

8th Brazilian Telemedicine and Telehealth Congress – CBTms

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The 8th Brazilian Telemedicine and Telehealth Congress – CBTms, promoted by the Telemedicine and Telehealth Brazilian Association – ABTms, occurred in the period of November 14 to 17, 2017, in the city of Gramado-RS and represented a milestone in the history of telemedicine, telehealth and teleducation in Brazil. Under the president Prof Dr Ana Emilia F. Oliveira's leadership, the ABTms members worked tirelessly seeking to reunite all concerned parties in the subject. Therefore, the academia's, the public sector's (MS) and the large, medium and small companies' representatives were present, giving special attention to the sector's startups.

The discussions, debates, researches and networking that were promoted in that period had as an objective ABTms' premise that it is necessary to combine forces so that we can leverage telehealth and teleducation in our country. Allied to this, we had the traditional presentation of scientific work and the development of innovative activities, such as the execution of the 1st ABTms Hackathon, an area for the commercial exhibition of startups (encompassing 17 stands and more than 30 exhibitors), in addition to the un-conference area oriented towards anyone who wanted to present their research, their product or their service.

Among the more than 600 participants, during the conference, the following people were present: researchers, managers, companies and startups' representatives, scholars from education institutions based all around Brazil, some brilliantly represented by their deans, as well as members from the most important brazilians hospitals, both public and private.

To contemplate a scientific grate thought beyond the academic area, we had 142 speakers, distributed among 46 panel. Among the debated subjects, a few themes stand out, such as innovation in digital health, emerging technologies, big data, things' internet, the use of technology in chronic diseases, virtual reality, innovations in distance learning, blockchain and social media.

As for the presented works, 239 summaries were accepted. Among these, 199 were presented as posters e 40 under the form of oral presentation, being categorized in three lines: information and communication technology (TIC) in health, teleducation and telehealth.

Therefore, the 3 best works from each category were awarded during the event. The first nominees, apart from the local award, were invited to publish their expanded summaries in the *Jornal Brasileiro de Telessaúde* (free translation: Brazilian Telehealth Journal) and to submit them to the *Journal of the International Society for Telemedicine and eHealth*, ABTms' international partner.

We hope that the readers will appreciate the edition, and would like to take the moment to invite you to participate in ABTms, helping us to construct and develop telemedicine, telehealth and teleducation, so that we can promote better health and education for brazilians.

