TeleHealth
NEWSLETTER

TELEMEDICINE SOCIETY OF INDIA

25th July 2025
Vol6. Issue No.59

Telehealth Newsletter

Official Newsletter of Telemedicine Society of India

What is New?

The Executive Committee (EC) members recently visited the Indian Institute of Science to inspect the venue for the upcoming TELEMEDICON. We are pleased to share that it is an outstanding academic setting-an ideal location for hosting our annual conference. Our program committee is working diligently to curate a rich and engaging academic experience for all attendees. We encourage you to start registering in large numbers to make this conference a truly memorable one.

The state chapters continue to play a pivotal role in advancing digital health across India. This issue features updates from six state chapter ECs, with more to be included in our next edition. Also, don't miss the thought-provoking AI-related articles and the specially designed crossword puzzle by our Secretary, Dr. Umashankar.

Thank You

Dr. Sunil Shroff

Chief Editor

President-Elect, TSI

Report of the Mid-Term Executive Committee Meeting of Telemedicine Society of India (TSI), Headquarters'

Prof. (Dr) Umashankar S.
Managing Director Med.Bot | Honorary Secretary, Telemedicine Society of India

Date: 12th July 2025
Venue: Board Room, IISc Medical School Foundation, 5th Floor, IDA Building, Bengaluru.
Mode: Hybrid (Physical + Zoom)
Time: 10:00 AM onwards
Reported by: Dr. Umashankar S, Honorary Secretary, TSI

The Mid-Term Executive Committee Meeting of the Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) was held on **12th July 2025 at 10:00 AM** in a hybrid mode. The physical meeting was convened at the IISc Medical School Foundation, Bengaluru, and members unable to attend in person joined via Zoom.

The meeting commenced with a **warm welcome by the Honorary Secretary, Dr. Umashankar S**, followed by a **Presidential message** that highlighted the Society's ongoing commitment to advancing telemedicine across the country.

Key updates were shared by the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and important decisions were taken regarding society activities, conferences, and health initiatives. The meeting reflected active participation and a shared vision for advancing telemedicine in India.

The meeting concluded with a **vote of thanks** by the Honorary Secretary, appreciating the participation and ongoing contributions of all EC members, and reiterating the Society's focus on innovation, inclusion, and impactful healthcare delivery through telemedicine.

Collaborative leadership in action – TSI HQ and Karnataka Chapter EC Members, July 2025.

Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) - New Executive Committee Details of various chapters

Prof. (Dr) Umashankar S.
Managing Director Med.Bot | Honorary Secretary, Telemedicine Society of India

Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) - New Executive Committee of Maharashtra Chapter

Position	Name	City
President	Dr. J. S. Bhawalkar	Pune
Immed. Past President	Dr. Santosh Bhide	Pune
President Elect	Dr. Nita Munshi	Pune
Vice President	Dr. Alok Modi	Pune
Secretary	Dr. P. Vatsalaswamy	Pune
Treasurer	Dr. S. Telang	Pune
Executive Members	Dr. Almas Fatima	Navi Mumbai
	Dr. Amit Kharat	Pune
	Dr. Jawahar Shah	Mumbai
	Dr. Pradip Poonekar	Pune
	Dr. Santosh Bhide	Pune
	Dr. Ashok Bhanage	Pune

Note: The Executive Committee was elected during TSI Maharashtra Chapter – Meeting, and will serve for the term 2024–2026.

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Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) - New Executive Committee of Karnataka Chapter

Effective from April 2025

Position	Name	City
President	Dr. Sanjay Sharma	Bengaluru
Immed. Past President	Dr. Suresh Bada Math	Bengaluru
Vice President	Dr. Murthy Remilla	Bengaluru
Secretary	Dr. Umashankar S.	Bengaluru
Treasurer	Mr. Rajeev Kumar	Bengaluru
Executive Members	Dr. Bhaskar Rajakumar	Bengaluru
	Mr. Sameer Subhash Sawarkar	Bengaluru

Note: The Executive Committee was elected during TSI Karnataka Chapter – Meeting and will serve for the term 2025–2027.

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Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) - New Executive Committee of Rajasthan Chapter

Effective from 11th August 2024

Newly elected President Dr. Dhananjay K. Mangal addressed to the new committee members of Rajasthan State Chapter. He spoke about his plan of action for the coming year. He also thanked all speakers. He was focused to increase the effort in enhancing the knowledge of medical professionals about digital health application and its consequent benefits to the society.

Position	Name	City
Patron	Dr GN Saxena	Jaipur
President	Dr. Dhananjay K. Mangal	Jaipur
Immed. Past President	Maj. Gen. (Dr) Ashok Singh	Jaipur
Vice President	Dr Vikas Gaur	Jaipur
Secretary cum Treasurer	Mr Abhishek Jadaun	Jaipur
Joint Secretary	Ms. Anisha Khan	Jaipur
Executive Members	Col (Dr.) Pramod Kumar	Jaipur
	Dr. Surbhi Gaur	Jaipur
	Mr. Ashutosh Verma	Jaipur

Note: The Executive Committee was elected during TSI Rajasthan Chapter – Meeting, and will serve for the term 2024–2026.

New EC of TSI Rajasthan Chapter Begins Its Journey with Virtual and In-Person Discussions

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Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) - New Executive Committee of Telangana Chapter

Effective from 02nd July 2025

Position	Name	City
President	Mr. V S Ramachandra	Hyderabad
Immed. Past President	Mr. Suryanarayana Murthy Dendukuri	Hyderabad
Vice President	Dr. BV Krishna Rao	Hyderabad
Secretary	Dr. Akhila Kosuru	Hyderabad
Treasurer	Mr. Uma Mahesh Katta	Hyderabad
Executive Members	Dr. Matam Shankar	Hyderabad
	Dr. Vyaghreswara Sarma Mokkapati	
	Dr. Rajiv Kumar Bandaru	Hyderabad
Co Opted as EC Member	Dr. Sadhna Sharma	Hyderabad
	Dr. Shivani Kailashchand Jain	Beeramguda
	Dr. Ravikumar BN	Secunderabad

Note: The Executive Committee was elected during TSI Telangana Chapter – Inaugural Meeting, and will serve for the term 2025–2027.

Together Towards Telemedicine Excellence – TSI Telangana Chapter EC Team

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Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) - New Executive Committee of Kerala Chapter

New Leadership Takes Charge of Telemedicine Society of India, Kerala Chapter

Effective from 27th June 2025 | Venue:Amrita Hospital, Kochi

The Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) – Kerala Chapter marked a significant leadership transition with Dr. Vivek Nambiar taking over as the New President. He succeeds Dr. Prem Nair, who continues to serve as the national President of TSI.

The newly elected Executive Committee, led by Dr. Vivek Nambiar, was introduced by Dr. Nitha Panickar, the new Secretary. Ms. Reshmi Aysha- Vice President of the Chapter,Mr. Kevin Devasia -Treasurer and committee members include Dr. C. Sreekumar,Dr. Pradeep Thomas, and Mr. Binu Mahid.

The event started with welcome address by Mr.Bijoy Secretary TSI -Kerala inaugural Address by Dr.Prem Nair -President TSI highlighted by the Keynote Address delivered by Chief Guest Dr. Sreevilasan K.A., President of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) – Kerala State, who spoke on the future of telemedicine and its integration into mainstream healthcare.Reort of TSI -Kerala presented by Mr.Bijoy Secretary TSI-Kerala

Dr. Raghavan, Retired Professor of NIT Trichy and a founding executive committee member of TSI, was honored by Dr. Prem Nair, President of TSI, with a shawl in appreciation of his lasting contributions to telemedicine in India.

Dr. Beena K.V. elaborated on several telemedicine initiatives carried out in collaboration with TSI and IMA, emphasizing the need for unified digital health strategies in Kerala.

Dr. L.S. Satyamurthy, TSI Founder Member and Former Director of ISRO, delivered a powerful felicitation address, reflecting on the early days of satellite-driven healthcare connectivity.

The event was further graced by dignitaries including Dr.Sudersan (Vice President, IMA), Dr. Satish Prabhu (State Coordinator, IMA), Dr. Dinesh (Administrator, Amrita Hospital), Adv. Anand (Managing Trustee, Adi Sankara Institutions), and Mr. Achuth (Executive Officer, TSI Kerala Chapter).Anchored by Ms. Merin.

The event concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by Ms. Reshmi Aysha, Vice President of TSI Kerala Chapter.

Position	Name	City
President	Dr.Vivek Nambiar	Kochi
Immed. Past President	Dr. Prem Nair	Kochi
Vice President	Ms.Reshmi Aysha	Thiruvananthapuram
Secretary	Dr. Nitha Panikar	Trivandrum
Treasurer	Mr. Kevin Devasya	Kochi
Executive Members	Mr. Binu Mahid	Thiruvananthapuram
	Dr. Sreekumar C	Kozhikode
	Dr. Pradeep Thomas	Karunagapalli

Note: The Executive Committee was elected during TSI Kerala Chapter –Meeting and will serve for the term 2025–2027.

Team Kerala – Advancing Telemedicine Together

Welcome speech by Honorary Secretary-TSI Kerala Mr.Bijoy

TSI Kerala Newly Elected Committee

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Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) - New Executive Committee of Uttarakhand Chapter

Effective from 01st August 2025

Position	Name	City
President	Prof. Meenu Singh	Rishikesh
Vice President	Dr. Ankur Mittal	Dehradun
Secretary	Dr. Nidhi Kaeley	Dehradun
Treasurer	Dr. Pankaj Sharma	Rishikesh
Executive Members	Dr. Vandana Kumar Dhingra	Rishikesh
	Dr Pooja Bhadoria	Rishikesh
	Dr Vikas Panwar	Dehradun

Note: The Executive Committee was elected during TSI Uttarakhand Chapter – Meeting and will serve for the term 2025–2027.

Framing our future – Uttarakhand Chapter in focus

Can AI-Powered Meal Plans Help Cancer Patients Eat Better?

Dr. Vasantha, BDS
Content Writer, Medindia.net

AI tools like ChatGPT and Gemini may soon help bridge nutrition gaps in cancer care by offering culturally sensitive, budget-friendly, personalized meal plans.

Eating right can make a big difference in how cancer patients feel and heal. But for many, getting expert nutrition advice is difficult or expensive. A new study published in the journal Nutrients by researchers from Thomas Jefferson University suggests that artificial intelligence (AI) tools like **ChatGPT and Gemini could help fill this gap by offering affordable, customized meal plans based on individual patient needs.**

The study found that large language models (LLMs) like ChatGPT and Gemini were able to generate **grocery lists and meal plans** tailored to various needs including **budget, culture, and location**. While professional dietitians offered better calorie accuracy, the AI models outperformed in matching **macronutrient targets**. Gemini, in particular, provided more comprehensive responses that even included prices and ethnic meal options. Overall, the meal plans from AI tools were found to be “not significantly different” from those created

by certified oncology dietitians.

Personalized Advice Is Rare

Nutrition plays a vital role in cancer care, influencing treatment outcomes, energy levels, and even survival. However, most cancer patients never get the chance to speak to a trained dietitian. Personalized nutritional counseling is often not covered by insurance, especially in outpatient care. Even when available, access is limited by long wait times, geographic barriers, and high costs.

Not Just a Luxury

Eating well is not just a matter of comfort for cancer patients. Weight gain during treatment, often caused by steroids or hormonal therapy, has been linked to poorer outcomes. Meanwhile, **financial hardship, poor access, and cultural gaps in care make it harder for many patients to follow a healthy diet. The result is a huge, unaddressed need for better, more inclusive nutritional support.**

How the Study Was Designed

Researchers created 31 prompt templates to test how well ChatGPT and Gemini could generate dietary recommendations for breast cancer patients. They introduced variations in age, budget, comorbidities, cultural food preferences, and even nearby grocery store availability. Dietitians were also asked to respond to a sample of prompts to compare outcomes.

What the AI Got Right

Both AI models produced full meal plans and grocery lists. Gemini stood out for its added visuals, cultural specificity, and cost estimates. It was also better at using sensitive language for budget-conscious users. ChatGPT focused more on meal preparation tips. Both models adapted well to different budget levels, providing flexibility many patients would find helpful.

Interestingly, while **AI fell short in adjusting for things like cancer stage or comorbid conditions, it hit the mark on nutrient balance.** Researchers noted that LLMs had access to massive databases that allowed them to match official macronutrient ranges with surprising accuracy. In some areas, their responses rivaled or even exceeded those of professional dietitians.

A Tool to Support, Not Replace, Human Care

AI Still Needs Oversight

While the results are promising, experts caution that **AI is not ready to replace human professionals**. The tools are less accurate in managing specific medical conditions and may overlook crucial dietary guidelines related to treatment plans. However, they can serve as a starting point, especially for underserved populations who lack access to care.

Bridging the Equity Gap

The study highlights the potential of AI to close longstanding equity gaps in cancer care. Culturally appropriate and cost-sensitive meal plans can help people from diverse backgrounds stick to healthy diets. For patients in remote regions or on tight budgets, being able to generate a grocery list that fits their local store and wallet could be life-changing.

While technology is not directly providing a cure for cancer, it can be a valuable ally in the journey to recovery. **This study opens up new possibilities for how AI can support nutrition in cancer care, especially for those who face barriers to seeing a dietitian.** The goal is not to replace expert care but to expand its reach, making sure no patient is left behind because of cost, culture, or geography.

If you're a cancer patient or caregiver, know that help with nutrition doesn't have to be out of reach. Let's turn technology to nourish every patient with dignity and hope.

Could AI Understand Your Tumour Better Than a Doctor?

Dr. Leena M, BDS
Content Writer, Medindia.net

AI offers hope for smarter, more targeted therapies in breast cancer by uncovering the hidden diversity of cancer cells.

What if we told you that not all cancer cells in a tumour are the same-and that's exactly why some treatments fail? A groundbreaking AI tool called **AAnet(Archetypal Analysis network)** is changing how we understand cancer at the **single-cell level**. This tool finds hidden cell types within tumours that behave in completely different ways. By identifying these "secret players", doctors may soon treat every part of a tumour-not just the majority. This means better targeting, fewer relapses, and hope for longer, healthier lives

Tumours: A Hidden City of Cell Types

Think of a tumour like a busy city. It's not just one kind of person living there-there are different communities of cells, each with their own role. Some cells grow fast, others resist treatment, and a few may even help the cancer spread. This **cellular diversity**, known as heterogeneity, is what makes cancer so tricky to treat. Understanding this is the first step to outsmarting the disease.

AAnet: The AI Detective Inside the Tumour

Traditional tools couldn't spot the subtle differences between cancer cells-but AAnet can. This powerful **AI algorithm** scans gene activity inside single cells and discovers patterns too complex for the human eye. It groups similar cells into clear "archetypes", showing us how different parts of a tumour behave. It's like going from a blurry image to crystal-clear insight.

Meet the 5 Cell Archetypes – Cancer's Hidden Faces

There are five unique groups of cells in breast tumours. Each group-or "archetype"-has its own traits: one may grow quickly, another might survive low oxygen, and one could even help cancer spread. These aren't just technical details-they're clues to more effective treatment, guiding doctors to target every type of bad actor.

A New Chapter for Breast Cancer Treatment

Most treatments today focus on where the cancer began-like the breast-but not on what's happening inside the tumour. AAnet changes that. It helps doctors look **deeper** than ever before, making room for personalized combination therapies that attack each cell group based on its biology. This approach could reduce relapses and improve overall success rates.

From Lab to Life: What's Next for AAnet

The next goal is to see how these cell groups **change over time**, especially before and after chemotherapy. This will help researchers understand which cells survive treatment-and why. The long-term dream? To use AAnet in hospitals, combining it with traditional tests so that every cancer patient gets the most **personalized care** possible.

Beyond Cancer: A Tool for the Future

While this study focused on breast cancer. From other cancers to autoimmune diseases, this AI tool could help decode **complex cell behavior** in many illnesses. It's a leap forward where technology meets biology, opening new paths for science, medicine, and patient hope.

::ANNOUNCEMENTS::

Telemedicine Society of India HQ,
Registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
Regd. Office: Room No.303. 2nd Floor, School of Telemedicine & Biomedical Informatics (STBMI)
SGPGIMS, Raebareli Road, Lucknow. Uttar Pradesh-226014. India.

TSI/ELE/2023-25/07/014 8th July 2025

Call for Proposals for Engagement of Online Election Software Service Provider for Conducting Society Elections 2025

I. Disclaimer

1. The information contained in this Request for Proposal (RFP) document or subsequently provided to the Bidders, whether verbally or in documentary or in any other form by TSI, is provided to the Bidders on the terms and conditions set out in this RFP and all other terms and conditions subject to which such information is provided.
2. This RFP is not an agreement and is neither an offer nor an invitation by the TSI to the Bidders or any other person, but an invitation to receive responses from eligible interested firms for providing services for online elections.
3. The information contained in this RFP has been provided to the best of knowledge of TSI and in good faith. However, the information may not be complete and accurate in all respects and may not be exhaustive.
4. The information contained in this RFP is subject to update, expansion, revision and amendment prior to the last day of submission of the Bids at the sole discretion of TSI. In case any major revisions to this RFP are made by TSI within seven days preceding the last date of submission of the Bids, TSI may or may not, at its discretion, provide reasonable additional time to the Bidders to respond to this RFP.

II. Overview

The Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) invites proposals from reputed service providers for the supply, implementation, and support of secure, robust, and user-friendly Online Election Software to conduct the upcoming society elections in a transparent and efficient manner.

III. Objectives

- To select a vendor that can provide an online voting platform ensuring confidentiality, authenticity, integrity, and real-time monitoring capabilities for conducting free and fair elections for the society's governing body.

IV. Request For Proposal

Proposals are invited from eligible, reputed, qualified Application Service Providers with end- to-end solutions as detailed out in the scope of work under Section V of this RFP document. This invitation to Bid is open to all Bidders meeting the minimum eligibility criteria as mentioned in section VI of this RFP document.

V. Scope of Work

The selected vendor will be responsible for the following:

1. Software Platform
    a. Secure cloud-based or web-based platform.
    b. Mobile (both android and ios) and desktop accessibility.
    c. Language English required, Multilingual interface (if required).
    d. Dashboard for administrators and real-time analytics.
2. Voter Registration & Authentication

[Click here to view complete Call for Proposals for Engagement of Online Election Software Service Provider for Conducting Society Elections 2025]

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SGPGIMS, Raebareli Road, Lucknow. Uttar Pradesh-226014. India.

TSI/RES/2023-25/07/013 8th July 2025

Call for Proposals under the TSI Research Project Grant 2025

Overview

The Telemedicine Society of India (TSI) invites proposals from members, students, researchers, academic institutions, healthcare organizations, and technology firms for grants to support innovative research in telemedicine, digital health, telehealth, and e-health. The goal of this research funding opportunity is to foster advancements in technology-driven healthcare delivery models, improve patient access, and promote the use of telemedicine, digital health, and telehealth for both preventive and therapeutic purposes. These innovative research projects are expected to result in finding solutions to priority health problems or support in enhancing solving the health problems of the country.

Objectives

The research grant aims to:

- Explore and evaluate new telemedicine, digital health, telehealth, and e-health models and their impact on patient outcomes.
- Improve the usability, accessibility, and security of digital health platforms.
- Address current challenges in telehealth services, including interoperability, data management, and patient engagement.
- Develop evidence-based approaches to integrate telemedicine into routine clinical practice.
- Advance artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) applications in telemedicine and digital health.
- Provide a sustainable telemedicine model with the capacity to scale.

Research Focus Areas

We welcome proposals addressing, but not limited to, the following topics:

- Telemedicine Infrastructure and Accessibility: Development of cost-effective solutions to extend telemedicine in underserved communities.
- Patient Monitoring and Remote Care: Innovations in remote monitoring tools and their application for chronic disease management.
- Digital Health Platforms: Enhancing patient portals and mobile applications for seamless access to care.
- Telehealth Policy and Implementation: Studies on telehealth adoption, barriers, and regulatory frameworks.
- AI in Healthcare: Use of AI and data analytics to enhance telehealth diagnostics and decision-making.
- Telemedicine and Health Equity: Research focusing on reducing disparities in telehealth access and outcomes across diverse populations.

Click here to view complete Call for Proposals under the TSI Research Project Grant 2025


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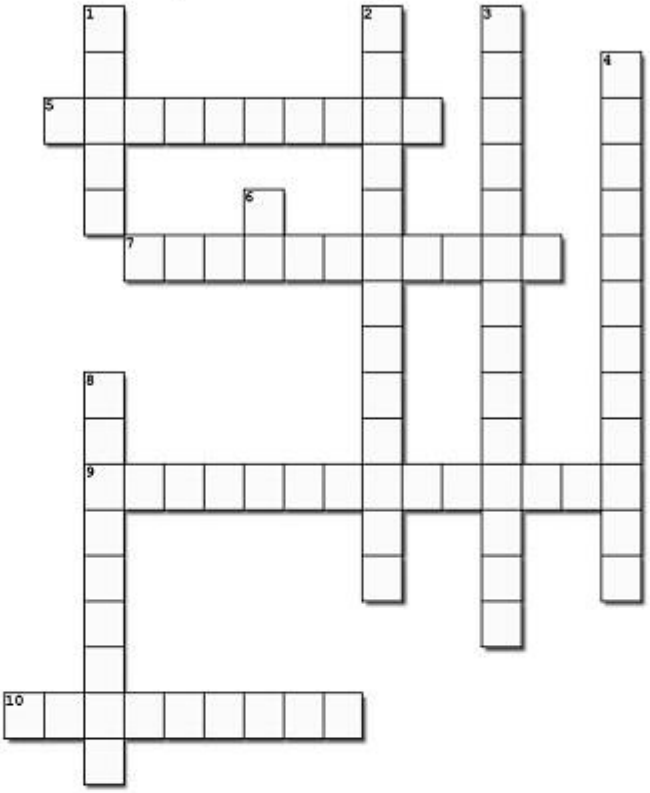
::CROSSWORD::

TSI Crossword No. 003

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

5. Adherence to rules, regulations, or standards in healthcare
7. Identifying diseases or conditions through tests and evaluations
9. Verification method to ensure identity in digital systems
10. Design layer connecting users or systems for interaction

Down

1. Standalone digital terminal for health service interactions
2. Ease with which services can be used by all populations
3. Storing and accessing data over the internet instead of local computers
4. Technology that allows a person to feel present at a remote location, often using video and robotics
6. Next-generation mobile network enabling ultra-low latency.
8. Legal responsibility, especially for medical decisions or errors

Click here to Print the Crossword

Click here to view the Crossword Rules and Regulations

Compiled by Dr.Umashankar
Answers in August 2025 Newsletter!

Click here to view the Answers for Crossword No. 002

Telemedicine - News from India & Abroad

Advancing Eye Health: AI Measure for Short-Sightedness

According to a recent study, combining routine eye scans with AI has led to a groundbreaking method for assessing short-sightedness..... **Read More**

New AI Tool Predicts Cancer Aggressiveness With Protein Data

A machine learning tool developed by researchers in Brazil and Poland can assess tumor aggressiveness by detecting specific proteins..... **Read More**

Ark+: How Open-Source AI Transforms Medical Imaging

Could artificial intelligence revolutionize health care? A team of researchers at Arizona State University believes so..... **Read More**

The AI Translator for Hospitals: Turning EHR Chaos into Clarity

Transforming hospital records into readable text lets AI models deliver advanced, accurate clinical insights..... **Read More**

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Telemedicine Practice Guidelines - A Foundation Course for RMPs by TSI Faculty

To know more about the Telemedicine Foundation Course click on the link below: https://tsitn.org/tpg-course/

Medical Writing Certificate Course with Internship Opportunity!

Click here to Join the Course

TN - TSI invites all the TSI Chapters and Members to submit information on their upcoming Webinar or Events (50 words), News related to Telemedicine (200 words) or short articles (500 words) for the monthly e-newsletter.

Guidelines for submission to TN TSI Newsletter-

1. **Report can be from 500 to 600 words**
2. **Report should be relevant to Telemedicine or Medical Informatics**
3. **No promotion of self or any product**
4. **Avoid plagiarism**
5. **All references should be included**
6. **Provide any attributions**
7. **Visuals are welcome including video links**
8. **Send full authors name, degrees, and affiliations along with a passport sized photograph of good resolution. If multiple authors, only main author photo to be sent.**

Submission may be sent to - tsigrouptn@gmail.com
Editors reserve the rights for accepting and publishing any submitted material.

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