

New Medical Software Helps Clinicians Monitor and Assess Critical Care Patients

- **Better Care software facilitates improvements in the prevention, supervision and treatment of serious diseases, unifying the monitoring of ventilatory and vital signs signals, while also providing the ability to analyze historical data in near-real-time.**
- **The software creates opportunities for conducting research into critical care decision-making and treatment efficacy previously limited by a lack of information, resources and time.**

Barcelona, 19th October 2015 -- Better Care S.L. signed an agreement with the US affiliate Draeger Medical Systems Inc. of Germany based Drägerwerk AG & Co. KGaA, for selling Better Care software to hospitals worldwide. Better Care software enables care providers in all areas of a hospital to integrate and cross-reference data from Dräger vital sign monitors and ventilators for assessing critical patients. The software has been developed by a team lead from Corporació Sanitària Parc Taulí (Sabadell)

Connectivity and storage

Traditionally, medical teams have struggled with two data-related challenges. First is the difficulty of gathering and combining recorded patient data from multiple clinical devices that utilize incompatible proprietary communication protocols. Second is the storage of synchronised, fully-integrated patient data in hospital information systems to make conducting thorough, historic reviews possible.

Those two critical points have been resolved by the software developed by the Catalan start-up. "Better Care is a truly innovative web solution that delivers monitored vital signs, near-real-time waveforms, trends and full disclosure data in full detail and high-resolution to a bedside display or to an HTML5-enabled mobile device for a clinician *on the go*. Connecting to the hospital network equipped with our Infinity[®] Gateway by simply scanning a smart QR code, the software accesses data that can help expedite patient assessment and treatment," said Steffen Protsch, Head of Product Management at Dräger.

Since 2010, Better Care software has managed to simplify monitoring systems and connectivity across hospital departments. In the words of Better Care S.L. cofounder Dr. Lluís Blanch: "*Connectivity between devices and review of historical data have enabled us to develop new algorithms, to support the monitoring of acute patients, making substantial improvements in their possible treatment.*" This smart tracking system makes it possible to centralize vital signals, including data recorded in the ICU, from a patient connected to several devices on a single web client.

The software is proving very useful in supporting R&D and scientific research teams. Data collected using Better Care has already made it possible to broaden the scope of research in several facets of critical care medicine, resulting in papers published in leading journals. Better Care S.L., together with the Corporació Sanitària Parc Taulí, is in talks with several top-flight international institutions regarding the potential use of Better Care software in major research projects.

Catalan research with an international profile

Better Care software was developed by a team led by **Dr. Lluís Blanch**, a specialist in intensive care medicine, the head of research and innovation at the Corporació Sanitària Parc Taulí and the IT technical director at **Bernat Sales**. The founding team, which also includes doctor Gastón Murias of the Clínica Bazterrica in Buenos Aires, Umberto Lucangelo, anaesthesiologist at the Cattinara Hospital in Trieste and Glòria Palomar, an economist, and director of management at the Parc Taulí Foundation, designed the application with a universal, international methodology to support compatibility with *leading brands* of medical equipment and Hospital Information Systems.

The Better Care development project won important awards including the second prize at **Bioemprenedors XXI**, organised by La Caixa, BioCat and Barcelona Activa; the **Fem Indústria** prize, awarded by the Catalan college of industrial engineers, La Salle Technova and Leitat Technological Center in 2012 and the **Pasion>IE** prize from **Accenture**. “Thanks to this agreement, we will focus on our core competency, “developing clinical applications” for clinicians ” confirmed the CEO on the Better Care management team, **Eulàlia Clos**, also stating, “this “win-win” agreement is irrefutable proof of the usefulness of our system and the value we create for the end-users.

Better Care S.L. is a start-up created in 2010, originally linked to the Corporació Sanitària Parc Taulí. The primary purpose of the company is to develop and market software tools for monitoring, integrating and analysing biomedical signals and alarms in critical or potentially critical patients, as well as developing algorithms to support decision-making.

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List of publications:

1. Asynchronies during mechanical ventilation are associated with mortality.
Intensive Care Medicine. April 2015.
ISSN 0342-4642. Volume 41. Number 4. Intensive Care Med (2015) 41:633-641
DOI 10.1007/s00134-015-3692-6
2. Validation of the Better Care_ system to detect ineffective efforts during expiration in mechanically ventilated patients: a pilot study.
Intensive Care Medicine. Online February 2012.
DOI:10.1007/s00134-012-2493-4
3. Nurses detection of ineffective inspiratory efforts during mechanical ventilation
AJCC □ AMERICAN JOURNAL OF CRITICAL CARE, July 2012, Volume 21, No. 4 .
doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4037/ajcc2012108>

Press and communication

Marta Bertran - marta@iloveme.cat
615 43 18 42 - 93 237 85 20
Sílvia Figueras - silvia@iloveme.cat
93 237 85 20 - 656 26 53 78