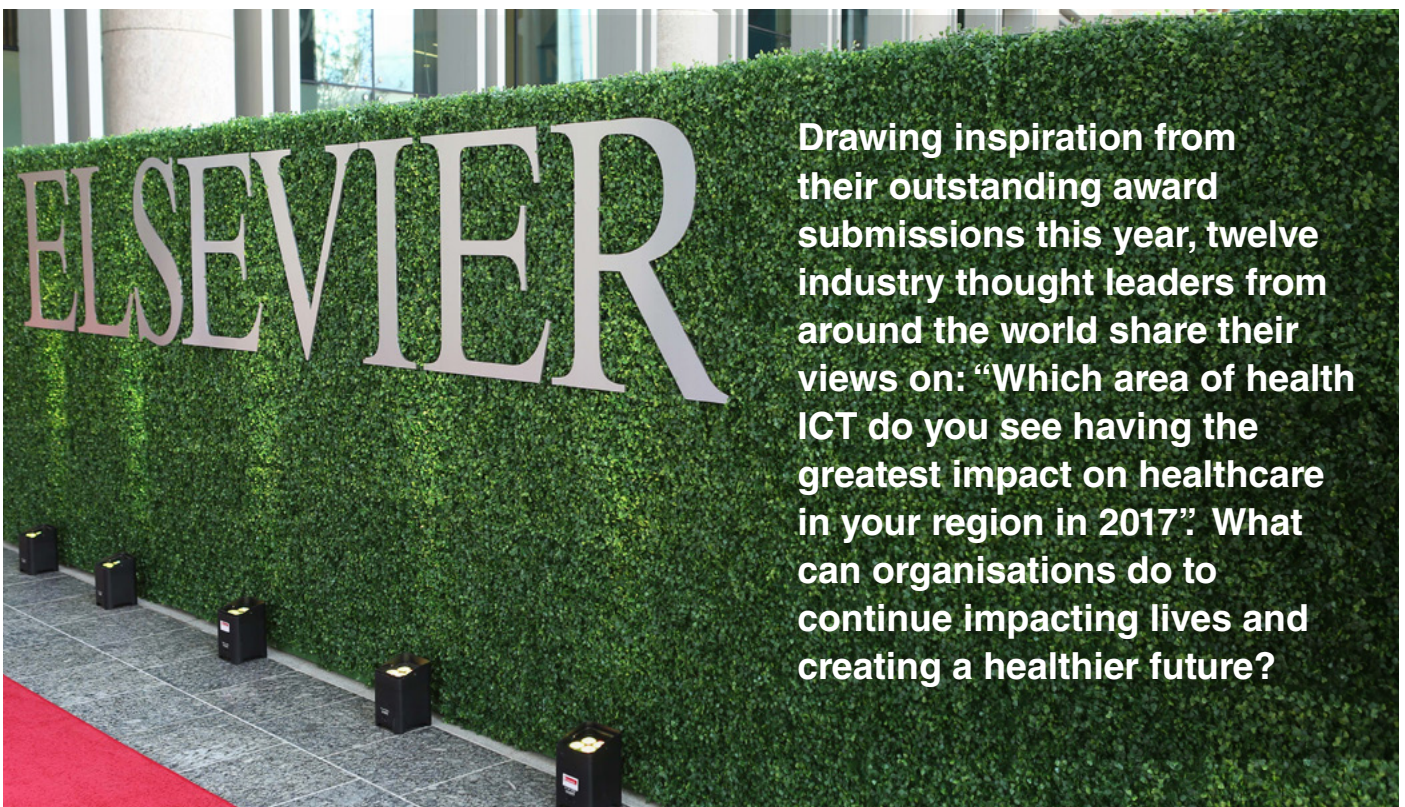


Views from the Top:

HIMSS-Elsevier Digital Healthcare Award participants forecast **2017 Health ICT trends** that would impact patient care and outcomes



Drawing inspiration from their outstanding award submissions this year, twelve industry thought leaders from around the world share their views on: “Which area of health ICT do you see having the greatest impact on healthcare in your region in 2017”? What can organisations do to continue impacting lives and creating a healthier future?

HIMSS-Elsevier Digital Healthcare Award winners and finalists are leading the transformation of care across the entire continuum. They prove that continued commitment to improving care through technology can reap extraordinary benefits. This year’s submissions also showcased a paradigm shift towards greater enterprise-wide interoperability. Through this Award platform, we will continue to showcase organizations at the helm of digital transformation, saving lives and building healthier populations around the world.

Mr. H. Stephen Lieber,
President and CEO,
HIMSS



As a few Gulf Cooperation Council states move towards establishing universal integrated electronic health records (EHR) and national health insurance plans, and healthcare providers face more challenges in the form of new competition, regulations, and reporting requirements, **providers realize that robust ICT systems including EMRs will be essential in overcoming these challenges and turning them into realized opportunities.** Over the last few years, the cost and complexity of setting up IT systems have decreased, with the availability of remote support, SaaS and cloud computing. As a result, more EMRs are being implemented across public and private sectors, and we expect the rate to accelerate. This will help providers deliver the highest quality of care at the lowest cost that will benefit both patients and payers.



Mr. Nawwaf Awwad,
IT Director, SAAD Specialist
Hospital, Saudi Arabia

Winner: 2016 Outstanding ICT Achievement Award – Middle East

[Watch interview](#)

There is a shortage of trained health personnel around the world, leading to the demand for point-of-care information powered by big data analytics. Machine learning (AI) based analytics and intelligence will need to be effectively maximized into every workflow. **The inherent need in healthcare to have round-the-clock, omnipresent services at the highest efficiency levels, demands that solutions are available on mobile devices and platforms.** The future of healthcare will be driven by mobility, big data analytics and IoT-based devices that will significantly contribute to delivering health services. The need to have continuous patient engagement that is not limited to hospitalization episodes demands the need for IoT-based devices to augment the care process.



Ms. Sangita Reddy,
Joint Managing Director,
Apollo Hospitals, India

Winner: 2016 Outstanding ICT Innovation Award – Asia Pacific

[Watch interview](#)

The healthcare industry is increasingly concerned with escalating costs, staff shortages, tightening of regulatory requirements, increased burden of chronic disease, rising patient expectations and improving efficiency. Health information unification and sharing through eHealth that provides a 360° view of medical data and possibilities of telehealth are crucial in addressing current challenges. **This makes interoperability the most impactful healthcare ICT aspect in 2017. Building eHealth involves integrating disparate systems and stakeholders involved in private and public healthcare delivery, and adopting common message formats and standards.** Access to patient records can also be extended via a secure internet connection to authorised external parties, including hospitals, primary care providers, social services agencies, insurance providers, pharmacies and independent consultants.



Mr. Abdullah Hamood Al-Raqqadi,
Director General of Information
Technology, Ministry of Health,
Sultanate of Oman, Oman

Finalist: 2016 Outstanding ICT Achievement Award – Middle East

In 2017, from a regional perspective, providing access for patients to transparent and rigorous information about National Healthcare System indicators through Web Portals will continue to be of importance. Our digitally advanced Hospital Center will invest in creating new uses of clinical data that can help reduce risk for patients, reduce costs, and pursue our strategy in Big Data and Analytics. The development of infection control, antibiotic misuse and clinical deterioration decision support systems will also continue. We will also invest more in natural language processing tools to leverage the amount of knowledge we can extract from unstructured information and create novel digital assistants. **Machine Learning will also be one of our top priorities for 2017, developing predictive models that can be more precise and effective than current clinical scores used in medical practice.**



Mr. Jose Pedro Almeda, Head of
Analytics & Data Science, São
João Hospital Center, Portugal

Winner: 2016 Outstanding ICT Achievement Award – Europe

[Watch interview](#)

Real clinical impact occurs when a software enables clinicians to do the work they are trained for and supports the delivery of care pathways. **I see the future as one in which healthcare organisations design, prototype, build and develop their own software for their own purposes. There is an opportunity for vendors** to build the software that helps healthcare organisations build their own tools. My own organisation has seen real clinical impact from building an interactive electronic whiteboard that interacts with the clinical record, but sits outside of it. There is an increasing thirst for building what we need, making it work in the way we want it to, and learning how to build the future for ourselves.



Mark Harrison, Consultant Old Age
Psychiatrist, Devon Partnership
NHS Trust, United Kingdom

Finalist: 2016 Outstanding ICT Achievement Award – Europe

[Watch interview](#)

Hamad Medical Corporation's global recognition as a finalist at the HIMSS-Elsevier Digital Healthcare Award will spur us on to improve care at all levels through technology. Already, **our patients are now more satisfied, errors are reduced and our staff members have become more engaged.** We hope that in sharing our project with our peers in Qatar and the whole of the Middle East, we will inspire more organizations. This year, two hospitals under HMC also became the firsts in Qatar to achieve HIMSS EMRAM Stage 6. We are striving to greater heights with partners like HIMSS and Elsevier, as they provide visible markers for us on our digital journey through accreditation, the Award series and other initiatives.



Dr. Ali Al Sanousi, Executive Chief
Medical Information Officer
Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar

Finalist: 2016 Outstanding ICT Achievement Award – Middle East

Artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things (IoT), automation and robotics will have the greatest contribution to the healthcare IT in the upcoming years in the region and worldwide. **Big data analytics and cloud technology will help in creating a more efficient and safe healthcare systems, with new and innovative means of analyzing unprecedented amount of data from various parts of the world.** Technologies such as Innovative Smart Devices (Wearables and mHealth applications) and predictive analytics will have the potential to revolutionize healthcare through remote monitoring, disease management, and early disease detection. A lot of challenges will arise from such advancement in technology, and most are human factors. Patient confidentiality, cyber security, and data governance. Competent workforce is crucial to driving technology through the interpretation and manipulation of data and enable better interoperability between the different platforms.



Mohamed Magoury, RPh, PMP, CPHIMS,
Pharmacy Informatics Officer, Al Wakra Hospital -
Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar

Over the last decade, health ICT has undeniably been an important factor in moving the industry forward in Thailand and other ASEAN countries. With Thailand being home to two EMRAM Stage-6 hospitals – Paknam Hospital being the first to receive this recognition – health ICT is certainly on the upward trend in the country. We anticipate 2017 being the year where there is an increase in the adoption of EMR, which can improve the quality of care, reduce medical errors and enhance the speed of care delivery. **We also expect to see homegrown health ICT solutions, customized to our unique culture as well as the rise of big data and analytics for predictive, precision and personalized medicine.**



Asst. Prof. Korpong Rookapan,
Hospital Director,
Paknam Hospital, Thailand

Winner: 2016 Outstanding ICT Achievement Award – Asia Pacific

[Watch interview](#)

The effect of our ageing population, coupled with the increasing number of citizens with chronic diseases pose a great challenge for both the wellbeing of the citizens and our public healthcare institutions. One area of health ICT – **SmartHealth or sHealth, offers a solution to this challenge. By providing a platform to seamlessly connect, digitize and analyze health data and allow for collaboration between citizens and care providers, we will be able to provide affordable, quality and sustainable healthcare for our citizens.** Citizens will also be empowered to take ownership of their health, which is critical to the prevention and delay of the progression of chronic diseases.



Lim Soo Tong, Integrated Health Systems (IHIS)
Chief Information Officer, JurongHealth
CIO Office, Singapore

JurongHealth is honoured to have received the HIMSS Elsevier award which recognises the integrated health IT landscape in our regional health cluster. We hope to leverage on this platform to derive value for our stakeholders, clinicians and patients in this increasingly complex health IT environment. Once again, we would like to thank HIMSS Elsevier for giving JurongHealth this prestigious award and hope that the healthcare sector will continue to push the healthcare IT boundaries for our patients and clinicians. With an aging population, growing burden of chronic disease and finite healthcare resources, the challenge will be to use health information technology to augment the capabilities of our patients and healthcare providers. This can be in the form of **patient portals which empower the patient with information, population health to monitor the status of certain chronic diseases, so that healthcare resources can be utilised judiciously and data analytics to point our limited resources into high value areas.**



Adj A/Prof Gamaliel Tan, Chief Medical
Informatics Officer, JurongHealth, Singapore

Winner: 2016 Outstanding ICT Achievement Award – Asia Pacific

[Watch interview](#)

The Health Service of the Principality of Asturias has computerized and integrated all its Hospitals and Primary Care Centers, with the goal to share information in real time to increase the quality and safety of care. **Telemedicine is another step in sharing information and we expect it to be the area of ICT that will have the greatest impact on Asturian healthcare.** With the increase in life expectancy, elderly and pluripathological patients with mobility difficulties, who are the largest consumers of health in our region, will be able to receive care in their homes through video-conferencing. Through networked medicine, population screening programs will be implemented thus centralizing clinical decision making in the most experienced professionals.



Mr. Luis M. Martínez Escotet, Physician
responsible for functional implantation of
Information Systems, Hospital Care of the
Government of the Principality of Asturias, Spain

Finalist: 2016 Outstanding ICT Achievement Award – Europe

Information security, information exchange and interoperability, analytics & business intelligence and patient enabling technologies including portals and wearables are areas that hold the greatest impact potential in the near future among countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council.



Dr. Manish Kohli, Chief of Medical
Informatics, Cleveland Clinic Abu
Dhabi (CCAD), UAE

Winner: 2016 Outstanding ICT Innovation Award – Middle East

[Watch interview](#)

Winners and finalists of the HIMSS-Elsevier Digital Healthcare Awards have demonstrated how smart and innovative deployment of the right technology can make a real difference in advancing patient care, safety and improve operational efficiencies. Through this platform, we continue to encourage innovative and inspiring entries that harness the transformation and empower eHealth. From administrative tasks such as updating health records right down to discovering new ways of learning such as artificial intelligence, the convergence of healthcare and ICT has the potential to revolutionize the way we deliver care. The future of healthcare begins here and now.

**Dr. Peter Edelstein,
Chief Medical Officer,
Elsevier Clinical Solutions**



The HIMSS-Elsevier Digital Healthcare Awards is a global platform established in 2013 to recognize outstanding thought leadership in the use of health information and technology to advance patient care and outcome. Awards are granted in three categories: Outstanding ICT Achievement, Outstanding ICT Innovation and Outstanding ROI Achievement. Submit your entries for the 2017 awards here!

Visit our region-specific websites and indicate your interest to submit for the 2017 awards! [Asia Pacific](#) [Middle East](#) [Europe](#)

To learn more about how your organisation can harness clinical decision support solutions to impact care at every stage of the patient journey and promote a culture of quality, visit [Elsevier](#) now.