

Technological Affairs of the Heart

Israeli SHL Telemedicine Cooperates with Saxony-Anhalt, Germany, in the Field of Life Science

“Time is muscle,” says Professor Rüdiger C. Braun-Dullaeus, M.D. The head of the Clinic for Cardiology at the Magdeburg University, the capital of Saxony-Anhalt, is a specialist in heart disease. As in other regions of Europe, the population of the German federal state of Saxony-Anhalt is aging; the chronically sick are increasing, while public services of healthcare are rationed. For heart attacks this provides an increasing challenge.

Therefore, the search is on for quick response solutions no matter how far from medical facilities the patients live. A research project in cooperation with the Israeli company SHL Telemedicine, a pioneer in telemedical technology, is helping make this goal a reality.

Through a wide-ranging research project, the University Clinic of Magdeburg searches for new solutions to make medical care for heart attacks viable for the future. One approach is telemedicine. “We want to ensure a fast reaction. Half of our patients are equipped with devices, which via telemedicine make permanent monitoring of the heart condition possible,” says Professor Braun-Dullaeus. After one year a comparison with the group of patients who received a traditional follow-up takes place. Up until now a patient with pain hesitates between two and four hours before contacting an emergency physician, reports the cardiologist.

Through the use of telemedicine, the initial diagnosis can now occur within the first 60 minutes with the patient’s personal mobile EKG device always by their side.

The research project with SHL should bring further important advancements for coronary prevention. Physicians and nursing staff evaluate the detailed vital signs—blood pressure, EKG, weight and oxygen saturation—around the clock. For all patients there is a central electronic document, which is accessible also to the attending physicians. “It is an ideal opportunity, in order to make medical expertise fast and available everywhere, to recognize emergency situations early and to initiate the correct therapy without delay,” says Iris Griepernau, Key Account Manager at SHL Telemedicine. She wants to scientifically prove the added value of telemedicine, too. The cooperation with the University of Magdeburg will provide an opportunity to promote innovations and allow patients to directly benefit from its success, says Griepernau.

SHL in Israel also works closely with Ambulanz Mobile GmbH & Co. KG in Schönebeck near Magdeburg. Already this year, this company specializing in ambulance equipment has supplied two state of the art “Delfis” vehicles to Israel, with three more coming later in the year. SHL chose to purchase these German emergency vehicles



SHL Telemedicine and the Clinic for Cardiology at the Magdeburg University cooperate in a research project on heart attacks.

because of their particularly high and reliable quality. SHL benefits from these new ambulances as they add to the quality of its own fleet, says Griepernau. Since such equipment in Germany is still rather the exception, SHL wants to support the know-how for such innovation. “We aligned the individual equipment according to the wishes of our Israeli client to ensure that telemedical devices can be integrated locally with ease,” reports Matthias Lohölter, Head of the Export Department at Ambulanz Mobile, looking forward to a continuing successful cooperation.

For quite some time Israeli companies have enjoyed the beneficial economic and research environment in Saxony-Anhalt and have committed themselves to branches and subsidiaries locally. The Investment and Marketing Corporation Saxony-Anhalt operates as an economic development agency for the region. Israeli companies receive confidential and cost-free service through every step of the investment.



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