

PRESS RELEASE 28/11/2024

The Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas - Institute of Computer Science achieved again great distinctions at the Healthcare Business Awards 2024, the institution that highlights and awards best practices and innovative actions across the spectrum of Healthcare.

For its overall performance, the Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas – Institute of Computer Science received the "Top Research Center" prize.



In addition to the above grand prize, the Institute of Computer Science of FORTH won a total of six Awards:

- The Center for eHealth Applications and Services (CeHA) received a GOLD award in the category "Compliance with International Interoperability Standards" for its *Integrated Care Solutions* software suite. CeHA is a pioneer in the field of interoperability and through its package of applications *Integrated Care Solutions* studies and implements international standards and practices, while participating in certification actions (Connectathons, Projectathons, Hackathons) thus acting as an ambassador of the rational use of standards and practices, for an interoperability of applications and services compatible and consistent with international trends in the field of health.
- The European Digital Innovation Hub for Smart Health "smartHEALTH" received a GOLD award in the category "Contribution to Health". smartHEALTH is a service of a One-stop-shop, where small

and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), start-ups, midcaps and the public sector can receive assistance to improve their business and production processes and products/services through the use of modern digital technology. The specialized expertise offered by smartHEALTH focuses on the emblematic areas of precision medicine, cancer, as well as the process of digital transformation of the public sector.

- The GOLD award and the PLATINUM award in the category "Research Centers" were received by the Laboratory of Computational Biomedicine (CBML) of FORTH-ICS, for the *Medical Imaging Data Integration Infrastructures for the Development of Artificial Intelligence Models in Cancer*. Through the Pro-Cancer I project, FORTH has already created an infrastructure that integrates data and imaging models supporting over 10,000 accurate prostate cancer care image collections. This infrastructure has already been integrated into EUCAIM's pan-European digital infrastructure, which focuses on cancer in general and brings together 76 partners from across Europe.
- The SILVER award in the category "Digital Health Services & Medical Informatics" was received by the Information Systems Laboratory and the Center for eHealth Applications and Services of FORTH-ICS together with the Hellenic Network of Molecular Oncology (EDIMO), for the *Information Systems Ecosystem of the Hellenic Network of Molecular Oncology*. The ecosystem provides tools used by clinicians and laboratory staff to record clinical and genetic information, respectively, feeding into a Clinogenetic Information Bank that can be used for research purposes.
- The BRONZE Award in the category "Research Centers" was received by the Hybrid Molecular Imaging Unit (HMIU) of FORTH-ICS together with the Institute of Nuclear and Radiological Sciences, Technology, Energy and Safety of NCSR "Demokritos" for the International Distinction of Research Work, which focuses on the development of an innovative, multimodal radiopharmaceutical for the detection of sentinel lymph node, with increased diagnostic effectiveness. The paper won the International Best Abstract Award for Greece at the American Society for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging's annual conference held in Toronto, Canada in June 2024.

The Healthcare Business Awards 2024 ceremony took place on Monday, November 25, at a central hotel in Athens, where more than 400 representatives of the pharmaceutical market, the academic and scientific community, health institutions, non-profit organizations and patient associations participated, and applauded the quality of the awarded candidacies of healthcare companies, universities, NGOs, companies and institutions regardless of sector that invest in innovative actions across the health spectrum.

The award ceremony was attended by the Director of the Institute of Computer Science of FORTH Prof. Dimitrios Plexousakis, the Head of the Center for eHealth Applications and Services (CeHA) Mr. Dimitrios Katehakis, as well as a number of executives of the Institute of Computer Science from Heraklion, Athens and Thessaloniki.

Upon receiving the Prize of the Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas as a leading Research Center, the Director of the Institute of Computer Science of FORTH, Mr. Dimitris Plexousakis, stated: *"It is a great honor for us to receive the Award of the Leading Research Institution. The Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas is the largest research center in the country with 10 research institutes in 6 cities of the country. The Institute of Computer Science, which I have the honor to head, is the largest of the research Institutes of FORTH and the largest Institute in the country in the field of Information and Communication Technologies. We conduct basic and applied research in areas of strategic importance, including Computational Biomedicine and Health in general. We contribute to the digital transformation of the health and care sector through the products of the eHealth Applications and Services Centre and through innovation promotion actions such as the SmartHealth European Digital Innovation Hub. We continue our efforts in cooperation with the state, public and private health institutions and innovative businesses in Greece and abroad."*

Link: <https://healthcareawards.boussiasevents.gr/>

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