

Pregnant women and their unborn child to be monitored safely and remotely at home with Dutch technology.

In case of fetal growth restriction, high blood pressure or where the amniotic fluid has gone too early, mother and unborn child should be monitored closely. Frequent hospital visits or hospitalization is often necessary which is time consuming and costly. With the Nemo Fetal Monitoring System, monitoring can be done safely at home, reducing the number of hospital visits and preventing hospitalization, thus leading to effective care at lower cost. Nemo Healthcare delivers high quality fetal monitoring, based on electrophysiological signals, non-invasively recorded on the maternal abdomen.

Nemo Healthcare has won the CTG Remote Monitoring tender by The Region of Southern Denmark and will supply the necessary equipment and support.

The tender

In the late summer of 2019, an interregional collaboration began on the acquisition of a new CTG device suitable for home monitoring, as a previous supplier had stopped production. The Region of Southern Denmark has been responsible for the tender, which is won by Dutch manufacturer Nemo Healthcare. Nemo will supply their systems to all five regions in Denmark.

Michiel Manuel, CEO of Nemo Healthcare: “We have been working for more than 10 years on the development of fetal monitoring systems that combine quality and comfort to mother and child and are versatile in use. Our systems enable monitoring of mother and unborn child both in the hospital and at home. I’m very proud that our technology, our drive to innovate and the quality of our team have been recognized by all five regions in Denmark with the selection of Nemo Healthcare as preferred supplier for CTG Remote Monitoring.”

Safe home monitoring

Home monitoring is done by the pregnant woman herself with a portable CTG device. With the device, she can make CTG measurements of her own and the child's heart at home, instead of having to go for check-ups to her midwife. The pregnant woman submits the measurements directly to the hospital by using a tablet, which is securely connected to the central monitoring system in the hospital.

Chief midwife at Sygehus Lillebælt in the Region of Southern Denmark, Anne Uller, is looking forward to soon being able to add CTG monitoring to what is already offered at home: blood pressure measurements and a test of the mother's urine.

“The idea is that you, in a way, can be hospitalized at home in a trusted environment. With this new equipment we can monitor mother and unborn child much better. It really fits in a time where we want to become more digital, providing comfort to mother and unborn child. The adoption of home monitoring is quite easy because the target audience is highly digitally competent”, says Anne Uller.

Strong cooperation across the country

The potential for home monitoring of pregnant women is great. Professor Olav Bennike Bjørn Petersen has the country's greatest expertise in research in home monitoring of pregnant women from his time in the Central Jutland Region, where they have data on over 400 home-monitored pregnant women. He now works at the Department of Clinical Medicine at Rigshospitalet in Copenhagen.

“I am pleased that we, once again, have access to equipment for home monitoring. An innovative Dutch company, which masters the difficult art of monitoring the child's heart rhythm, has developed this new equipment - and they are at the forefront of new ideas. It is hoped that the new equipment also provides future opportunities to use it for twins and for fetuses who have irregular heartbeats. And maybe, also women who are threatened by

premature birth”, says Olav Bennike Bjørn Petersen.

He welcomes the fact that doctors, midwives, medical technicians and IT professionals from all five regions in Denmark have collaborated in this tender to choose the best product.

“We can go a long way when we work together and can share experiences with the Nemo product across the regions”, says Olav Bennike Bjørn Petersen.

Denmark is one of the first movers in home monitoring

After a long tender process which has been delayed by Covid-19, the winner of the tender is the Dutch company Nemo Healthcare. Will Ickenroth, VP Business Development, Marketing and Sales at Nemo Healthcare, looks forward working with all regions in Denmark: “Working with the Danish team has been inspiring and fruitful. There is a strong shared drive to provide the best possible care to mother and unborn child. We have always believed in our product but being chosen after such a thorough tendering process fills me and the Nemo-team with joy. We are looking forward to work with the Danish healthcare professionals in the very near future.”

From Q3 2021, the new product for CTG home monitoring of pregnant women will be used in Denmark.

About The Region of Southern Denmark:

The Region’s core assignments are divided into four main areas:

- Health
- Social services and Special education
- Psychiatry
- Regional Development

The most important task of the Region of Southern Denmark is to operate the healthcare service in Southern Denmark. The Region also handles specialist assignments in the field of social services, and in relation to both children and adults with disabilities. Finally, the Region is responsible for assuring and coordinating development in Southern Denmark.

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About Nemo Healthcare

Nemo Healthcare focusses on improving fetal monitoring, based on electrophysiological signals, non-invasively recorded on the maternal abdomen. Nemo Healthcare was founded in 2010 as the result of joint research between Máxima Medical Center Veldhoven (MMC) and Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e) and is based in Veldhoven (the Netherlands).

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