



# Newsletter

October 2008  
Volume 1 Issue 4

International Society for Telemedicine and eHealth (ISfTeH)

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## Welcome from the Newsletter Working Group

Dear Colleagues and Partners,

It is pleasure and honor to continue the newsletter activity and to present you this fourth issue of 2008. Please, feel free to email us your comments and suggestions. Thank you, very much for your contributions and assistance. I would like to remind you that the deadline for contributions for next issue of newsletter is 30 January, 2009. Please, feel free to email your comments and suggestions.

Ekaterina Kldiashvili, Ph.D.  
Working Group Newsletters and Communication

## Board news

- *WHO - Fifty-Eight Session of Regional Committee for Europe*
- *News from ISfTeH Students Working Group*

### *WHO - Fifty-Eight Session of Regional Committee for Europe:*

The fifty-eight session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe was held in Tbilisi, Georgia from 15 to 18 September 2008. The topics of this session were:

- The proposed programme budget 2010-2011
- Stewardship/governance of health systems in the European Region
- Behavioural change strategies and health: the role of health systems.

More information can be found at <http://www.euro.who.int/rc>

#### *News from ISfTeH Student's Working Group:*

**Announcement (Second call) - Student's Videoconference Session (Med-e-Tel - Luxembourg, April 01-03, 2009).** This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Call for the 2009 Edition of the "ISfTeH Student's Videoconference Session at Med-e-Tel". The ISfTeH Student's Committee is organizing a special "Student's Videoconference Session" for the next Med-e-Tel Conference, in Luxembourg (April 1-3, 2009). Thanks to a new "ISfTeH & Elluminate®" partnership, several interesting e-learning tools were recently incorporated. These will improve the technological infrastructure for remote presentations, offering facilities for multipoint videoconference sessions, with up to one hundred simultaneous participants.

The objective of this Student's Videoconference Session is to allow full interactivity and dynamic discussions even in low bandwidth circumstances.

The ISfTeH is a NGO in official relation with WHO. The involvement of students in Telemedicine and e-Health is a key element for the sustainability of worldwide eHealth projects. This ISfTeH initiative aims to promote the active participation of students from countries with different technological facilities.

For additional information, please visit the ISfTeH website: <http://www.isft.net/cms/index.php?students-working-group>

To try a free Elluminate vRoom: <http://getvroom?s=CPP0112>

## News/contributions from members

- *Canadian Society of Telehealth*
- *AMD Telemedicine (USA)*
- *The Centre for e-Health*
- *Georgian Telemedicine Union (Association)*
- *Association for Ukrainian Telemedicine and eHealth Development*
- *National Telemedicine and eHealth Council of Pakistan*
- *Fatih University*
- *Engr. N.P. Chowdhry*
- *Thais Russomano and Ricardo Cardoso*

#### *Canadian Society for Telehealth:*

The ISfTeH held a successful conference in conjunction with the Canadian Society of Telehealth in Ottawa October 4<sup>th</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup>. A number of international guests were able to attend and participated in the ISfTeH International Symposium as well as the inaugural meeting of the ISfTeH Telenursing Working Group. The theme of the conference was "Convergence to Care: Patient, Provider and Technology" Three plenary sessions plus numerous workshops, round table sessions and proffered papers were part of the busy program. The CST Annual Conference in 2009 will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, October 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> - book the dates now!

***AMD Telemedicine (USA):***

AMD Global Telemedicine, Inc. visited Panama in August to attend the American Telemedicine Association Latin America & Caribbean Chapter (ATALACC) conference. ATALACC is comprised of professionals from Latin-American and Caribbean countries that are committed to the development of telemedicine and medical informatics and also seeks to provide a forum for the sharing of information and resources in order to educate and promote telemedicine initiatives.

The Meeting was attended by 500 physicians and clinicians who are actively involved in telemedicine. AMD exhibited both deferred and dynamic solutions.

To learn more about AMD Global Telemedicine visit our website at [www.amdtelemedicine.com](http://www.amdtelemedicine.com)

***The Centre for e-Health:***

The Centre for e-Health is holding its 3rd International e-Health and Telemedicine (eHT) Workshop. The workshop is being held on the 27th and 28th of November 2008 in Perth, Australia. This year we have put together a new and exciting format as suggested by previous participants. Experts from around the globe will be ready to discuss successfully implemented telemedicine and e-Health projects.

For more information visit [www.centreforehealth.org.au](http://www.centreforehealth.org.au)

***Georgian Telemedicine Union (Association):***

The Executive Director of Georgian Telemedicine Union (Association), Ekaterina Kldiashvili, introduces the manuscript "Grid Technologies for eHealth: Applications of Telemedicine Services and Delivery". It will be published by IGI Global. The overall objective of this publication centres on the presentation of a unified, effective and resilient telemedicine system through the usage of a Virtual Organization approach implemented via Grid technology. The scientific objective of this publication focuses on presentation of research projects into Grid technologies. Researchers and practitioners are invited to submit a 2-3 page chapter proposal clearly explaining the mission and concerns of proposed chapter.

For additional information regarding the publisher, please visit [www.igi-global.com](http://www.igi-global.com)

For additional information regarding the manuscript, please visit

<http://gridtechnologiesfore-health.blogspot.com> and/or contact Ekaterina Kldiashvili by email [grid\\_technologies\\_for\\_ehealth@yahoo.com](mailto:grid_technologies_for_ehealth@yahoo.com)

In the frames of ongoing NATO Networking Infrastructure Project "ePathology - Virtual Pathology Center in Georgia as the Continuation of Virtual Health Care Center" the ePathology server has been created. The service can be reached at [www.vhcc.ge](http://www.vhcc.ge).

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Thomas Schrader (NATO-Country Project Director) [thomas.schrader@computer.org](mailto:thomas.schrader@computer.org)

Dr. Ekaterina Kldiashvili (Partner-Country Project Co-Director)

[ekldiashvili@yahoo.com](mailto:ekldiashvili@yahoo.com)

***Association for Ukrainian Telemedicine and eHealth Development:***

Ministry of Health Care System of Ukraine has recognized and approved methodology approaches of Association for Ukrainian Telemedicine and eHealth Development to organization and management of telemedicine activity in hospitals and clinics. Special

methodology guidelines will be published soon. [www.telemed.org.ua](http://www.telemed.org.ua) Accordingly with annual reports and publications in 2008 Regional Telemedicine Networks are developing in Kiev, Donets, Lviv, Rivne, Zaporijia, Odessa, Dnipropetrovsk regions (in state hospitals and clinics). Most of networks are using IP/Internet infrastructure (sometimes 3G) and safe electronic health records for teleconsultations. Evaluation of clinical efficiency (from Donetsk and Odessa) shows great positive influence of telemedicine to quality and availability of medical care. [www.telemed.org.ua](http://www.telemed.org.ua)

“TeleKard” (National Telemedicine Network for Trans-Phone ECG provided by Tredex Company) report about more than 30 thousands of ECG transmissions and teleconsultations during last 3 years. Network is working between a lot of regional/municipal and rural hospitals. [www.tredex-company.com.ua](http://www.tredex-company.com.ua)

Session “Telemedicine” was included into event “e-Ground Rounds 13” (provided by the World Federation of Ukrainian Medical Associations). Two oral presentations from Association for Ukrainian Telemedicine and eHealth Development were in program of the event of 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2008. The auditorium from 14 Ukrainian places took part in work of session. [www.sfult.org.ua](http://www.sfult.org.ua)

Company “Eleks” (strategic partner of Association for Ukrainian Telemedicine and eHealth Development) has presented special system of electronic health records, adopted by telemedicine purposes. [www.eleks.com](http://www.eleks.com)

#### ***National Telemedicine and eHealth Council of Pakistan:***

The Federal Ministry of Health, under the leadership of its Director General-Prof. Dr. Rasheed Jooma took this initiative in collaboration with WHO and organized a National eHealth policy Workshop. I on behalf of the Ministry of Health (MOH) coordinated & organized the workshop and gathered all the current & potential stake holders in Telemedicine and eHealth in Islamabad for 2 days (August 21 & 22, 2008) where we deliberated extensively on formation of this group with its aims and objectives and a road map for the MOH to initiate a master plan for Telemedicine / eHealth in Pakistan. The group has an official status and will be formally notified by the MOH soon.

#### ***Fatih University:***

Tele-cardiology is the practice of cardiology which utilizes telecommunications, and as such is a new alternate and cost-effective means of providing cardiac care. Since during the last few years there has been a constant increase in the incidence of cardiovascular chronic pathologies, Telecardiology System in Fatih University has been studied. Tele-cardiology has two common goals in this work - first one is to reduce the healthcare costs of chronically ill patients while providing them access to healthcare providers and maintaining their quality of life. Second goal is to support with network software which satisfies share of necessary data and information for diagnosis of cardiology and to support communication between doctors who locate different locations.

For more information, please contact [nozen@fatih.edu.tr](mailto:nozen@fatih.edu.tr) and/or [bkarlik@fatih.edu.tr](mailto:bkarlik@fatih.edu.tr)

*Engr. N.P. Chowdry:*

Disaster is a big challenge for humanity, may be Natural or Un-Natural, but they were connected to the religious calamities by the creator. Today's world has found the causes of disasters through research with the help of innovative technologies like, Satellite Communication, Geo-Information System, Remote Sensing and Pre-Monitoring Devices. At large disaster can be categorized into two parts- Natural and un-natural disasters. For example, Natural disasters are lightening, volcanoes eruption, earth quakes, and viruses like bird flu, heavy rains and floods. On the other hand, un-natural disaster are human created disaster like community fighting or clashes, war between countries and many others such disasters creating actions are a big challenges for humanity. We can only reduce the causalities, if we get pre-monitoring system or instant rescue services. The best way to challenge disasters that we should train personnel in the field of medical sciences, engineering and telecommunication technologies. Although, many attempts have been made in this direction, yet there is need to use innovative technologies to meet these challenges instantly. In our research study many techniques have been suggested like, disaster management, satellite communication and biomedical engineering along with information communication technologies have been discussed with strategies for future challenges to reduce distress and difficulties aftermath of the incidences. The UNO is playing its role remedy aftermath the disaster. The Disaster of any type reveals with psychological, social and economical problems of the country. It is our luck that we are enjoying the benefits of satellite communications, network infrastructure, information technology and e-HealthCare that has largely reduce the devastation control in any area. The collective efforts are to cope with disaster. Now a consolidate model has been introduced for Pakistan and other countries may also take benefits of it. In this age of emerging technologies, instant contact and solution is very much possible. We have to keep in our view that prevention is better than cure, so disaster of any time need training at media level to the masses to be aware what to do when any type of disaster occurs. In the case of un-natural disaster video monitoring system should be launched at suspected areas to find the terrorists immediately and rescue efforts can be made immediately using military and Para-military recruits.

For more information, please contact [chowdhrynpc@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chowdhrynpc@yahoo.co.uk)

*Thais Russomano and Ricardo Cardoso:*

July 2008, Xingu Mission in e-health took place in Brazil involving seven units of PUCRS University. Students from League of Telemedicine and E-health, plus a Lithuanian student travelled a grueling 9h via dirt track and river to access the remote area. Mission aim was to enable remote Indians in High Xingu and Leonardo Villas Boas health unit access to specialized second opinion in areas of dermatology, cardiology, odontology, pharmacy and nutrition. Software developed at Microgravity Centre, PUCRS allowed daily transmission of patient data for specialist opinion, enabling quick diagnosis and reducing need for minor cases to needlessly leave the community.



For more information, please contact [trussomano@hotmail.com](mailto:trussomano@hotmail.com) and [ricardobcardoso@hotmail.com](mailto:ricardobcardoso@hotmail.com)

## News from partners

*eHealthNews.EU Portal*

***eHealthNews.EU Portal:***

### **eHealth News on XING Network for Business Contacts**

You are cordially invited to visit the XING eHealthNews Group, based on the well known network for business contacts. Now, all XING registered members are welcome to discuss, share or submit eHealth related news articles, to explore the last eHealth achievements and to meet new colleagues and eHealth professionals.

The main purpose of the eHealthNews XING Group is to advance the European eHealth (Healthcare IT) domain (Research and Industry areas).

For more information, please explore the proposed forums, and do not hesitate to submit and discuss ideas, suggestions, and improvements for the group:

- Introductions
- Conferences & Events
- Advertise your eHealth product, project or solution.

News Channels:

- eHealth Research News Channel
- eHealth Industry News Channel
- eHealth Publications News Channel
- eHealth Open Calls (FP7) News Channel.

eHealth Jobs & Collaboration:

- Jobs & Collaboration.

Internal topics:

- Ideas, Suggestions, Feedback
- Questions & Answers.

For further information, please visit:

<http://www.xing.com/group-25979.53dd76/7598511> (The XING eHealthNews Group is open and free but you will first have to register for XING)

## Upcoming events

*23-24/ 10/ 2008*

*24-26/ 10/ 2008*

*03-05/ 11/ 2008*

*04-06/ 11/ 2008*

*06-07/ 11/ 2008*

*11-13/ 11/ 2008*

*14-16/ 11/ 2008*

*24-25/ 11/ 2008*

*27-29/ 11/ 2008*

21-23/01/2009  
01-06/02/2009  
21/03/2009  
01-03/04/2009  
14-16/04/2009  
08-09/05/2009  
13-14/05/2009

## OCTOBER 2008

23-24 October - 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference “TELEMEDICINE: Myths and Reality”  
Lviv - Ukraine  
[www.telemed.net.ua](http://www.telemed.net.ua)

24-26 October - Advances in eHealth and Telemedicine International - A@HTI  
Warsaw - Poland  
[www.aehti.eu](http://www.aehti.eu)

## NOVEMBER 2008

03-05 November - The National Telecare and Telehealth Conference 2008  
Brighton, UK  
[www.telecare.org.uk/information/46531/national\\_conference/](http://www.telecare.org.uk/information/46531/national_conference/)

04-06 November - World of Health IT Conference and Exhibition 2008  
Copenhagen - Denmark  
[www.worldofhealthit.org](http://www.worldofhealthit.org)

06-07 November - DG Telemed Congress 2008  
Berlin - Germany  
[www.dgtelemed.de](http://www.dgtelemed.de)

11-13 November - eHealth Asia 2008  
Kuala Lumpur - Malaysia  
[www.e-asia.org/2008/ehealth/](http://www.e-asia.org/2008/ehealth/)

14-16 November - 4<sup>th</sup> National Conference of the Telemedicine Society of India  
Chandigarh, Punjab - India  
[www.telemedicon2008.com](http://www.telemedicon2008.com)  
[www.pgimer.nic.in](http://www.pgimer.nic.in)

24-25 November - TeleMed & eHealth '08  
London - UK  
[www.rsm.ac.uk/telemed08/](http://www.rsm.ac.uk/telemed08/)

27-29 November - FUNDATEL 2008

Parana - Argentina

[www.fundatel.org.ar/fundatel2008](http://www.fundatel.org.ar/fundatel2008)

### **JANUARY 2009**

21-23 January - Home Telehealth and Remote Patient Monitoring for Hospitals and Health Systems

Philadelphia - USA

[www.acius.net](http://www.acius.net)

### **FEBRUARY 2009**

11-06 February - eTELEMED 2009

Cancun - Mexico

[www.aria.org/conferences2009/eTELEMED09.html](http://www.aria.org/conferences2009/eTELEMED09.html)

### **MARCH 2009**

21 March - Medical Informatics and e-Health, in the frame of ICICIS 2009

Cairo - Egypt

<http://net.shams.edu.eg>

<http://cis.shams.edu.eg>

### **APRIL 2009**

01-03 April - Med-e-Tel 2009

Luxembourg

[www.medetel.lu](http://www.medetel.lu)

14-16 April - 6<sup>th</sup> Annual World Health Care Congress

Washington - DC, USA

[www.worldcongress.com/events/hr2009/](http://www.worldcongress.com/events/hr2009/)

### **MAY 2009**

08-09 May - Cartagena Telemedicine Conference 2009

Cartagena de Indias - Colombia

[www.colombiantelemed.org](http://www.colombiantelemed.org)

[www.icesi.edu.co](http://www.icesi.edu.co)

13-14 May - World Health Care Congress Europe 2009

Brussels - Belgium

[www.worldcongress.com/europe](http://www.worldcongress.com/europe)