



DrGo adds brand new atrial fibrillation screening function to mobile app, partners with Roche Diagnostics, FibriCheck and The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation to launch “Atrial Fibrillation Tele-Screening Programme”

HKT (SEHK: 6823) – HONG KONG, 12 December 2022 - HKT’s one-stop telemedicine platform DrGo announces the introduction of first-in-Asia FibriCheck for atrial fibrillation function. Together with Roche Diagnostics (Hong Kong) Limited (Roche Diagnostics), FibriCheck and The Hong Kong Society of Rehabilitation (HKSR), DrGo has launched “Atrial Fibrillation Tele-Screening Programme (AF-SEEN Programme)” with an aim to raise awareness of stroke risk caused by atrial fibrillation among Hong Kongers. The “AF-SEEN Programme” enables users of the DrGo health-tech app to screen for cardiac condition via their smartphones.

DrGo’s new atrial fibrillation screening feature enables screening anytime, anywhere

Stroke is Hong Kong’s fourth most fatal disease¹. While around 20% of stroke cases are caused by atrial fibrillation², one-third of these patients are not aware that they have atrial fibrillation before having a stroke. According to local data, it is expected that 260,000 Hong Kongers have persistent or paroxysmal atrial fibrillation, among which, one-third of them may not experience any symptoms³. In the past, atrial fibrillation could only be detected via electrocardiogram (ECG).

Developed by Belgian company, Qompium NV, the FibriCheck technology has been approved by the US Food and Drug Administration and Australian Drug Administration and is CE class IIa marked in Europe. It has the sensitivity, specificity and positive predictive value of more than 90%⁴. To use FibriCheck, users can simply login to the DrGo app, and use the FibriCheck function to conduct the screening by placing their finger on the camera of their smartphone, and they will obtain results after around just one minute.

Ms Teresa Ng, Chief Commercial Officer of DrGo, said, “As one of the key health-tech platforms in Hong Kong, DrGo has always been a pioneer of innovation and is committed to bringing high-quality healthcare services to consumers. The integration of world leading atrial fibrillation screening technology into the DrGo app allows users to check their heart rhythm condition anytime without having to purchase extra equipment. This new addition will empower users to better manage their heart health, and have a better understanding of the negative impact of atrial fibrillation.”

AF-SEEN Programme offers 14-day atrial fibrillation screening free of charge

To raise awareness of atrial fibrillation in Hong Kong, DrGo, Qompium NV (FibriCheck), Roche Diagnostics (Hong Kong) Limited and The Hong Kong Society of Rehabilitation (HKSR) jointly launch “Atrial Fibrillation Tele-Screening Programme” (AF-SEEN Programme). The “AF-SEEN Programme” will offer free access to the in-app FibriCheck feature to up to 100,000 users for 14 days. During this period, users are recommended to check their heart rhythm in the morning and at dusk, or when they experience symptoms of atrial fibrillation (e.g. heart palpitations or shortness of breath). If the screening shows that there is a possibility of atrial fibrillation, relevant users will receive a follow-up phone call or email from the HKSR, recommending them to conduct further tests at a district centre managed by the HKSR Community Rehabilitation Network. Those who receive a confirmed diagnosis of atrial fibrillation will also receive a test report to enable them to seek necessary medical attention.

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Dr Chan Ngai-Yin, cardiologist and medical advisor of “AF-SEEN Programme”, said, “Atrial fibrillation can lead to stroke and is the most prevalent heart rhythm disorder. Its key symptoms include palpitations, shortness of breath, and dizziness, though some patients could be asymptomatic. Through early detection and screening, the risk of stroke may be effectively reduced. Despite the fact that mainstream global guidelines recommend opportunistic screenings for atrial fibrillation⁵ for people aged 65 or above, based on local and international surveys, compliance to the guidelines is still very low⁶. With the ‘AF-SEEN Programme’, we can study the possibility of tele-screening of atrial fibrillation in Hong Kong, which could potentially help to reduce the burden of the Hong Kong public healthcare system.”

Integrated medical innovations identify atrial fibrillation with precision

Mr Ronald Lo, General Manager of Roche Diagnostics (Hong Kong) Limited, said, “Roche Diagnostics has always been committed to the research and development of diagnosis technologies, providing precision and convenient solutions for all. Atrial fibrillation can bring far-reaching effects to patients, causing stroke, heart failure and other complications, increasing patients’ mortality risks. Through this ‘AF-SEEN Programme’, we will leverage the internationally recognised FibrCheck technology to bring atrial fibrillation screening to the Hong Kong community. Paired with effective follow-ups and medical attention, we aim to identify relevant potential patients of atrial fibrillation with great accuracy and reliability, enabling them to receive early treatment and mitigate risks.”

Lars Grieten, Chief Executive Officer of Qompium NV, developer of the FibrCheck technology, said, “FibrCheck uses optical technology to detect irregular heart rhythms, especially atrial fibrillation, by placing a finger on the camera of a smartphone. We are thrilled to introduce the FibrCheck technology to Asia with DrGo, our first partner in the region. Through this strategic partnership with DrGo, Roche and the HKSR, 100,000 people in Hong Kong, will be able to monitor their heart health quickly and conveniently, improving the efficiency of their overall health management.”

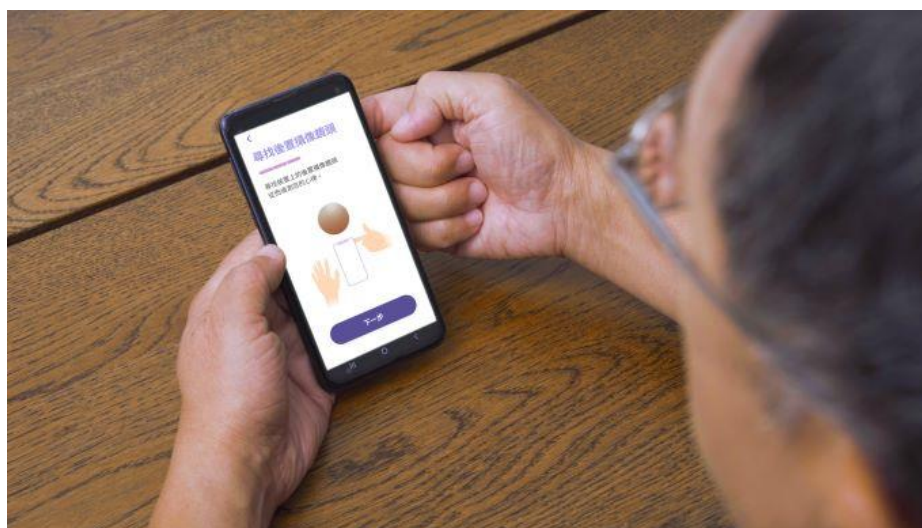
The “AF-SEEN Programme” is the first collaboration between DrGo and the HKSR, one of the biggest non-governmental organisations in Hong Kong that focuses on health management. One of the main aims of the programme is to draw attention to atrial fibrillation, which can lead to serious health consequences. Ms. Ng Yuk-Mun SPT, Head of Allied Health, The Hong Kong Society of Rehabilitation said, “The accessibility and convenience of smartphones makes them an increasingly popular tool for people to manage their health. We believe that through the DrGo app, we will encourage more people to conduct atrial fibrillation screening, resulting in more people getting treatment after follow-up actions managed by our community network.”

Users of the DrGo health-tech app will enjoy free atrial fibrillation in-app checks for 14 days⁷. To register, please download the DrGo application from drgohkt.page.link/download_app. For more details about DrGo services, please call our service hotline at +852 2380 2323 or visit www.drqo.com.hk.

1. Hospital Authority <https://www21.ha.org.hk/smartpatient/SPW/en-us/Disease-Information/Disease/?guid=29ac1219-3d68-4378-a2bd-09e111da3650>.
2. Soo Y, et al. J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry. 2017 Sep;88(9):744-748.
3. Chan NY, et al. Heart. 2017 Jan 1;103(1):24-31.
4. Proesmans T, et al. JMIR Mhealth Uhealth. 2019 Mar 27;7(3):e12284.
5. Hindricks G, et al. Eur Heart J. 2021 Feb 1;42(5):373-498.
6. Economist Intelligence Unit Healthcare Survey.
7. The programme is expected to run from now till 30 April 2023, available for up to 100,000 aged 18 or above DrGo users in Hong Kong on a first-come, first-serve basis. Terms and conditions apply.



(From left to right) Dr. Chan Ngai-Yin, cardiologist and medical advisor, Ms Teresa Ng, Chief Commercial Officer of DrGo, Ms. Ng Yuk-Mun SPT, Head of Allied Health, The Hong Kong Society of Rehabilitation and Mr Ronald Lo, General Manager of Roche Diagnostics (Hong Kong) Limited, announce DrGo, Roche Diagnostics (Hong Kong) Limited, The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation and Belgian technology company Qompium NV join hands to launch “Atrial Fibrillation Tele-Screening Programme”, to encourage people in Hong Kong to conduct atrial fibrillation screening.



Through DrGo app, users can conduct precision atrial fibrillation screening through FibrCheck technology by placing a finger on the rear camera of a smartphone for 1 minute.

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About HKT

HKT is a technology, media, and telecommunication leader with more than 150 years of history in Hong Kong. As the city's true 5G provider, HKT connects businesses and people locally and globally. Our end-to-end enterprise solutions make us a market-leading digital transformation partner of choice for businesses; whereas our comprehensive mobile communication and smart living offerings enrich people's lives and cater for their diverse needs for work, entertainment, education, well-being, and even a sustainable low-carbon lifestyle. Together with our digital ventures which support digital economy development and help connect Hong Kong to the world as an international financial centre, HKT endeavours to contribute to smart city development and help our community tech forward.

For more information, please visit www.hkt.com.
LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/hkt](https://www.linkedin.com/company/hkt)

About DrGo

DrGo is an end-to-end app-based platform connecting users with Hong Kong registered medical practitioners, Hong Kong registered / listed Chinese medicine practitioners and other healthcare professionals who will provide medical and healthcare consultation services and advice via video consultation on mobile device. Certain prescribed medicine will be delivered to the user's designated address. DrGo is the first HealthTech platform pioneered by HKT, offering convenient telehealthcare services via an end-to-end app-based platform developed and managed locally by HKT professionals. With HKT's advanced technologies, the entire consultation journey, including service registration, appointment booking, video consultation and payment will take place with encryption, aiming at protecting users' privacy.

DrGo users in Hong Kong can get access to a one-stop healthcare consultation via their mobile devices. They can speak to medical practitioners, Hong Kong registered / listed Chinese medicine practitioners or other healthcare professional from their home or workplace without the need to making a physical visit or queuing at a hospital or clinic. Remote consultation provides sense of ease and convenience, which is particularly important at a time when social distancing is critical during the current pandemic. Furthermore, DrGo received the "Technology – Best Telemedicine Mobile App" award from The Global Economics Awards 2022 and took Silver in the "Public Affairs and Social Innovation" category of Asia Smart App Awards 2021. These significant global awards are testament to DrGo's cutting-edge innovation and professional service standard, which have earned the trust of its customers.

At present, DrGo is partnering with over 100 healthcare professionals from the below medical organizations to provide remote telemedicine and healthcare services: Amazing Medical, Ascendo Health, EC Healthcare, Gleneagles Hospital, HealthKit Medical Centre, Human Health, MAX Medical Centre, Medical Concierge, Precious Blood Hospital (Caritas), Quality Healthcare, River Cam Chinese Medicine & Acupuncture Clinic.



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