Turkey

Clinical engineering is considered as very important in Turkey and there are two crucial institutions that are Turkish medicines and Medical Devices agency (TMMDA) and public hospital general directrotate (PHGD). TMMDA is making high level policies and publishing regulations. PHGD is managing all public hospitals with its internal directives (except university hospitals) regarding to the TMMDA's high level directives.

TMMDA published a national directive entitled "directive of test, control and calibration of medical devices" in 2015. We categorized all Medical Devices into 18 subgroups due to technological aspects. With this directive, we are planning to authorize calibration service provider companies, calibration training centres and calibration employments. In this frame, we have 7 calibration specific education centers that have educated 400 calibration experts. We have not yet authorized any company.

Clinical engineering activities (calibration and repair-maintenance) exist in performance indicator card of hospitals to increase efficiency and productivity. This means that clinical engineering is a certain part of quality management system of healthcare providers.

In Turkey, there are about 1600 hospitals (600 university and private, 1000 public hospitals except city hospitals). Every hospital has clinical engineering unit in place medical technology of hospital is managing in the term of calibration, inspection, repair-maintenance, and inventory.

Biomedical engineers have an important role in clinical engineering activities and there are 30 bachelor programs, and also we have about 2000 engineers in the country.

In addition, Biomedical Engineers Association (Biyomed) is an active non-profit organization in the country. It contains many Biomedical Engineers from different sub-fields of medical device sector such as clinical engineering, academic, R&D, reimbursement, market access, policy, and legislation, etc.

To our knowledge, our national directive mentioned above, is unique around the world and for a better understanding and more collaboration, I can share its English version with you.

Finally, I would like to inform you about a congress that is going to be held April 2020 by İzmir Democracy University with support of Biyomed. Please visit www.biomedupdate.idu.edu.tr. This is the first in our country as sharing experiences by Biomedical engineers from different fields.

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