



---

## PARTNER PROFILE

---

# Healthcare robotics



HEALTH INNOVATION CENTRE  
OF SOUTHERN DENMARK



# The Health Innovation Centre

As the central innovation unit in the Region of Southern Denmark, the Health Innovation Centre's purpose is to support the regional hospitals and psychiatric care units in their local innovation efforts, across the whole innovation process from idea to implementation and evaluation. Our mission is to *co-create solutions for the future healthcare sector*. When it comes to healthcare robotics, we support the regional hospitals in pre-analyses, development, test and evaluation, procurement and implementation of robotics solutions.

The Centre has a significant role in supporting public-private innovation partnerships in the region, including establishing links and building bridges between needs in the clinical operations and companies who develop new robotics solutions for healthcare. The Health Innovation Centre offers unique insights into the challenges and needs within the healthcare sector and supports collaborative innovation processes. The result is valuable solutions that improve healthcare services, to the benefit of citizens, employees and the healthcare sector.

The Health Innovation Centre has a central role in the region when it comes to healthcare robotics. Among other things, the Centre co-coordinates the national 'Network for mobile robots in the healthcare sector', in which stakeholders across sectors meet 3-4 times a year to discuss different topics.

## Specialist Services

The Health Innovation Centre has a strong team of around 65 employees with a wide range of skills to support innovation and co-creation processes. We have a mixture of specialist skills within specific areas such as

*robotics in healthcare, to broader methodological competencies in relation to innovation management, participatory design, anthropological observation and human robotic interactions design (HRI design).*

## Potential Partner Roles

The Health Innovation Centre can be a Work Package Leader within e.g.:

### ***Studies and Analyses***

In order to understand the needs and challenges in the clinical setting and support the development of targeted and value-adding solutions as well as ensure user-driven development of new solutions, we can contribute to projects with:

- Anthropological observations studies
- Interviews
- Participatory design and co-creation workshops
- Potential analyses
- Implementation analyses
- Use case descriptions
- Requirements specifications for new solutions
- HRI design

During the development phase we can contribute with participatory design approaches, such as:

- User- and stakeholder involvement
- Facilitating cross-disciplinary collaboration processes (e.g. co-creation workshops)
- Incorporating implementation-related aspects during the solution development

### ***Test and Evaluation***

In order to match the users' needs with the right technology and assess the potential of new solutions, we can contribute to projects with:

- Test approach and protocols
- Mock up- and experience prototype testing
- Pilot testing in clinical environments
- Evaluation set-ups, – reports and – videos
- Business cases
- Studies of human-robot-interaction and usability testing

### ***Implementation***

In order to ensure that the project solutions are actually transformed into new behaviour and maintained after the project ends, we can contribute to projects with:

- As-is and to-be analyses of workflows
- Opportunity and barrier analyses
- Change management skills
- Communication plans
- Description of personas and end-users
- Involvement of all organisational levels and stakeholders
- Design for adoption

### ***Network and Dissemination***

As an established knowledge hub for healthcare innovation in the South Denmark ecosystem and a four-star reference site in the EIP on AHA as well as an active member in the ECHAlliance, we can contribute to a project with:

- International network establishment
- Exposure and dissemination through strong established channels and networks
- Thematic events (e.g. challenges and barriers for successful implementation)

The Region of Southern Denmark can be a test/demonstration site in collaboration with one of the four main hospital units in our region. We are particularly interested in projects within e.g. Horizon Europe, AAL, Digital Europe, CEF or Interreg.

## Our Aim in International Collaborations

Our aim is to enter into collaborations that on the one hand develop new, needs-based and valuable robotics solutions for our regional healthcare services, and on the other hand support knowledge sharing and upscaling of strong and innovative robotics solutions.

We are particularly interested in collaborating with partners with complimentary competencies to our own, e.g. universities, companies and different health care organisations. We see our role as uncovering needs, potentials and barriers, supporting co-creation, and/or testing and evaluating prototypes or pre-commercial products - with a focus on matching solutions with user needs.

## International Project Portfolio

The Health Innovation Centre has participated in several large international robotics projects within health and care, e.g. the [FP7 project SILVER – Support Independent LiVing for the Elderly through Robotics](#), in which we were in charge of Phase 2 prototype testing and WP lead for Learnings and Recommendations. Another example is the [Interreg 5A project Health-CAT](#) in which we were WP Lead for Needs Analysis and led the mock up- and prototype testing in Denmark.



**European Innovation  
Partnership on Active  
and Healthy Ageing**

CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE

The Region of Southern Denmark is a four-star reference site for the EIP on AHA and have achieved a certificate of excellence. (Link til: <https://www.innosouth.dk/projects/the-region-of-southern-denmark-excellent-innovators-within-active-and-healthy-ageing-eip-on-aha/>)

## Strengths in the Region of Southern Denmark

The Region of Southern Denmark has a strong regional health ecosystem with a long-standing tradition for collaboration across sectors. The Region of Southern Denmark is a well-established international hotspot when it comes to robotics in Odense, the largest city in the Region, which has produced significant robotics companies such as Universal Robots, Mobile Industrial Robots as well as Blue Ocean Robotics. This track record has led to the establishment of [the national robot, automation and drone cluster – Odense Robotics](#), aiming to accelerate innovation and growth for the robotics ecosystem across Denmark. Denmark hosts many full-scale test facilities and has a long tradition of developing solutions for complex processes in collaboration with end users. Odense is also the home for the Danish Technological Institute's robotics hub, who are among other things partners in the DIH-HERO project.

**Feel free  
to contact**

**Louise Halgaard Gotfredsen**

[lhg@rsyd.dk](mailto:lhg@rsyd.dk)

+45 2179 1404



**HealthCAT**  
A Danish-German Interreg project. The project developed a prototype for a mobile logistics robot to transport and distribute small equipment



**SILVER**  
(Supporting Independent LiVing for the Elderly through Robotics) was a pre-commercial procurement project funded by the European Commission.