

# Digital around-the-clock monitoring will ensure that heart starters work

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*5.400 Danes a year suffer cardiac arrest outside the hospital, about 15 people per day. Photo: Linda Johansen/Hjerteforeningen*

The Danish Heart Foundation together with Telenor and Seluxit are behind a new intelligent IoT solution, which can monitor private heart starters (defibrillators), so they are functional when they are used in emergency situations.

Heart starters need maintenance to ensure they work and can save lives. That means that the batteries need to be charged, that the electrodes need changed in time, and that the temperature inside the heart-starter cabinet needs to be suitable.

A new collaboration between the Danish Heart Foundation, Telenor and Seluxit means that the Danish Heart Foundation will be able to offer digital monitoring of their heart starters around the clock.

“It is essential that people know that a heart starter will work when you’re in a situation with heart failure. It can be a question of life or death, so of course the equipment needs to work 100%. But we know that people can forget to maintain the heart starters that they have obtained, and that there can be uncertainty about who has the responsibility for the maintenance of the heart starter,” says Anne Kaltoft, CEO of the Danish Heart Foundation.

### **Errors Found and Corrected Immediately**

After hearing several stories about heart starters that didn’t work when they were needed, Anne Kaltoft is happy that the Danish Heart Society will be able to offer a new service agreement, ServicePlus, which will make it possible to digitally monitor heart starters around the clock, so possible failures are discovered and fixed immediately.

The first offering of the ServicePlus agreement will coincide with units distributed during the Danish Heart Foundation’s country-wide campaign on Sunday the 3rd of May. During the country-wide campaign, all Danes performing fundraising canvassing can obtain a free Zoll heart starter, to be mounted in a weather-proof cabinet by a professional electrician. Zoll heart starters from last year’s country-wide campaign will also be included in the service agreement.

The Director at Telenor with overall responsibility for IoT, Jan Rasmussen:

“We believe that this is an important case. Heart failure outside of hospitals affects thousands in Denmark, and we are delighted to be able to help with the development of an intelligent IoT solution ensuring around-the-clock monitoring of heart starters. We connect devices to the Internet across all of Denmark, and when we put our capabilities together as in this project, we can ensure that heart starters work when we need them,” says Jan Rasmussen.

### **Can be Installed in Existing Heart Starters**

The solution works with the help of a monitoring unit developed by the northern-Danish-based Seluxit, developed specifically for the Danish Heart Foundation, and the unit communicates via Telenor’s country-wide cellular network with each individual heart starter.

“This is an exciting and particularly relevant project, where we are doing our part to make a difference, ensuring that heart starters work when lives need to be saved. That’s why we have given the case a high priority and have chosen to sponsor our development hours. We are looking forward to the collaboration on the project with Telenor and the Danish Heart Foundation.” says Seluxit’s Sales Director, Jesper Frank.

The monitoring unit monitors the heart starters' status using a range of different sensors, which can detect color, sound, temperature and motion. The monitoring unit has built-in GPS and measures both the temperature and humidity in the heart-starter cabinet. The monitoring unit is powered by batteries, which makes it easy to install in all types of heart starter cabinets.

The newly developed surveillance module can function together with other heart starters and can be mounted in a wide range of cabinets. The Danish Heart Foundation is looking to be able to offer ServicePlus agreement to many others in the future.

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