

HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES RESEARCH AND TEACHING AT TALLINN UNIVERSITY OF

**TECHNOLOGY** 

Jana Holmar, PhD Director/Assistant Professor

Department of Health Technologies School of Information Technologies Tallinn University of Technology (TalTech)



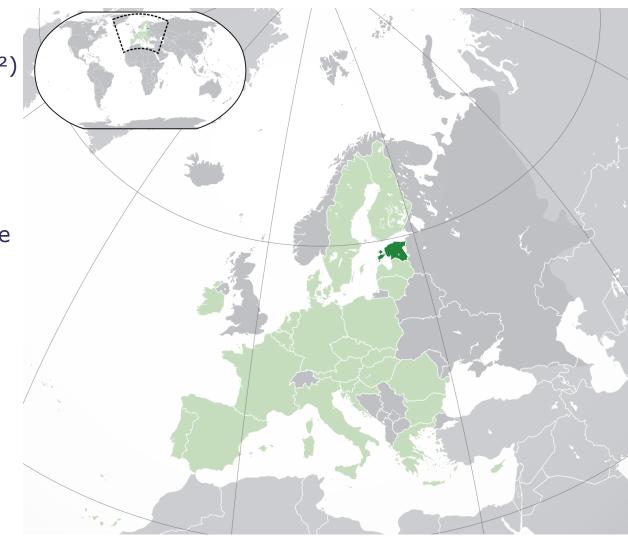
## **OUTLINE**

- Some facts about Estonia, hospital network and health care system
- Introduction to Estonian e-services
- Estonian e-health system
- Tallinn University of Technology (TalTech)
- Health technologies at TalTech



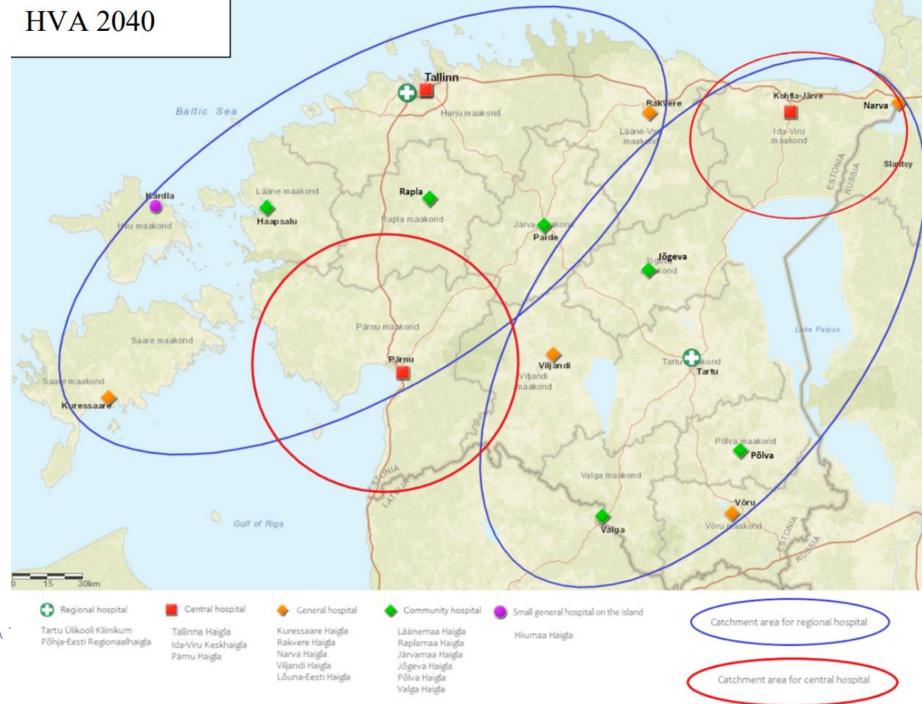
# **ESTONIA**

- Estonias population is 1.36 million (area 45 339 km²)
- Every citizen has a unique ID-code (ID-card is mandatory)
- The NATO Cooperative Cyber Defense Centre of Excellence has been located in Estonia since 2008.
- Estonia is the birthplace of innovative companies like Skype, Playtech, Wise, Bolt, and Pipedrive.
- Individuals worldwide can apply to become eresidents of Estonia.





# **HOSPITAL NETWORK**





TALLINNA '

## **ESTONIAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEM**

- Unified national health insurance
- Is based on compulsory solidarity-based health insurance.
- 13% health insurance contribution deducted from the salaries of employed individuals.
- The Estonian Health Insurance Fund covers the medical expenses of insured individuals.
- Health care services are made available mostly by private service providers.
- The management and supervision of health care system and development of health policy is under the scope of the Ministry of Social Affairs and its agencies.









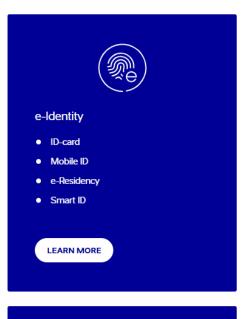


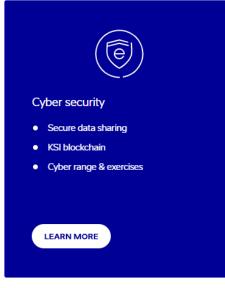
### **E-GOVERNANCE**

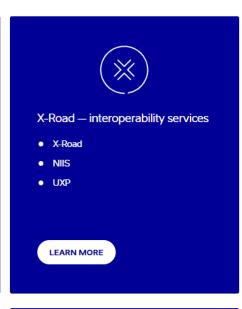


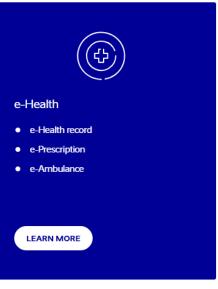
- In Estonia, 99% of public services are available online 24 hours a day.
- E-services are only impossible for divorces you still need to leave the house for this.
- Among some of the most popular digital services in Estonia are: the Tax and Customs Board, the Patient Portal, e-File, and the e-Business Register.
- 99% of financial transactions (bank transfers) are made in e-bank
- 98% of income tax declarations are made via the E-Tax Board (2023)
- 51,1% of votes were e-votes (2023)
- 119 000 e-Residents from 184 countries across the world
- 33 000 e-resident companies established by eresidents

# **E-SOLUTIONS AND SERVICES**

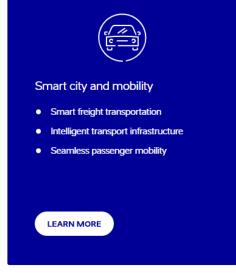


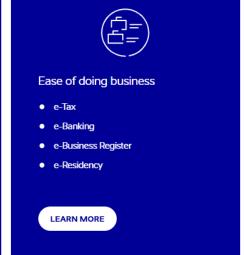


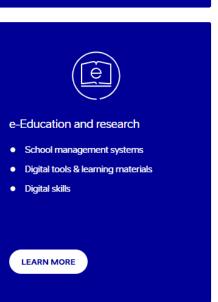
















#### E-services for citizen



#### E-services for entrepreneurs



My prescriptions



Entrepreneur's dashboard



Ordering the European Health Ordering the Eur

My identity documents and photo

Management of certificates of Management of cert incapacity for work



Account number and personal data in the Health Insurance Fund



Searching for a vehicle without insurance contract











Log in to the self-service for citizen ->

Log in to the self-service for entrepreneurs ->

#### Proactive government services







Settling in Estonia



Having a baby



Death of a loved one



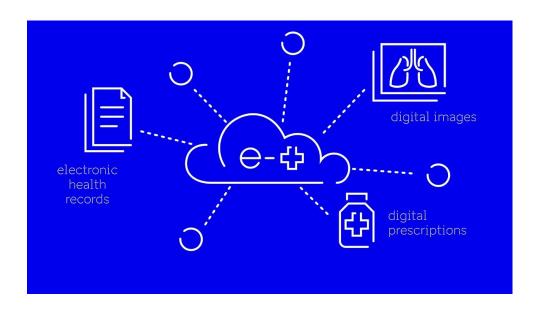
Financing Entrepreneur

TALLI

My Pension

# **ESTONIAN HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM (EHIS)**

- Covers the entire nation, registering residents' health data from birth to death.
- Built on a standard-based IT infrastructure ensuring robust digital functionality.
- Facilitates mostly digital medical data exchange across all healthcare levels.
- Some records remain on paper, including intensive care notes, in-hospital orders, and nursing documentation.



Home Health Information

on F

Portal Services

News

Help

Language: ENG V

# Your gateway to health services

In the Health Portal, you can find topics related to maintaining your health, view your health data and use various services (formerly digilugu.ee).

Log in to the Health Portal





Referrals and appointments



Prescriptions



Results of tests and examinations



Health certificates and how to apply for them



Data in the health care system



Vaccination information

#### **Screenings**



#### Breast cancer screening

10.01.24

For the early detection of breast cancer, we invite women born in 1950, 1954, 1956, 1958, 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1972, 1974 to a free breast cancer screening.

See more



#### Colorectal cancer screening

10.01.24

Men and women aged 60-68 are invited to the screening for colorectal cancer every two years.

See more



#### Cervical cancer screening

10.01.24

Cervical cancer screening In Estonia, women aged 30-65 years are invited for cervical cancer screening at fiveyears intervals In 2024 we invite women (including uninsured) who are born in 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994.

See more

#### News



Is your family doctor using a digital service platform?

23.10.24

You can now check on the Health Portal whether



Tartu University Hospital and the Health Insurance Fund remind you that one decision can save many lives



Now you can purchase prescription medications with e-prescriptions across all Baltic countries



#### **Health Information**



#### Medical care

If you have a health concern, it is possible to first see your family physician or family nurse. Round-the-clock medical advice is available via the family physician advisory line (+372) 634 6630 or the paid phone number 1220. You can also call the family physician advisory line if you are in doubt whether your health condition requires going to the emergency medical department or calling an ambulance.



#### Patient guides

These guides provide information about various disorders or medical procedures in simple terms. Patient guides give recommendations from the patient's point of view, i.e. what you or your family member needs to know about the nature of your disease, treatment, and organising daily life.



#### Dental health

Regular oral hygiene prevents tooth decay and cavities. Appropriate oral care requires brushing teeth at least twice daily, cleaning the interdental spaces at least once daily, and seeing a dentist on a regular basis at least once a year.



# Medications and safety

By using medicines properly and safely, you ensure that they are effective and prevent possible adverse effects and risks. You can always ask the pharmacist, family physician, or family nurse for explanations on using medicinal products and the adverse effects thereof.



#### Health maintenance

Everyone is in control of their own health. Health maintenance is an active and conscious act for preserving and promoting your well-being, preventing diseases, and improving your physical and mental health with the help of a healthy lifestyle and preventive



# Surveys, tests and tools

Please see references for tests and auxiliary materials to check how healthy your eating habits are and how to make conscious and health-supporting choices

More information

#### **Portal Services**



# Tests and examinations

Results of your examinations that help health care professionals monitor and assess your health condition.



#### Dental health

Overview of your dental status and summaries of previous dental appointments.



#### Dental health

The validity of your medicinal product and medical device prescriptions and other data.



# Certificates and declarations

You can view your health certificates and check their validity. A declaration of health must be completed to apply for a medical certificate.



#### Vaccinations

Enables you to view administered vaccinations and recommendations for future vaccinations. Vaccinations are one of the most important preventive measures used to control the spread of infectious diseases and protect the health of individuals.

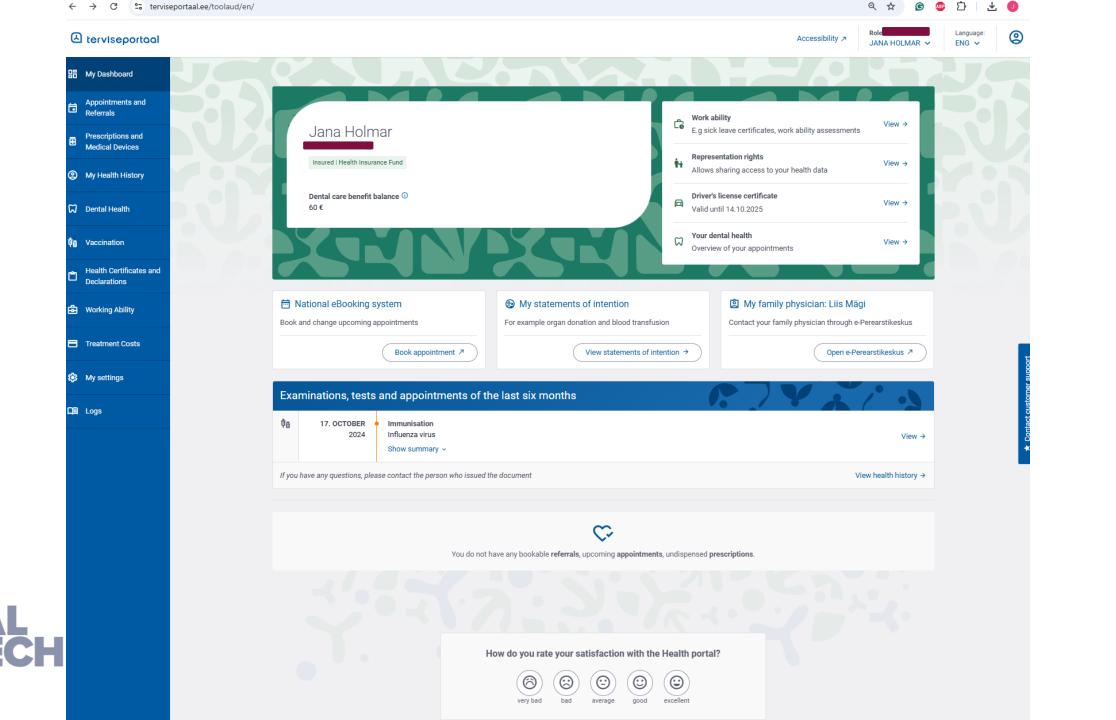


# Appointments requiring a referral

Your valid referrals, the respective appointments, as well as invalid, i.e. used referrals.



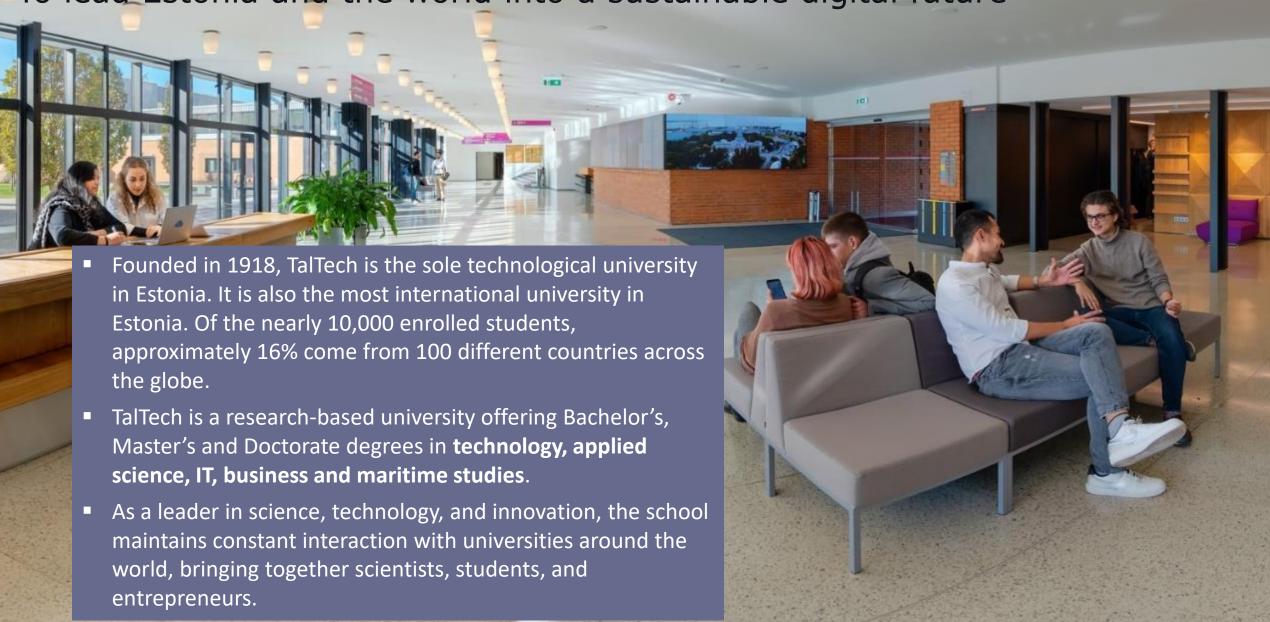
More about the services



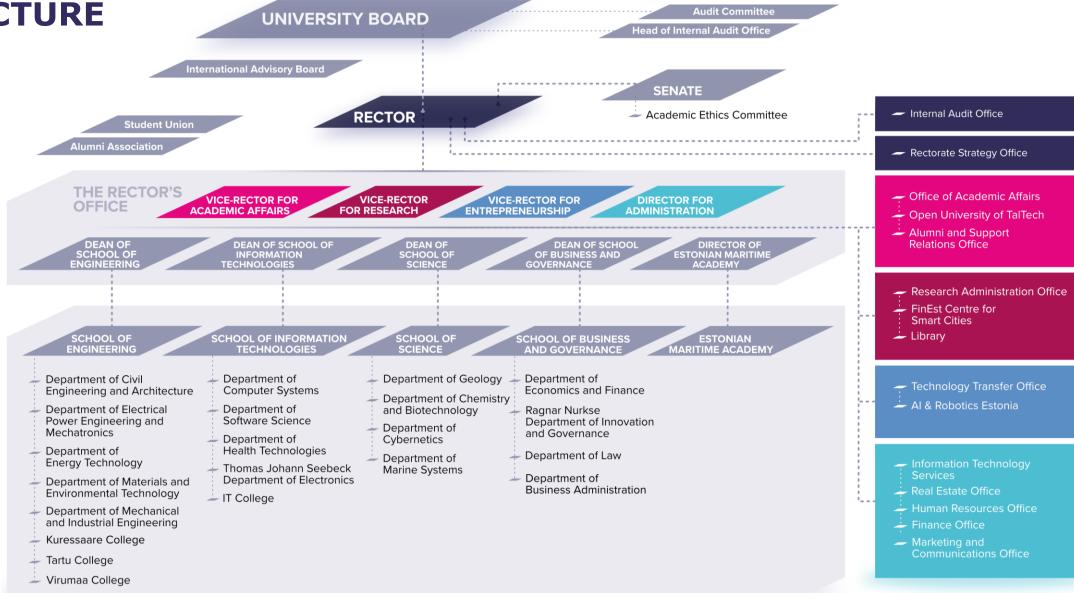


# TALLINN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

To lead Estonia and the world into a sustainable digital future



STRUCTURE 2024



# **TALLINN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY 2023**

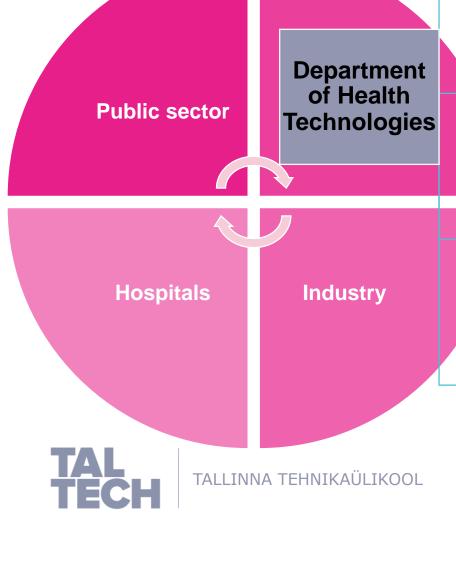


## **HEALTH TECHNOLOGIES IN TALTECH**

- Health technologies are one of TalTech's research focus areas.
- Health technologies are addressed across all faculties, comprehensively and interdisciplinarily.
- We offer complementary technological expertise to medical competencies.
- The Focus Center for Health and Food Technologies ensures internal coordination and information exchange.



# 



Centre for **Biomedical** Engineering



Biosignal processing lab



Centre for Cardiovascular Medicine





PhD studies

Master curriculas Additional education

Medical technology and -physics

**Digital Health** 

Digital skills

Healthanalytics

Electrical safety of medical devices

Radiation safety

Centre for Digital Health



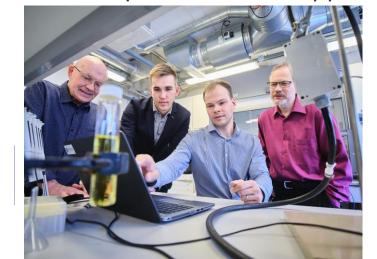
# **RESEARCH GROUPS**

Centre for Biomedical Engineering

**Head - prof. Ivo Fridolin** 



Sensors, algorithms, sensor fusion, biofluid optics, uremic toxins, dialysis, on-line monitoring, spectrophotometry, spectrofluorimetry, signal processing, smart workwear, physical activity monitoring, energy consumption, fatigue monitoring, automatic speech recognition, speech-to-text applications, wellbeing score.



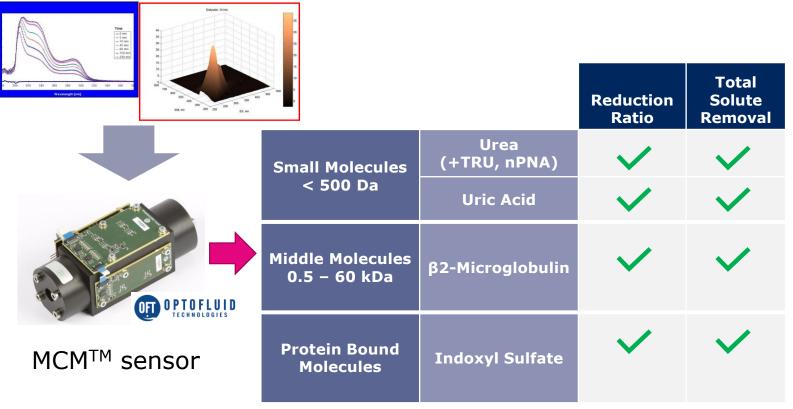




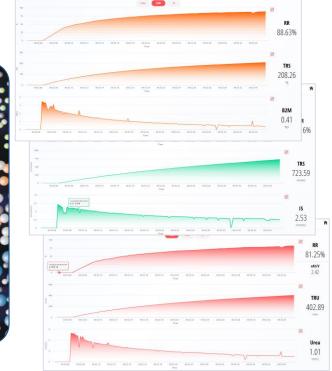
# **Optical monitoring of dialysis**

THE FIRST REAL-TIME SENSOR FOR SMALL, MIDDLE AND PROTEIN BOUND

RETENTION SOLUTES' REMOVAL MONITORING IN THE SPENT DIALYSIS









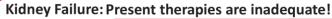
# Breakthrough technologies

for an implantable artificial kidney



- University Medical Centre Utrecht (NL)
- **Utrecht University (NL)**
- Imec Eindhoven (NL)
- Imec Leuven (BE)
- The Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Physics (FR)
- Optofluid Technologies OÜ (EST)
- ME-SEP (PL)







(End Stage Kidney Disease) means:

ithout Kidney Replacement Therapy

You Die!

Transplantation Best & cheapest available KRT option, but:

- many Patients Die, while still on the Waiting List
- Immune suppression drugs prevent transplant rejection but also increase Risk of Cancer & Infections

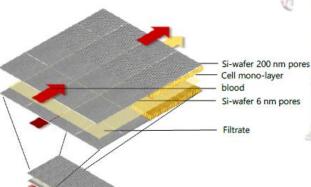
- Substitutes max 10-15% of kidney filtration function Does not substitute all other kidney functions
- Significantly lower Quality of Life than Transplantation
- More Expensive & Resource-heavy than Transplantation Up to 70% shorter remaining Life Expectancy





**BAK-Photosensor** interface

> **Photonic** sensor



https://www.kidnew.eu/



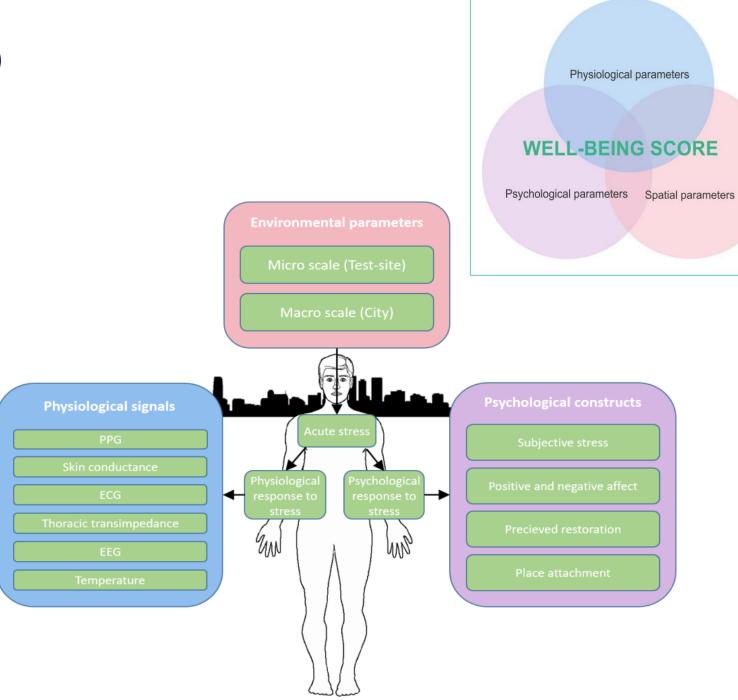
The project has received founding from the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency HORIZON-EIC-2022-PATHFINDEROPEN-01 Program under the Grant Agreement N°101099092



# WELL-BEING SCORE (WBS)

- <u>Urban Planning Well-being Score</u> <u>service ENG – YouTube</u>
- The project aims to bridge the gap between urban planners and urban residents to develop a well-being score based on measurable indicators to evaluate the qualities of built environment integrating the citizens' psychological and physiological states in relation to spatial parameters.
- WBS aims to be:
  - as an input for data-driven and more objective city planning
  - monitoring tool of the well-being in the city districts





# **RESEARCH GROUPS**

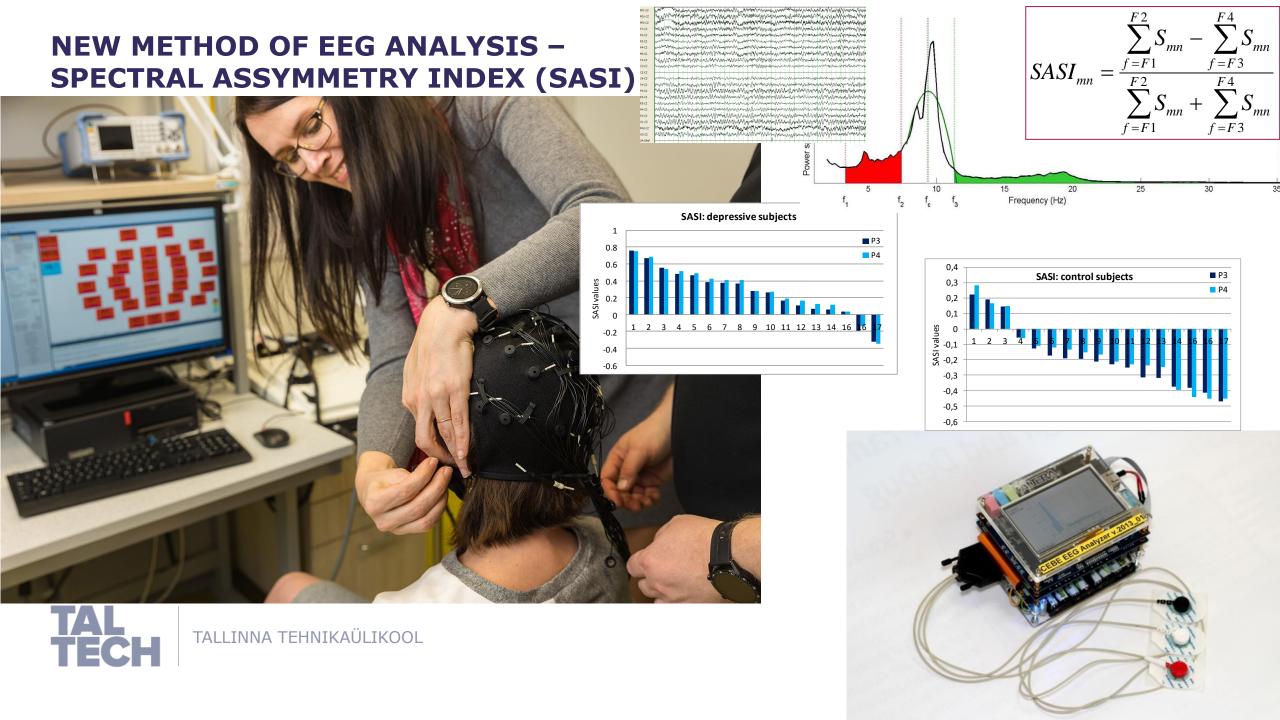
Biosignal Processing Laboratory

**Head - prof. Maie Bachmann** 



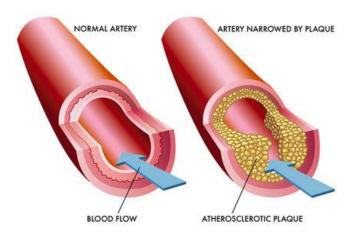
Signal processing, electroencephalography, mental disorders, depression, sleep, environmental stressors





# **RESEARCH GROUPS**

#### **ATHEROSCLEROSIS**



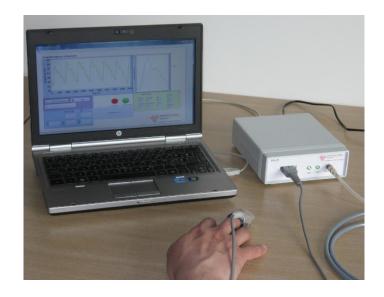
# Centre for Cardiovascular Medicine

# **Head - prof. Margus Viigimaa**

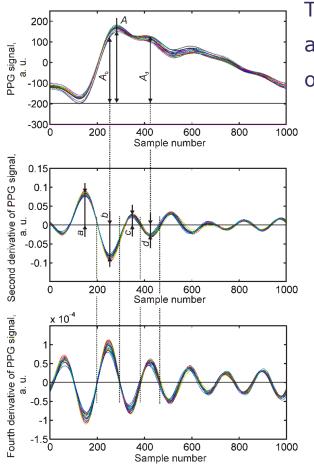
Hypertension, atherosclerosis, diabetes, cardiovascular risk, hypercholesterolemia, technologies for diagnosis







# **ESTIMATING THE AGE OF THE ARTERIES**



The photoplethysmographic (PPG) signal

and its processing allow the detection

of arterial aging:

$$PPGAI = \frac{\frac{A_{d}}{A}}{\frac{A_{b}}{A}} = \frac{PPGd}{PPGb}$$









TALLINNA TEHNIKAÜLIKOOL



## RESEARCH GROUPS



Centre for Digital Health
 Leads - prof. Peeter Ross, PhD Kadi Lubi

Digitization of healthcare, e-health, telemedicine, distance services, change management in healthcare

- Research in the areas of clinical decision support, evaluation of digital health technologies, online health data related behaviour, components and determinants of digitalisation of health care.
- Development of information technology solutions related to the digitalisation of healthcare
- IT solutions related to personal medicine, telemedicine, and distance services.
- Coordination of <u>Digital Health MSc programme</u> and the <u>PhD studies</u>.
  Teaching digital literacy skills in healthcare.
- Implementing projects and custom orders, compiling project applications TALLINNA TEHNIKAÜLIK and tenders.
  - Presentations and participation in various international research and development projects.



# MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICAL PHYSICS MASTER CURRICULUM

- Programme is a combination of engineering, medicine, IT and physics
- Health care is constantly in the need for new technologies that help to improve the diagnosis and treatment processes. The boimedical engineers are coming from this curriculum
- Graduates of Medical Technology study programme might deal with functional diagnostics and take care of the equipment in intensive care or be responsible for the procurement, maintenance and safety of medical equipment in a hospital.
- In scientific research we cover the fields of biomedicine, neurology, nephrology and cardiovascular medicine.





# Digital health (MSc)

