MedTech Europe
from diagnosis to cure

Spotlight on Innovation in Detection and Diagnosis of CVD

MedTech Europe Cardiovascular Sector Group
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About the MedTech Europe Cardiovascular Sector Group

- The Cardiovascular Medical Technology Industry - *proud co-founding partner of the European Alliance for Cardiovascular Health, EACH* - provides solutions to the burden of CVD on individuals, families and the wider economy.
- These innovations, which span the full spectrum of patient care from diagnosis to cure, save lives and add tremendous value to European society, including:
  - Blood tests that identify patients with high cholesterol, high risk of heart attack and heart failure
  - Modern imaging devices that detect narrowing of the arteries
  - Small cardiac implants such as pacemakers, defibrillators and trans-catheter technologies
  - Implantable cardiac monitors and associated home monitoring solutions
  - Minimally invasive heart valve and stent procedures that improve clinical, procedural and patient outcomes, while reducing associated costs and recurrence

The Case for better policy on CVD Detection and Early Diagnosis

DATA SHOWS:

CVD Morbidity and mortality can be reduced through targeted programmes for early detection of high-risk CVD patients

EXPERTS AGREE:

Identifying high-risk CVD patients should be a standard part of medical consultation in general practice and supported by health systems

REALITY DIFFERS:

Detection rates of many CVDs remain poor and the most simple checks (like a stethoscope check) are not happening routinely in Europe.

Innovative Solutions and Proposals already exist

AI-POWERED CARDIAC MONITORING

Combining software, hardware and services to support cardiologists and neurologists to detect and diagnose atrial fibrillation. Recently introduced in NL, SW, DE, ES.

TARGETED BLOOD TESTS FOR HIGH-RISK PATIENTS

Specific Blood Tests can measure protein levels that can detect heart failure almost 80% of the time. Risk-based screening can improve outcomes. Current German pilot with GPs.

DIGITAL STETHOSCOPES IN COMMUNITY PHARMACIES

A pilot in the UK with digital-stethoscope and AI software support in community pharmacists, showcased how technology can support CVD detection in community care settings.

ACCESS TO DETECTION IN REMOTE AREAS

In Italy, an initiative is screening 65+ yr people in 10 small Italian villages, using Echocardiogram and echocardiography, in order to enhance detection of forms of heart valve disease.

- Illustrative examples, non-exhaustive -

What we need: An EU CV Health Plan including targeted heart health checks allowing for improved and equal access to early diagnosis and detection.

1	**Development, by 2024**, of a **dedicated European Cardiovascular Health Plan** (EU CVH Plan) covering the whole spectrum of cardiovascular health. This means: from prevention measures to **targeted heart health checks**, allowing for improved early diagnosis and detection, as well as improved access and patient-centred treatment and quality of life.
2	**Investment of EU funds** to allow for the deployment of the EU CVH Plan, including heart health checks, and to foster **Research and Innovation**. This will allow for better understanding of the disease burden, and for the development and equitable uptake of innovative diagnostics and therapies. The role that **innovative CV medical technologies and digital tools** have in alleviating the burden of disease and in ensuring better work conditions for healthcare professionals should be further recognised.
3	**Facilitation of a European CVH Knowledge Centre** to address the current fragmentation and the significant gaps in reliable data, as well as to ensure connectivity across the spectrum of CVD and related conditions, and enhance cross border collaboration.

Time to act to change the beat: achieving cardiovascular health for all

Thank you!

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