lab on wheels'.

The mobile station is optimised for all multiplex real-time PCR testing, which helps technicians easily differentiate COVID-19 and variants. This is the first time a mass testing solution has been delivered on such a scale for real-time and accuracy. According to Seegene, the solution is adaptable for post-pandemic uses as well.

The MoU was signed by Ashish Koshy, CEO of G42 Healthcare, and James Park, Seegene Executive Director at Medlab Middle East on Monday.

"The mobile testing services will further augment our business portfolio across the MENA region and help in reaching out to various markets, ensuring swift detection, and allowing patients to benefit from the most informed decision possible, regardless of the location," Koshy said.

The Mobile Station also includes an equipment room and an extraction room, and provides optimised molecular diagnosis and tests at any



location to safequard the health of communities.

"The Mobile Station will significantly contribute to the mitigation efforts as it will help governments to control areas where epidemics spread easily and to place the laboratory near crowded places, such as community events," James Park, Seegene Executive Director, said.

The MoU signed means the UAE, Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Sudan, Palestine, Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Lebanon, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Yemen will all have access to mobile testing.

The all-in-one platform enables 2,000 tests per day including 225 pathogens in 10 different criteria and offers a streamlined automated workflow from pre-extraction to data analysis.

The mobile station is on display and for exploration at Zabeel Hall 6, stand B40.

"The Mobile Station will significantly contribute to the mitigation efforts as it will help governments to control areas where epidemics spread easily and to place the laboratory near crowded places, such as community events," James Park, Seegene Executive Director, said.





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By Informa Markets

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"Technology will broaden the scope of our jobs": Laboratory leaders

Pathologists have arguably become the rockstars of healthcare, according to a panel of laboratory leaders who spoke at Medlab yesterday.

By Daily Dose Staff

he pandemic presented challenges and opportunities in laboratory management at a scale and depth never experienced before. For pathologists, this presents a unique chance for laboratory staff to strengthen their foothold within hospitals and the wider healthcare industry.

"Technology isn't a threat to our industry. In fact, it's exactly what we need to really drive home the importance of laboratories in today's health landscape," said Dr Firas Al-Delfi, Consultant Pathologists and Chairman of Pathology, Laboratory Medicine Department, SEHA-AHS. "Today's pathologists and technologists aren't just in the labs. We are involved in marketing, management and much more, thanks to technology boosting efficiencies. This is a trend that will continue over the next few decades."

Labs are right at the forefront of patient care now, especially with the pressure on turnaround times and accuracy of tests during the pandemic. "Labs don't just give results. It's an integral part of the hospital. We are involved in the yearly budget, from a staffing point of view, introduction of new tests, acquiring new equipment and more," Dr Rita Tanios, Laboratory Director at Clemenceau Medical Center said.

The panellists concluded by acknowledging how the changing role of laboratory teams can open up opportunities for future generations of healthcare professionals.

"COVID-19 has shown just how important lab staff are for holistic patient care. There's nothing to say pathologists can't become the CEOs, CMOs or COOs of hospitals. With the right person, the answer is yes," added Dr Al-Delfi.

"Patients come first, and everything else comes after that"

For more information on the latest advancements in laboratory processes and more, visit Medlab Middle East, Dubai Room, Zabeel Hall 6.

Quantum Operation Inc. presents progress in the world's first noninvasive glucose monitor

t Arab Health 2021, Quantum Operation Inc., a Tokyo-based healthcare IoT startup, is presenting the progress in their world's first noninvasive glucose monitor. Quantum Operation will report its sensor's accuracy by showing comparison data with SMBG before and after eating chocolate. As a result, in addition to the small difference in accuracy, they are able to prove that they could capture change in values for postprandial blood glucose. This is the first noninvasive glucose monitor which has shown this change in public in the world.

The company's patented spectrum sensing technology enables the monitoring sensor to accurately measure glucose in a person's bloodstream through the skin while being worn around their wrist. This monitor eliminates the need – and pain – of daily needle uses for diabetic patients and enables truly continuous measurement. During Arab Health 2021, Quantum Operation will also showcase its oxygen saturation measuring sensor (SpO2) that can be worn around the wrist.

The key to achieving this noninvasive 24/7 monitoring are Quantum Operation's core technologies that include the novel spectrometer materials – one of which is designed to emit an optimal spectrum, and another that is highly responsive to target spectra – as well



as the innovative firmware that efficiently extract targeted data by canceling noise. These technologies can be used to measure all types of vital signs, ranging from heart rate to electrocardiography (ECG).

"After announcement at CES 2021, our sensor received a very strong response from all over the world. In particular, many diabetic patients asked us to produce this sensor as soon as possible, and we strongly felt the social significance of this product once again," said Quantum Operation CEO Kazuma Kato. "Our goal is to improve the lives of diabetics who have to endure daily needle sticks and pain, and we will continue to make progress toward that goal. We are very excited to share our sensing technology and disease management solutions with the world through Arab Health 2021."









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