

Optimizing the impact of public policies in favour of research and innovation facilities in the field of medical technologies.

Medtech4 Europe
Interreg Europe



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Medtech4 Europe study visit in Upper Silesia



On 26 June 2019 the Medtech4 Europe project partners took part on the Study Visit in Upper Silesia. During the event the “Education and Medical Simulation Centre” at the Medical University of Silesia and the Professor Zbigniew Religa’s Foundation for the Development of Cardiac Surgery were visited. The aim of the study visit was to get to know the regional innovation ecosystem and its successful business models in the field of medical technology. Contribution to the mediation of cooperation was also addressed.

Project partners and stakeholders first had the opportunity to meet representatives of the Medical University of Silesia. As one of the highest quality health care centres in Poland, the University is constantly modernising its didactic, research and clinical infrastructure. The construction of the Education and Medical Simulation Centre was carried out as part of the Infrastructure and Environment programme. The health care Centre offers students the opportunity to be trained using state of the art didactics and simulation and IT techniques.



The second visit took place at the premises of the Foundation for the Development of Cardiac Surgery Professor Zbigniew Religa. Since its establishment in 2000, the institution has promoted and supported the transfer of knowledge in the field of modern heart surgery in Poland and in developing countries. The foundation improves the professional qualifications of doctors at home and abroad, especially in Eastern European countries.

Artificial heart, artificial heart chambers, biological heart valves, surgical techniques for selected cardio-surgical procedures, pediatric heart surgery, cooperation in the field of heart surgery and treatment of coronary heart diseases are its main activities.

The experience gained with the development and implementation of the Robin Heart surgical robot and other medical devices should lead to the creation of a professional training centre for new surgical techniques and technologies and an experimental, robot-controlled operating theatre.



During the subsequent policy workshop on 26 June 2019, project partners and external stakeholders discussed policy incentive programs that can contribute to the optimization of medical device business models. The discussions focused, among other things, on the question of which support services can be created for SMEs and research institutions in order to meet the medical device regulation requirements. The 26 June 2019 Medtech4 Europe events were organised by Upper Silesian Agency for Entrepreneurship and Development.



Joint Cross Analysis between regions

Joint Cross Analysis of the Medtech4 Europe project identifies convergences, elements of improvement, best practices and recommendations that could be useful for the partnership to elaborate the basement of new models and the writing of the action plans. In terms of learning, expectations are relatively well shared: partners want to learn about each others’

good practices, projects, models, ideas, feedbacks from experiences, in particular to achieve a better efficiency of their ecosystems.

You can download the Joint Cross Analysis from the Library section of the project website.



South Transdanubian Study visit

MedTech Europe project partners travelled to the South Transdanubian region of Hungary to learn about the local best practices and to share experiences with each other. The study visit took place in Pécs, and it was focused on the research and innovation centers of the University of Pécs (PTE) with 25,000 students.

On 15 October 2019, the first venue of the visit was the PTE 3D Center, where Dr. Péter MARÓTI, research associate professor and RDI coordinator introduced the production and development of 3D printed medical devices. The PTE 3D Center works with external organizations in the technical, health and art fields. Its most important partner is Corvus Med Ltd., with them the colleagues of the 3D Center jointly produce locomotor rehabilitation devices and novel limb prostheses.

The study visit continued at the Szentágotthai Research Center, which is famous not only for its research work, but also for the fact that its building is operated by using the most modern architectural solutions exploiting renewable energy. The research center hosts lecture halls and practice labs, which are mostly used by students at the University’s Faculty of Medicine, Pharmacy and Science. In addition, the conditions for world-class research are assured as the Center is also home to one BSL-4 virus laboratory. Prof. Dr. Ferenc JAK-AB, head of virology research, welcomed the guests and gave them an insight into the daily life of the research teams and the Center.

The last venue of the visit was in a walking distance from the research centre: the Pécs Regional Blood Hungarian National Blood Transfusion Service. The presentation of László KREKA, instrumentation and technical coordinator had a focus on the medtech equipments used, the operation of the center itself and the transfusion process.

Following the lunch, the interregional workshop at Hotel Palatinus City Center started, addressing the topic of mutual learning from Medtech4 Europe in medtech innovation: experiences, good practices and research infrastructures of the regions.

On 16 October 2019, the members of the project Steering Committee hold their 4th meeting, discussing the achievements and to dos of project management, communication-dissemination and experience exchange.

The 15-16 October 2019 project events were organised by South Transdanubian Regional Innovation Agency.

