

## Thailand to strengthen status as medical hub of ASEAN

12 September 2019 | News

**Thai innovators to get the international exposure to build strategic partnerships and flourish in both domestic and the wider regional markets and to explore challenges and opportunities of the next decade**



The ninth edition of MEDICAL FAIR THAILAND 2019 was inaugurated on 11 Sep 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. The focus is on addressing the region's healthcare challenges and objectives as outlined by the Thai government and industry experts. The leading sourcing and networking exhibition explores dynamic healthcare industry to strengthen Thailand's status as a medical hub of ASEAN, in line with its Thailand 4.0 policy.

Over 60 Thai companies covering a range of sectors from hospital equipment to diagnostics and medical technology, exhibit to reach local and regional markets showcasing Thailand's innovation potential. Considering the healthcare industry to be a priority sector for investment and further development, innovative business developers tries to reach their goals with services such as the incubation and accelerate programmes, as well as funding.

MEDICAL FAIR THAILAND 2019 welcomes 1,000 exhibitors from 60 countries, presenting more than 10,000 products; the most comprehensive range of medical and healthcare innovations spanning state-of-the-art imaging and diagnostic equipment, patient monitoring systems, cost-effective consumables and digital healthcare solutions. The exhibition will also see its widest representation of national pavilions and country/regional groups - 21 in total including five newcomers; Brazil, Denmark, Hong Kong, Indonesia, and Israel.

### **MEDICAL FAIR THAILAND 2019 meets industry challenges**

#### **Community Care Pavilion**

Tackling Thailand's two most urgent healthcare challenges of a rapidly ageing population and a steep rise in non-communicable diseases (NCDs), this edition will for the first time introduce the Community Care Pavilion. Conceptualized to bring together stakeholders from various healthcare sectors as they present the latest technological advances, particularly in the areas of diagnostics, artificial intelligence (AI), telemedicine and wearable devices which will be needed to cope with the increasing demands put on the healthcare system by an older population and higher rates of NCDs.

Like many other countries, Thailand is heading towards an ageing society; in relation to other countries in ASEAN, the proportion of citizens aged over 60 is one of the highest in the region. It is also forecast that, by 2045, the proportion of the population over 60 will exceed that of other regions such as Europe and the United States. Thailand's ageing society is expected to further drive domestic healthcare demands in the decades ahead, and the Ministry of Public Health estimates that spending on healthcare for the elderly is expected to rise to THB 228 billion in 2022 or 2.8 percent of GDP.

### **Start-Up Park**

The Start-Up Park at MEDICAL FAIR THAILAND is intended to play a significant role as an enabler of the entrepreneurial ecosystem that encourages life sciences and medical and health innovation in Thailand and the region. As a dedicated platform for innovative, late-stage and maturing healthcare and medical start-up companies, 11 companies from Singapore, Japan, South Korea,

Hong Kong, Taiwan and Thailand will be on show. Here to meet potential investors, industry influencers and buyers, they will exhibit innovations and solutions that include best-in-class thermal disinfectant solutions for bone grafting, AI software systems to reduce diagnosis delay and improve treatment time for sleep disorders, and a one-stop e-platform to search and book appointments with medical and healthcare professionals.

### **Conferences and concurrent events**

MEDICAL FAIR THAILAND's success has not just been built on the exhibition, and in its bid to be a sourcing and knowledge platform of choice, in collaboration with local and international partners, a wide range of other events and conferences are held concurrently. This year's line-up includes the 4<sup>th</sup> Advanced Rehab Technology Conference (ARTeC), WT I Wearable Technologies Conference 2019 ASIA, Hospital CIO Forum, Nursing and Health Literacy for NCD Management, Healthcare Innovation for Ageing Society Conference, and many more.

### **Strong industry support from the region**

MEDICAL FAIR THAILAND is well supported by close to 20 regional and national trade associations from India, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Vietnam including the Asia Pacific Medical Technology Association (APACMed), the Association of Indian Medical Device Industry, Association of Private Hospitals Of Malaysia, the Philippine Medical and Laboratory Equipment and Supply Group Inc., and the Vietnam Medical Equipment Association, among others. The line-up also includes movers and shakers of the Thai medical and healthcare scene such as; the Private Hospital Association, Thai Rehabilitation Medicine Association, the Thai Medical Device Technology Industry Association (THAIMED), the Thai Medical and Wellness Tourism Association, and the Thai Elderly Promotion & Healthcare Association (TEPHCA) and more.