

# eTELEMED 2016

## Forward

The Eighth International Conference on eHealth, Telemedicine, and Social Medicine (eTELEMED 2016), held between April 24 and April 28, 2016 in Venice, Italy, continued a series of events considering advances in techniques, services, and applications dedicated to a global approach to eHealth, including a regard on federated aspects considering the mobility of the population, the cross-nations agreements, and the new information technology tools.

We are facing the generalization of digital society across multiple social areas. The globalization imposes the revision of the health costs a society can support. The progress in different domains, such as image processing, wireless communications, computer vision, cardiology, and information storage and management assure a virtual team to access online to the latest achievements.

The processing of medical data benefits now from advanced techniques for color imaging, visualization of multi-dimensional projections, Internet imaging localization archiving as well as from a higher resolution of medical devices.

Collecting, storing, and handling patient data requires robust processing systems, safe communications and storage, and easy and authenticated online access.

We assist at an unprecedented and rapid deployment of the use of electronic imagery, navigation portals, positive attitude on telemedicine, distributed surgery teams, tele-cardiology, and remote medicine. Development of wireless homecare, of special types of communications with patient data, of videoconferencing and tele-presence, and the progress in image processing and data protection increased the eHealth applications and services, and extended Internet-based patient coverage areas. Social and economic aspects as well as the integration of classical systems with the telemedicine systems are still challenging issues.

The conference had the following tracks:

- Sociological, sociotechnical and multi-disciplinary perspectives
- Preventive and emergency health systems
- Telemedicine/eHealth services
- eHealth technology and devices
- Telemedicine/eHealth applications
- Personalized eHealth
- eHealth data records
- eHealth systems and communications
- eHealth information processing
- Challenges of large-scale, cost-effective eHealth systems

The conference also featured the following symposia:

- ***DIGITAL HEALTHY LIVING 2016, A Multidisciplinary View on Digital Support for Healthy Living and self-management of Health***
- ***MATH 2016, The International Symposium on Mobile and Assistive Technology for Healthcare***

We take here the opportunity to warmly thank all the members of the eTELEMED 2016 technical program committee, as well as the numerous reviewers. The creation of such a high quality conference program would not have been possible without their involvement. We also kindly thank all the authors that dedicated much of their time and effort to contribute to eTELEMED 2016. We truly believe that, thanks to all these efforts, the final conference program consisted of top quality contributions.

Also, this event could not have been a reality without the support of many individuals, organizations and sponsors. We also gratefully thank the members of the eTELEMED 2016 organizing committee for their help in handling the logistics and for their work that made this professional meeting a success.

We hope eTELEMED 2016 was a successful international forum for the exchange of ideas and results between academia and industry and to promote further progress in the fields of eHealth, telemedicine and social medicine. We also hope that Venice, Italy, provided a pleasant environment during the conference and everyone saved some time to enjoy the unique charm of the city.

#### **eTELEMED Advisory Committee**

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#### **eTELEMED 2016 Special Area Chairs**

##### **Sociological and Socio-Technical Approaches**

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