



Abstracts

Alexandre Lourenço - Centro Hospitalar e Universitário de Coimbra

The new reality of our healthcare systems

The way that the COVID-19 crisis is affecting hospital activities is profound. All this means enormous changes in care provision and the hospital's configuration. When the crisis is under control, we will start moving in the opposite direction. We still have to see what happens next, but it is already clear that returning to our cruise velocity will be quite hard. With all this in mind, we will have to manage a dual system of service delivery balancing service capacity for COVID-19 and the more common activities. Most of the effort will be directed to catch up on the cancelled activity. In this sense, eHealth services that were boosted during the peak of the crisis will be essential to reconfigure services. Within this digital transformation, care integration and predictive analytics will be a regular step for the healthcare system. But don't forget that the system will need to be flexible enough to respond swiftly to seconds waves or even to other epidemics.

Professor Gert Van Assche - UZ Leuven

Digital transformation of hospitals, and initiatives in UZ Leuven

The digital transformation is an inevitable evolution in the hospital world. This transformation is likely to gain momentum as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. Digital appointments, communication via secure electronic channels, mobile apps with access to the patient file and video consultations will radically change the interactions between patients and the care providers.

Supporting intelligent build up by data-driven health care in Twente: towards a citizen science approach

We are lacking a good overview of the people who are or have been affected with the covid-19 virus, despite the efforts of RIVM, the GGDs and others. Our approach stems from citizen science, in which citizens are actively involved through technology to increase the insights and knowledge on the spread of the virus. Several apps have been introduced to check on individuals if and what kind of corona related symptoms they are having. Some of them are part of a triage system to support medical professionals in selecting potential corona patients, to decrease the pressure on health care organizations. For example, in the Netherlands, the Luscii app was introduced first by OLVG hospital in Amsterdam, after which several other Dutch hospitals followed, such as Medical Spectrum Twente (MST). The app is now available for every citizen, the same accounts for other apps such as the COVID radar, developed together with LUMC. Practical and managerial implications: These apps are applied for self-assessment and self-management - can we use these technologies to support citizens in an active way? We approach the research question(s) from a transdisciplinary way of working, including not only experts in the medical and technical field but also social sciences, data scientists, ethics and philosophy of technology, organization science, and experts in the field of citizen science. How can these technologies support citizens in an active manner to increase the insights and overview on the spread of the Covid-19 virus? How can we include citizens to be better informed for a 2nd and 3rd wave? Can knowledge generated by citizens support science? For example, over the last weeks an increase of loss of smell and taste were mentioned by infected people. How can we use technology to support citizens to report on these 'new' symptoms? How can the data of the Luscii app be combined with GIS-data (such as from Kadaster) to create a more comprehensive overview on the spread of the virus? And how can this data be FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable)?

Dr Sofia Segkouli - CERTH, The Centre of Research & Technology , Hellas

ICT enabled care services for seniors

In terms of ACTIVAGE, a large scale project based on IoT technologies, a monitoring platform was developed by the Greek deployment side and more specifically by CERTH while the municipal enterprise Cities Net of the Municipalities of Central Greece and its competence center e-trikala of the Municipality of Trikala have been involved in the health scenario of integrated care. In particular two different types of services have been deployed: (1) “Smart home” service, based on an IoT platform, to promote the independent living of elderly people living alone >65 years, (2) ICT enabled Integrated Care service, based on an IoT platform, to support the effective management of patients with chronic diseases living in their own homes. The pandemic crisis of COVID 19 and the lockdown brought new challenges in the smooth operation of the aforementioned services. Therefore regional strategies have been planned, deployed and followed with consistency to face this crisis in terms of the project sustainability, such as telecare and telehealth services for elderly and patients of Type 2 Diabetes, to ensure the continuation of ‘smart home’ and health services, and prevent the exposure of patients due to physical meetings in their homes. To achieve this goal, various stakeholders (i.e. health care professionals, community services) had to cooperate to plan and run the services in different ways due to COVID 19.

Marc van der Zande - Cluster Sports and Technology

Sports & Vitality in the post-COVID19 Economy, what will the future look like and how to prepare for it?

COVID-19 is affecting the Sports & Vitality Sector across Europe with the current business models failing and a “new world economy” emerging. A number of organisations representing clusters and regions organised a webinar on May 19. The goal was to find common approaches to support SME’s in the Sports & Vitality sector to adjust to the new sports economy in the (post) Covid19 era. In this webinar open-discussions among key European stakeholders (Clusters, networks, intermediaries, regional authorities and EU organisations) were held to concretely identify the next steps for the EU networks. Topics were:

What are the problems that the companies/SME’s are facing in our clusters and regions?

What are ways to react to this crisis for clusters, regions and for companies?

What can we do to help converting the SME businesses? What can Europe do?

