

PREDICTOM launches prospective study, gears up for MR protocol harmonization



PREDICTOM is an international consortium of academia and industry formed in 2023 and led by Stavanger University Hospital in Norway, with GE HealthCare as the leading industrial partner. Twenty-five partners from Europe, North America and Asia aim to develop a screening platform for identifying people at risk for dementia before the onset of clinical symptoms. GE HealthCare is responsible for developing and implementing the platform, and integrating data, algorithms and automatically extracted features by leveraging the company's strong expertise in MR imaging, leading the discovery of MR imaging-based biomarkers.

In October 2024, the group convened for its annual meeting and celebrated early achievements. The PREDICTOM prospective study has launched with patient recruitment and collection of at-home (phase 1) data. The AI algorithm that will serve to identify low- and high-risk participants that will move to at-clinic (phase 2) data collection has been trained on the UK Biobank data and will incorporate a normative cognition model. The initial MR acquisition protocol harmonization is nearly complete, and it

will be presented in June at the Organization for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM) 2025 meeting in Brisbane, Australia. In fact, already 17 abstracts from the Consortium have been presented and two papers are currently in review.

The three current Innovative Health Initiative (IHI) projects on neurodegenerative diseases, PREDICTOM, AD-RIDDLE (a platform to transform how Alzheimer's disease is detected, diagnosed, treated and prevented across healthcare settings), and PROMINENT (a project to address challenges around Alzheimer's diagnosis and treatment pathways) have established a collaboration. Public involvement and general practitioner campaigns began, enabling these groups to also contribute toward research. This is an important step, as one goal of PREDICTOM is to find easy and accessible diagnostic tools that can be applied at the general practitioner's level and in the household, according to PREDICTOM's academic lead Dag Aarsland, Professor of Old Age Psychiatry at King's College London and research lead at Stavanger University Hospital. **S**

First modular MR in Southeast Asia

Tengku Ampuan Rahimah Hospital in Klang, Malaysia, has completed the first modular installation of a GE HealthCare MR system in Southeast Asia. The hospital is the second busiest hospital in Malaysia in terms of inpatient admission. It is also the busiest outpatient medical facility in the country.

Featuring a SIGNA™ Victor 1.5T system, the modular container is sited outside the 1,000+ bed hospital, improving MR imaging access to patients. As a medical teaching hospital for the University of Malaysia and Management and Science University, students will have the



opportunity to train on the latest MR technology. The hospital plans to re-install the MR system at a later date inside the hospital once the infrastructure is completed. **S**