Measuring Innovation Transfer for eHealth



Introducing Metrics for the Impact of Projects by Students

Prof. Dr. Martine Herpers, University of Applied Sciences Fulda Michael Jahn, IETEC, Head of Innovation

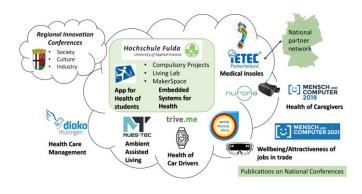
Research questions: How can the innovation performance of student projects in eHealth be made visible? Are there particular aspects that need to be taken into account in digitalization in the health sector?

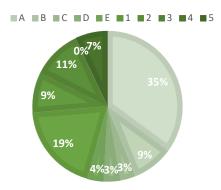
Fulda University of Applied Sciences is strong in health science research and in interdisciplinary research projects the **digitalization of health services and products** is one of the main topics. The Fulda region is home to a number of small and medium-sized enterprises with an interest in eHealth services and products. The RIGL project (Regional Innovation for Health and Wellbeing), funded by the federal initiative "Innovative Hochschule" started at 2018. As part of the sub-project Health Care Wearables the innovation transfer of **57 student projects** was evaluated. The impact of the student projects was evaluated directly after their completion and at the end of the fourth year by professors and industrial representatives involved.

Indirect transfer covers all projects, which have no direct relation to a company or industry. Typically the transfer is performed by the students learning during their studies and the cooperation with non-profit organizations or federal institutions. The idea and know-how about technical innovation is growing in the civil population increasing the acceptance of the technology. This can theoretically create the opportunity for a start-up company.

	Double of Innovation	Indicators
Ε	Strengthen knowledge base/competencies at national level	publication on a national or international conference
D	Strengthen knowledge base/competencies at regional level	publication on a regional conference
С	Set-up of cooperation between university and companies	student projects where companies show a certain interest
В	Building the knowledge in civil society for application	student projects together with a civil organisation
Α	Building up application-related competencies in the university	student projects with related practical topic, lead by a practioners

	Depth of Innovation	Indicators
1	Academical competencies into company, application know-how to students	Projects perfomed by students, thesis work, supervized by company stuff
2	Transfer of competencies into development, product design or work processes	Employment after graduation
3	Efficiency increase or prospect of new markets	Outdoor advertising, job ads change
4	Development of new products/services	Announcement of new products, new third-party projects
5	Development of new products/services that are new to the entire industry	Publications, fairs, conferences





Job advertisment of IETEC. The innovative digitalization in their shoe orthopedics requires now own stuff for software development.



Results: The defined metrics and their indicators have been used to evaluated the innovation transfer reached by the student projects. In health sector the innovation in digitalization can easily be observed due to the still low level of digitalization. The effort for creating new products or services is high: projects of level C followed by projects of level 2 and 5 were needed for the success.

Stuffing Requirements (per month)

■ Teachers ■ Student Assistants