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CergenX is an Enterprise Ireland-backed high potential start-up, and a spin-out from INFANT in University College Cork. Their mission is to support the protection of newborn brain health, enabling clinicians with innovative AI-driven assessment tools.

About Health Innovation Hub Ireland

Health Innovation Hub Ireland (HIHI) was established by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation and the Department of Health and is supported by Enterprise Ireland (EI) and the Health Service Executive (HSE) to drive collaboration between the health service and enterprise. We offer companies the opportunity for pilot and clinical evaluation studies and we provide the health service access to innovative products, services and devices that they may not otherwise be exposed to.

HIHI is built on the recognition that collaboration with enterprise can benefit patient care, patient pathways

and outcomes. We assess all concepts for healthcare innovation from those on the frontline – from clinician to porter. We encourage healthcare professionals to get in touch with HIHI if they have an idea or solution to how something in your job might work better.

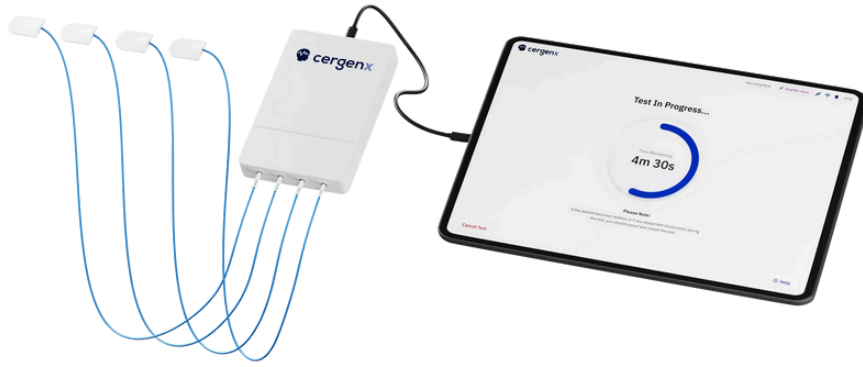


The Healthcare Challenge

The primary challenge is the difficulty in assessing brain injuries at birth. Accurate detection methods, such as EEG, require specialised knowledge and equipment, making them less accessible and practical in many healthcare settings. As a result, brain injuries may go undetected, leading to delayed treatments and long-term developmental challenges for affected children.



The Healthcare Solution



CergenX, a spin-out from INFANT in University College Cork, developed the CergenX Wave, an innovative two-channel EEG device integrated with artificial intelligence (AI). This device provides a user-friendly, rapid assessment of neonatal brain function within 15 minutes, enabling early detection and intervention. The AI ensures consistent, accurate analysis based on objective data, supporting critical care decisions without the need for specialised EEG training.

HIHI Role

HIHI facilitated the evaluation of the CergenX Wave by organising focus groups with neonatal healthcare professionals across multiple hospitals (Cork University Hospital, Galway University Hospital, Portiuncula Hospital in Galway, and St Luke's General Hospital in Kilkenny).

HIHI identified and recruited participants, coordinated sessions, and helped design the presentations and questions to gather insightful feedback. HIHI also analysed the data and prepared a comprehensive report, aiding CergenX in refining their product to better meet clinical needs.



Outcome Report

The focus groups revealed a strong need for the CergenX Wave, highlighting its potential to fill a critical gap in neonatal care. Participants appreciated its ease of use, rapid assessment capability, and AI-driven accuracy. The feedback collected led to improvements in the device's design and functionality, ensuring it aligns with clinical workflows and addresses the practical challenges identified by healthcare professionals. This project underscored the importance of early detection tools in neonatal brain health and demonstrated the significant impact such innovations can have on improving outcomes for newborns and their families.



Testimonials

"HIHI's efforts in organising and facilitating focus groups within hospitals have been instrumental in advancing the development of the CergenX Wave device. From initial contact to the final stages, their dedication and expertise have been invaluable."

Medical professionals have notoriously busy schedules, but HIHI has the network and relationships that allowed us to secure time with the people we needed to speak to. Their ability to engage relevant healthcare professionals to gather crucial insights has significantly contributed to refining CergenX Wave."

We collaborated closely with Michael and Maria to maximise the value of every session. No ask was too great—they were a pleasure to work with."
— Jason Mowles, CergenX CEO.