

University of Crete: New platform for emergency management of stroke incidents



A platform called “Time Is Brain”, developed by researchers at the Institute of Computer Science (ICS) of the Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH), University of Crete, was awarded first prize at the first Hacking Health Hackathon (HHH) competition.

The HHH competition, which took place in Athens, fosters the development of innovative technological solutions that address health problems and their medical treatment. The first prize winners received a 2,000-euro cash prize.

Time Is Brain is a complete platform aimed at the efficient management of acute incidents of **stroke**. It includes distinct applications for paramedics and hospital teams that receive stroke patients. The platform reduces the time gap between the a patient’s first contact with a health professional in the aftermath or during a stroke crisis and the provision of specialised treatment. This is particularly important, as improved response times can literally save the life of stroke victims or significantly reduce their chances of developing a disability. This platform conforms to the empirical rule that patients need to be under medical attention within the first hour of their acute symptoms.

The FORTH team was headed by Aggelina Kouroubali, the major collaborating researcher. Other members entailed Giorgios Kavlentakis, the software development team coordinator. Ioannis Petrakis and Nikolaos Tselas also medical researchers, were those to coordinate platform activities with George Notas, Assistant Professor of the University of Crete Medical School.