

2026

FIFARMA
FEDERACIÓN LATINOAMERICANA DE LA INDUSTRIA FARMACÉUTICA

INNOS
Instituto de Prospectiva e Innovación en Salud

Latam health Champions 2026

Third edition

Latam health Champions 2026

Document created by the HUB iEX and INNOS
team at El Bosque University

Third edition

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1. Introduction

Latin America has established itself as a region where health talent not only responds to today's challenges, but also anticipates the future. Amid complex health systems and diverse realities, a new generation of innovators is emerging—combining technical expertise, creativity, and a deep understanding of local context to develop solutions with real impact.

Today, more than ever, health innovation in the region is driven by people: entrepreneurs, researchers, clinics, patients, and organizations that, from different fronts, are redefining how diseases are prevented, diagnosed, and treated. This talent, spread across Latin America, is one of the most valuable assets for transforming the sector.

In this context, *Latam Health Champions 2026* positions itself as a platform that not only identifies this talent, but also empowers it, connects it, and projects it regionally and globally. Through this initiative—led by FIFARMA and the Institute for Innovation and Health Foresight (INNOS) at Universidad El Bosque—innovations that are making a difference and have the potential to scale beyond their countries of origin are brought to light.

This report is, above all, an invitation to recognize and strengthen Latin American health talent. Through its pages, it presents not only a sample of the region's innovations, but also a vision for the future: one in which Latin America becomes an active part of the global health innovation ecosystem—adopting and delivering innovation to improve health for all.

The 2026 edition not only confirms the program's growth (from 55 to 234 applications in three years), but also reveals an underlying trend: health innovation in Latin America is becoming more sophisticated. The strong presence of digital solutions (41%) and medical devices (26%) points to an ecosystem that is shifting from traditional services to protectable and scalable technologies. With data and concrete cases, this report documents how this ecosystem is being built, articulated, and energized.

2. Forewords



Yaneth Giha

**Executive Director
FIFARMA**

Latin America is at a pivotal moment to consolidate stronger, more connected, and more sustainable health innovation ecosystems. Over the three editions of LATAM Health Champions, we have identified more than 300 innovations from more than 12 countries across the region, reflecting the enormous scientific, entrepreneurial, and technological talent that exists in Latin America. Each initiative demonstrates that our region has the capacity to develop transformative solutions to address today's and tomorrow's health challenges.

At FIFARMA, we believe that fostering health innovation requires a long-term vision and a shared commitment among different stakeholders. Innovation thrives in environments that promote collaboration, strengthen local capabilities, and create predictable conditions for research, development, and investment. In this context, FIFARMA's 2025 Bio-pharmaceutical Competitiveness and Investment Report (BCI) shows that the most dynamic ecosystems are those that comprehensively strengthen elements such as scientific capabilities and infrastructure, clinical research, efficient regulatory systems, access to and financing for health, and effective protection of intellectual property.

The report shows that Latin America achieves, on average, 59% of the total possible score in biopharmaceutical competitiveness, still below other emerging regions. However, it also highlights concrete opportunities to move forward. Countries such as Costa Rica, Chile, and Mexico, which lead the regional ranking, show how consistent public policies and innovation-friendly frameworks can help attract investment, strengthen research, and accelerate the development of solutions with global impact.

LATAM Health Champions continues to establish itself as a platform to showcase and project the talent that is transforming health in our region. The innovations featured in this report reflect a Latin America that is moving toward more technological, collaborative, and people-centered health models—understanding innovation not only as an idea, but as a process that requires sustainability, scalability, and coordination among multiple stakeholders.

To all the winners of this edition, we would like to congratulate you for the impact, dedication, and vision you represent for the region today. We also extend special thanks to INNOS, a strategic partner of this initiative, as well as to the experts, jurors, associations, and institutions that made this edition possible. Their support has been essential to continue strengthening spaces that connect innovation, collaboration, and purpose for the benefit of health in Latin America.

Carlos Felipe Escobar Roa

Director
INNOS and HUB iEX
Universidad El Bosque



To the health innovation community of Latin America:

When we launched the first edition of Latam Health Champions in 2024, we received 55 applications. It was a sign. In 2025, there were 178. And today, as we present the third edition, we have evaluated 234 innovations from 11 countries. These numbers are not just statistics. They are proof that something big is moving in our region.

Latam Health Champions 2026 allows us, for the first time, to stop talking about potential and begin describing a tangible reality. This year's snapshot is clear: 41% of the solutions are digital developments and 1 in 4 is a medical device. We have moved from an ecosystem that talked about ideas to one that builds its own technology, protects it, and scales it. That is the importance of this third edition: it shows a maturity we did not have three years ago.

As Director of INNOS and HUB iEX, our role is to articulate, not just observe. LHC has become a thermometer, but also a launch platform. We have moved from identifying talent to connecting 8 winners with Boston's global ecosystem, where they learned that collaboration among universities, industry, and the State is not a luxury, but the rule. That is the standard we must aspire to by promoting Latin American national health innovation ecosystems with greater regulatory certainty and security, better financing opportunities, and stronger intellectual property systems.

The challenge now is not only to celebrate these 21 finalists and 8 Champions. The challenge is to respond to what these figures demand of us: 56% of the solutions that integrate digital components require agile regulatory frameworks. The growing sophistication in the use of intellectual property (patents, trade secrets, trademarks) calls for much more robust systems for managing intangible assets in the region.

That is why my invitation is direct: we need you—the builders and drivers of the health innovation ecosystem—governments, investors, universities, clinics, and corporations—to join actively. Sponsoring is not enough. This is about adopting, piloting, co-investing, and opening regulatory doors. LHC has shown you that the talent exists, the solutions are ready, and the time is now.

The future of our health systems depends on our ability to act as a network—and from that network, to actively promote the care and strengthening of successful innovation ecosystems: entrepreneurial thinking and culture, regulatory trust and certainty, patient and intelligent investment, and strong intellectual property systems and management. And LHC is proof that when we come together, we stop being spectators and become protagonists. I invite you to be part of this movement. Let's build, together, the next generation of health innovation from Latin America.



Latam Health Champions is a regional program that seeks to **identify, recognize, and support** the people and organizations that are transforming health innovation in Latin America.

Since 2024, it has established itself as a platform that highlights solutions with real impact, developed in the region and aligned with the needs of local health systems. Its unique approach spotlights initiatives that,

3. What is Latam Health Champions?

in addition to being innovative, **strategically leverage their intellectual property assets to strengthen sustainability and scalability in the health sector.**

More than an award, LHC connects and amplifies Latin American talent, positioning it as a key driver of health-system evolution, the development of better technologies, and improved access across the region.

4. What makes LHC **unique** in the region?

Across its three editions, Latam Health Champions has established itself as a unique initiative in Latin America for identifying and showcasing health-innovation talent. To date, the program has received **323 innovations from 13 countries** and has recognized **17 winners**, reflecting the diversity, quality, and potential of the regional ecosystem.

What truly sets LHC apart is not only its reach, but its approach.

It incorporates a distinctive element in the region: **promoting the strategic use of intellectual property as a tool to ensure the sustainability, protection, and scalability of innovations.** This enables solutions not only to respond to immediate needs, but also to become consolidated over time and expand their impact.

In addition, the program does not limit itself to recognizing innovative initiatives: **it identifies solutions with high impact potential, connects them with key ecosystem stakeholders, and projects them onto regional and global stages.** This process creates a multiplier effect that goes beyond recognition and actively contributes to strengthening the health-innovation ecosystem.

Thus, more than a program, **Latam Health Champions positions itself as an innovation catalyst** that drives purpose-driven solutions, connects talent, and helps build stronger, more equitable, and more future-ready health systems. In essence, LHC acts as an articulator: it takes the pulse of the ecosystem, identifies its most valuable assets, and connects them with networks of knowledge and opportunity—accelerating their journey from the lab to the market.

5. How were the finalists and winners selected?

Latam Health Champions identifies its Champions through an **open, regional call for applications** spanning all countries in the region, designed to attract the most relevant actors in the health-innovation ecosystem (hospitals, research centers, universities, startups, MSMEs, among others).

To broaden its reach, the program relies on a network of **strategic partnerships** with universities, national intellectual property offices, and innovation hubs across different countries. This articulation has been key to strengthening a regional culture that recognizes the value of innovation and the strategic use of intellectual property in the health sector.

“Initiatives like Latam Health Champions should be expanded to different countries in Latin America, because they make many disruptive projects and initiatives visible that otherwise would not be known. In this sense, these calls are essential to encourage other innovators to make themselves known—not only in Latin America, but also globally.

Hugo Gramajo

Co-founder and CEO of Exomas – Champions 2026.

sequently, an international jury panel—with experience in the health-innovation ecosystem from both industry and academia—conducts a comprehensive evaluation and, based on objective criteria, chooses the edition’s **8 Champions**.

“I don’t think there can ever be enough programs that truly help connect those two worlds. Because, in the end, developing a new solution, science, or research without being clear about the ultimate goal—what it will mean for a patient, a clinician, or a specific disease—is basically creating a solution in isolation, blindly.

That’s why the connection between scientific research or engineering, and also with entrepreneurs and innovators, and those who will actually use these solutions—whether the patient, the clinician, the hospital, or the health system—is a continuous feedback loop that must exist. And this needs to happen from the earliest stages. I think that is where programs like Latam Health Champions are so valuable, because they help create that connection between both groups.

Freddy Nguyen

MIT physician-scientist, expert in translational research and advanced biomedical technology development.

In the 2026 edition, the call received **234 applications** that met the established criteria. Each one was evaluated using five key criteria:

- Need.
- Novelty.
- Impact.
- Scalability.
- Strategic use of intellectual property.

The selection process takes place in two stages. In the first stage, professionals with expertise in health innovation and intellectual property management conduct a technical evaluation and select a group of **21 finalists**. Sub-



The **2026 jury panel** was made up of high-level experts with global experience in innovation, science, and health:



Stephen Ezell

Vice President of Global Innovation Policy at ITIF and a reference in innovation policy, competitiveness, and the knowledge economy.



Tatiana Yglesias

Founder of Supra Advisory and a leader in investment, strategic growth, and innovation in the global health sector.



Freddy Nguyen

MIT physician-scientist and an expert in translational research and advanced biomedical technology development.

This rigorous process ensures that the selected Champions stand out not only for their innovation, but also for their **ability to generate sustainable impact** and transform health systems in the region.

6. What does it mean to be a **Champion**?

Being part of **Latam Health Champions** goes beyond a recognition: **it is a statement of leadership.**

It means belonging to a regional community that is redefining the future of health through innovation—bringing together knowledge, talent, and the strategic use of intellectual property.

Champions represent a showcase of Latin American talent: people and teams able to **imagine, build, and scale solutions** that respond

to the region's real needs, with a vision that combines impact, sustainability, and global projection.

From the perspective of FIFARMA and its partners, a Champion is not just an actor within the innovation ecosystem. A Champion is a **reference point for the ecosystem**, a connector of opportunities, and a change agent who knows how to turn ideas into sustainable solutions—thereby strengthening health innovation in Latin America.



7. Key Facts About Latam Health Champions

Since its creation in 2024, **Latam Health Champions (LHC)** has shown sustained and consistent growth—not only in participation volume, but also in the quality, diversity, and maturity of the innovations that take part in the program. In just three editions, LHC has evolved from an emerging initiative into a leading regional platform for identifying and showcasing health-innovation talent in Latin America.

Over three editions, the program has identified **323 innovations**, demonstrating a growing critical mass of solutions with high impact potential. It has also reached **more than 12 countries** (Peru, Colombia, Chile, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Uruguay, Ecuador, Costa Rica, and Panama), reflecting a dynamic and expanding ecosystem with an increasing ability to respond to the structural challenges of health systems across the region.

11 countries:

The 2026 edition of the **LHC** included participants from 11 Latin American countries.

323 innovations identified

Demonstrating a growing critical mass of solutions with high potential for impact.

19 solutions have been recognized

Standing out not only for its level of innovation, but also for its practicality and scalability.

To date, **19 solutions** have been recognized for their **transformative nature**, standing out not only for their level of innovation but also for their applicability and scalability. These solutions represent the best of regional talent and serve as flagship examples that inspire, connect, and open up opportunities for scaling up internationally.



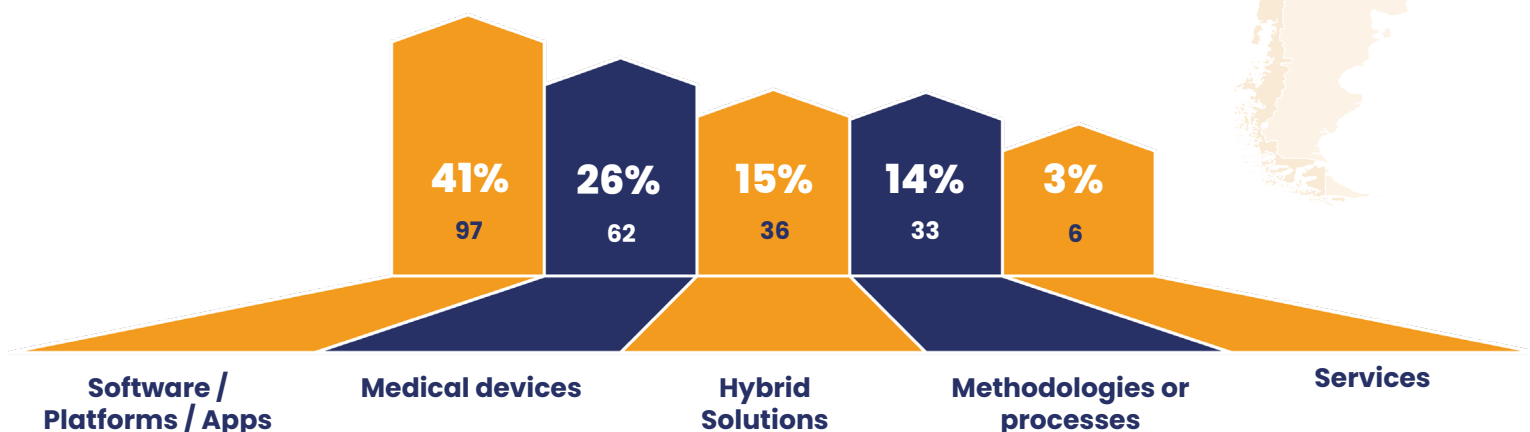
Regional Reach in Numbers

The 2026 edition of **Latam Health Champions** reaffirmed its position as a regional platform, with participation from **11 Latin American countries**. This coverage reflects the program's ability to convene diverse talent and connect solutions from different contexts within the region's health ecosystem.

The third edition of Latam Health Champions was characterized by a diverse and highly active ecosystem, with multiple types of organizations participating—reflecting growing articulation across the region's health sector—including startups, companies, academia, research centers, and patient organizations.

In total, **234 solutions** were received, and their distribution highlights the current priorities of the region's health ecosystem (Show these figures with visual charts in the layout):

234 solutions received:



An analysis of this composition reveals a clear predominance of technological innovation. **Digital solutions lead the landscape with 56% of the total**, combining software platforms (41%) with **hybrid models (15%)**, defined as solutions that merge software development with in-person care or physical implementation in the real world. This confirms the continued acceleration of digital transformation in Latin America's health sector.

At the same time, the development of locally produced hardware is also gaining solid ground: the presence of **medical devices (1 in every 4 solutions)** demonstrates a growing capacity for manufacturing and tangible technological development in the region.

In contrast, the minimal share of **pure services (3%)** understood as traditional offerings based strictly on in-person delivery and human effort, without a central technological backbone—reveals the ecosystem's strategic maturation. The health sector in Latin America is shifting from conventional services toward models that are more scalable, replicable, and protectable through intellectual property, prioritizing digital or hybrid proposals that connect technology more comprehensively with the realities of healthcare delivery.

The results of the call for proposals reveal five key trends in the ecosystem:



Accelerated digitization of the healthcare sector, with an emphasis on telemedicine, remote monitoring, data interoperability, and applied artificial intelligence.



Growth in the medical device sector, with more accessible innovations focused on early diagnosis and decentralized care.



The convergence of hybrid models, which integrate technology and services, with a greater focus on measurable impact on patients.



Innovation focused on system, efficiency through methodologies and processes that optimize costs, timelines, and healthcare management.



Intellectual property as a strategic enabler, reflecting greater sophistication in innovation models geared toward sustainability and scalability.

These trends chart the course for innovation in the region. The combination of digitalization (56% hybrid and digital solutions) with the development of proprietary hardware (26%) indicates that the ecosystem is building comprehensive technological capabilities—a fundamental requirement for competing in global markets.



8. The Science Behind Every Victory:

The Role of Intellectual Property in Health

At Latam Health Champions, intellectual property (IP) is viewed as a key enabler of innovation, not only from the perspective of protection, but also as a strategic tool.

The 8 winning solutions reflect a more sophisticated ecosystem in which intellectual property plays an active role in growth strategy. In every case, a more comprehensive management of IP is evident, through the combined use of protection tools such as patents, trademarks, industrial designs, copyrights, and trade secrets, as well as their direct integration into business models and monetization strategies. In addition, these solutions share a scalability-oriented approach, with assets designed to grow across different markets, and coordination with ecosystem partners that strengthens their capacity for expansion and sustainability.



The results of this edition show a significant shift: the region is not only innovating, but is beginning to manage that innovation better. Intellectual property stops being a purely technical topic and becomes a strategic tool that connects technological development with real-world impact, sustainability, and global projection.



For these reasons, intellectual property has become one of the program's main core evaluation criteria. In turn, to strengthen and support this approach, the initiative is complemented and reinforced through a specialized IP training program with a health focus.



Programa de Gestión de Propiedad Intelectual en Innovación en Salud



Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

Sesión 1
Septiembre 25

Estrategia de PI en la Innovación en Salud:

"Protegiendo la Innovación de actores del sector salud".



UNIVERSIDAD CAYETANO HEREDIA

Sesión 2
Octubre 9

Auditoría de PI:

Evaluando el Potencial y los Riesgos de tus Activos



UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DO RIO DE JANEIRO

Sesión 3
Octubre 16

Debida Diligencia de PI:

Clave para Inversión y Alianzas Estratégicas

IP training: from theory to practice

During the 2026 edition, the program promoted a specialized training cycle that connected IP with the real challenges of health innovation. Over **6 sessions held between September and November 2025**, key topics were covered, such as defining protection strategies, identifying intangible assets, negotiation, and the use of IP to enable investment and collaboration.

This space included the participation of academic and technical partners from the region—from Mexico, Peru, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, and Ecuador—making it possible to offer a diverse, practical perspective adapted to different ecosystem contexts.

Intellectual Property Training Series:



IP strategy in health innovation:

A session focused on how to incorporate intellectual property from the earliest stages of health development. The goal is to make IP a central pillar of business strategy and competitiveness, moving beyond the traditional view of IP as merely a legal formality.

Partner: AMIIF.



[See more →](#)



How to identify Intellectual Property assets in health innovation?

A practical guide to help innovators audit, identify, and map which specific components of their solutions (whether lines of code, algorithms, hardware designs, trademarks, or patents) qualify as intangible assets and are eligible for legal protection.

Partner: Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia.



[See more →](#)



How to use IP to attract investment and collaborations?

A strategic analysis of the role of IP in fundraising. It explores how a strong intellectual property portfolio increases the market value of a health startup, mitigates risks for venture capital investors, and enables secure commercial partnerships.

Partner: Universidad Presbiteriana Mackenzie.



[See more →](#)



Joining forces to innovate in health:

Focused on governance and open-innovation models. It outlines best practices for co-creation and collaborative development among academia, the private sector, and entrepreneurs, ensuring transparent agreements on IP ownership and benefits.

Partner: Universidad Austral.



[See more →](#)



Smart IP negotiation:

Provides essential commercial and legal tools for advanced IP management and drafting licensing agreements. It teaches innovators how to negotiate the transfer of their technological assets strategically, maximizing impact and financial return.

Partner: Universidad de Valparaíso.



[See more →](#)



From the lab to the patient: IP to drive innovation.

Focused on technology transfer and market pathways. It addresses the critical strategies needed to successfully and safely move a medical or scientific solution from the research and laboratory environment to real-world implementation and commercialization—directly benefiting patients.

Partner: Escuela Superior Politécnica del Litoral.



[See more →](#)

“ I think intellectual property is really important, especially at MIT. A key component of our work is ensuring that what we develop reaches patients. And for that to happen, there is an intermediate process that involves securing intellectual property protections.

Koch Institute researcher

“ Intellectual Property is a fundamental aspect of any innovation process. Not only because of the protection it provides to development, but because, above all, it gives you the necessary ‘room to maneuver’ to move forward. It allows you to go from an initial technology to commercialization.

This progress has been possible thanks to the joint efforts of a group of scientists who, beyond their traditional responsibilities, have actively driven these processes. For our research team, this achievement is not only significant, but also represents a change in mindset, an invitation to rethink the role of public science in generating innovation and value.

Freddy Nguyen

MIT physician-scientist and expert in translational research and advanced biomedical technology development

“ In Chile, intellectual property is not just a document, paper, or application. Instead, there is an approach in which intellectual property is a strategy with multiple pillars—combining patents with trade secrets and brand and positioning strategy, and in turn integrating with the company’s other strategic areas.

María Cristina Paredes

Co-founder and CEO of COPESILCUP
Champions 2026

“ In the public sector, investing in patents remains a challenge, as it is not part of the functions traditionally assigned to institutions. In our case, in almost 50 years of work we have obtained only five patents, which shows the structural barriers that exist.

Lenin Rueda

Instituto Nacional de Salud del Perú
Champions 2026

9. Meet the 2026 Champions

The 2026 edition of **Latam Health Champions** recognized **8 solutions from different Latin American countries**, selected for their innovative nature, their potential impact on health systems, and their ability to scale.

The winners reflect the diversity and strength of the regional ecosystem, with initiatives

ranging from technological developments and medical devices to digital solutions and innovative care models.

Together, these initiatives show how the region is moving toward more applied, sustainable innovation focused on solving real health challenges.



LHC 2026 Winners and Delegates
United States



Winners by Country

The selected solutions represent different approaches to innovation in healthcare in Latin America.

Premia

Powered by Salud Maipa

Premia

[See more](#)



FUNDACIÓN
VALLE DEL LILI

**Quintero's Pulmonary
Re-expansion Device**

[See more](#)



**Water purification system
with selective arsenic
removal**

[See more](#)



Meddi

[See more](#)



exomas

Exomas

[See more](#)



SkinGo (HED)

[See more](#)



neomed

Neomed

[See more](#)



COPESILCUP

[See more](#)



8 Selected
Solutions
7 Countries
Represented
+200 Regional
Nominations

THE CHAMPIONS DRIVING INNOVATION



Leaders, entrepreneurs, and researchers committed to transforming healthcare in Latin America.



Healthtech



AI and Data



Diagnosis



Medical
devices



Access



Research

10. Meet the 21 finalist initiatives

The following profiles of the 21 finalists are a representative sample of the state of the art of health innovation in the region.



8
WINNERS



21
FINALIST
INITIATIVES



13
COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED



INNOVATION THAT
TRANSFORMS
HEALTHCARE

1



WINNER

EXOMAS

Country:  **Argentina**

DESCRIPTION

Develops regenerative therapies based on native exosomes derived from neural stem cells for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases and brain damage. This cell-free, non-immunogenic technology is capable of crossing the blood-brain barrier and stimulating neurogenesis and neuroprotection. Furthermore, it has demonstrated safety and efficacy in preclinical models and aims to transform the traditional palliative approach into a regenerative one for conditions such as Parkinson's disease, Alzheimer's disease, and traumatic brain injury (TBI).

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

A strategy focused on protecting its key intangible assets, including exosome-based therapeutic products, production processes, specific therapeutic uses, formulations, and delivery mechanisms. The existence of formal registrations, ownership agreements, and patent protection reinforces its scientific differentiation, its future commercialization potential, and its positioning as an innovative regenerative therapy.



2

NOXISENSE Nx-1Country:  **Argentina**

Noxisense

DESCRIPTION

Developed the Nx-1, a portable device that transforms the assessment of Diabetic Peripheral Neuropathy (DPN) from a subjective process into an objective and quantifiable one. It stimulates fine-fiber nociceptors using radiofrequency and records the cortical response via EEG, enabling preventive diagnoses years before irreversible damage occurs. Furthermore, it is designed for point-of-care use, facilitating rapid screening and longitudinal follow-up, with potential applications in other conditions such as chemotherapy-induced neuropathy and chronic neuropathic pain.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Aimed at protecting its main intangible assets, including the Nx-1 platform, the portable device, the neurophysiological evaluation methodology for fine fibers, and potential protection through patents or utility model registrations.

3

KIT SPOROTHRIX ELISACountry:  **Brasil**

BIDiagnostics

DESCRIPTION

Developed by the startup bidiagnostics, this is the first ELISA test for human and feline diagnosis that overcomes a long-standing scientific barrier associated with the biomolecular complexity of fungi, whose cell surface is composed of 90% sugars. Using carbohydrate engineering and immunology, it identifies a biomarker specific to Sporothrix spp., enabling the detection of infection, monitoring of treatment, and confirmation of cure within a few hours—compared to the 30 days required by traditional methods.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

An approach focused on protecting its key intangible assets, including the ELISA kit, the biomarker specific to Sporothrix spp., purification processes, immunodiagnostic methodologies, and the scientific know-how associated with carbohydrate engineering and immunology.

4



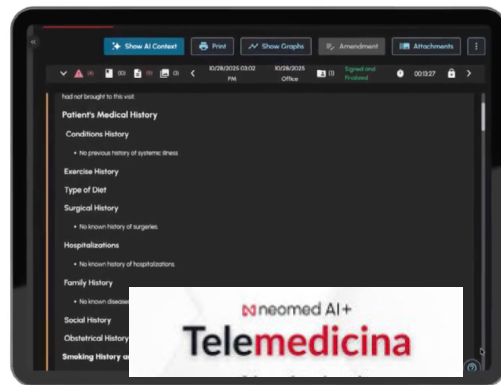
WINNER

NEOMED

Country: **Brazil**

DESCRIPTION

Through a strategic partnership with Johnson & Johnson MedTech, it offers a solution based on artificial intelligence and 24/7 remote cardiology for the accelerated diagnosis of atrial fibrillation and other arrhythmias. Its Kardia technology analyzes electrocardiograms in approximately 13 seconds, generating automatic alerts that streamline clinical decision-making. Integrated with structured Care Pathways models, the solution improves early detection, optimizes referrals to electrophysiology, and facilitates access to curative therapies such as ablation.



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Demonstrates strategic intellectual property management aimed at protecting its key intangible assets, including software, mobile applications, digital platforms, artificial intelligence models for electrocardiogram analysis, and 24/7 telemedicine cardiology processes.

5



WINNER

COPESILCUP

Country: **Chile**

DESCRIPTION

Developed by WMAS Nanotechnology Company, this long-term indwelling urinary catheter uses COPESIL technology, an advanced medical silicone modification platform based on surface PEGylation and the immobilization of copper nanoparticles. The device is designed to prevent catheter-associated urinary tract infections (CAUTIs) by reducing bacterial adhesion and biofilm formation, demonstrating antimicrobial activity exceeding 90% in experimental models. It does not release metal ions, minimizing the risk of cytotoxicity, and maintains standard mechanical properties and clinical protocols.



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Demonstrates protection of the technological elements, materials, processes, designs, and distinctive signs associated with the innovation, contributing to its differentiation, competitive sustainability, and potential for transfer within the healthcare ecosystem.

6

MAMMO QCountry:  **Chile****DESCRIPTION**

A state-of-the-art (Deep Tech) noninvasive diagnostic device for the early detection of breast cancer, combining a physical device that can be attached to ultrasound machines with advanced image processing software based on physical-mathematical models. It generates quantitative biomarkers of breast tissue stiffness and viscoelasticity, allowing for objective differentiation between healthy, benign, and malignant tissue, even in tumors smaller than 1 cm. It is operator-independent, non-ionizing, and does not require painful compression.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Demonstrates strategic intellectual property management aimed at protecting its key intangible assets, including the physical device, image-processing software, physical-mathematical algorithms, tissue analysis methods, and the Mammo-Q brand.

Mammo-Q

Asistencia médica con elastografía cuantitativa para estratificación de riesgos en biopsia mamaria.



7

PEGASICountry:  **Chile****DESCRIPTION**

Plataforma digital de navegación SaaS basada en inteligencia artificial
An AI-powered SaaS digital navigation platform that improves early detection, timely diagnosis, and patient follow-up, particularly in oncology. It integrates clinical information from multiple sources using international standards such as HL7 and FHIR without replacing existing systems, thereby reducing fragmentation and delays. It uses predictive models trained on Latin American data to stratify risks and prioritize patients before they reach advanced stages, digitizing the entire patient journey to strengthen treatment adherence.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

A robust strategy for the identification, protection, and strategic management of intangible assets associated with an AI-based clinical navigation SaaS platform. The initiative integrates protectable elements related to software, predictive models, interoperable data integration architecture, automation processes, digital risk stratification protocols, and the PEGASI SAIL trademark.



8

SMART CABINET

Country: 🇨🇱 Chile



SMART CABINET
MINI RFID

DESCRIPTION

Technology that transforms hospital inventory management into a smart system for real-time tracking and control. It combines high-precision RFID hardware with a SaaS analytics platform that automatically records the check-in and check-out of medical devices, linking each transaction to an authorized user via biometric authentication. It also monitors stock levels, expiration dates, and environmental conditions, reducing stockouts and excess inventory.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The initiative incorporates protectable elements related to the SaaS digital platform, software, RFID hardware components, biometric authentication mechanisms, automated inventory control processes, and their distinctive marks.

9

 **WINNER**

LUNG RE-EXPANSION DEVICE

Country: 🇨🇴 Colombia

DESCRIPTION

Developed by the Valle del Lili Foundation, this is an innovative medical device for alveolar recruitment in pediatric and adult patients who are breathing spontaneously, especially those with a tracheostomy or neurological impairment. It acts as an “artificial glottis,” allowing for controlled air retention and safe, progressive lung expansion. It incorporates one-way valves, a regulated pressure-release system, and a PEEP valve option. It has demonstrated safety and improved oxygenation in a pilot study in the ICU.



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Demonstrates a strategy aimed at protecting its key intangible assets, including the functional and industrial design of the device, its technical components, specialized materials, developed prototypes, and its distinctive marks.

10

PRÓTESIS AVANZADAS S.A.S

Country: 🇨🇴 Colombia

PRÓTESIS
AVANZADAS**DESCRIPTION**

The company develops robotic hand prostheses and mechanical finger prostheses using 3D printing and high-strength materials, offering functional and accessible devices. The solution is registered with INVIMA and aims to improve the independence and quality of life of people with upper limb amputations in Latin America through customized, low-cost manufacturing technologies.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Related to commercialized products, including robotic and mechanical prostheses, functional designs, customized manufacturing processes, and technologies developed for robotic hands and robotic grippers.

11

**WINNER****SKINGO**

Country: 🇨🇴 Colombia



skinGO

DESCRIPTION

A medical device for the mechanical debridement of necrotic tissue in second-degree burns, featuring a controlled abrasive surface integrated into an ergonomic glove. Developed by researchers from the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the Universidad de los Andes, in collaboration with experts from Health Engineering Design (HED) and with support from the Santa Fe de Bogotá Foundation. Its design allows for greater precision and tactile sensitivity during the procedure, reducing damage to healthy tissue and shortening surgical times.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Protects its key intangible assets related to the marketable product, including the specialized medical glove, its ergonomic design, the controlled abrasive surface, and the associated IP registrations. Strengthens its commercial transfer potential and technological positioning.

12

ROTARY OCCLUSION VALVE FOR TRACHEOSTOMY

country:  Colombia

DESCRIPTION

The OIQ Valve, developed by the Valle del Lili Foundation and recognized with a national innovation award, is a medical device for tracheostomy patients that allows for selective and reversible control of respiratory flow through a rotary occlusion mechanism. It facilitates the modulation of inhalation and exhalation without removing the device, reduces the risk of pulmonary contamination, and promotes speech and progressive respiratory rehabilitation.



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

An intellectual property strategy aimed at protecting the company's key intangible assets, including the medical device, the rotary occlusion mechanism, industrial designs, technical know-how, and potential protection through patents or utility model registrations.

13

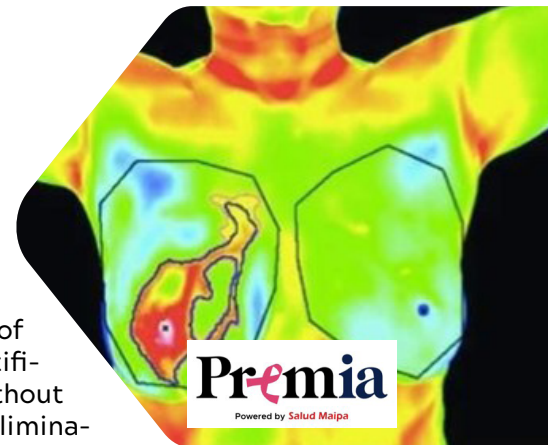


PREMIA

Country:  Guatemala

DESCRIPTION

An innovative solution for the secondary prevention and early diagnosis of breast cancer that uses thermoanalytical technology combined with artificial intelligence to identify high-risk patients quickly, painlessly, and without radiation. It provides immediate results during the same appointment, eliminating the need for multiple medical visits and facilitating the implementation of screening campaigns in rural areas thanks to its portability. It is designed to overcome barriers to access, such as the limited availability of mammography machines and high costs.



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Strategic management focused on protecting its key intangible assets, including portable thermoanalytical technology, the AI-based analysis system, the single-visit screening model, clinical risk stratification protocols, and the PREMIA brand.

14

MED-IO

Country:  México

DESCRIPTION

Develops a digital ecosystem aimed at strengthening mental health infrastructure in Latin America by centralizing tools for continuous, accessible, and portable emotional care. The platform connects patients with verified professionals and enables the management of schedules, flexible payments, and clinical follow-up beyond the therapy session, integrating emotional traffic lights and psychological tests. Its telemedicine model with negotiable rates adapts to different socioeconomic contexts.



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Designed to protect its main intangible assets related to the service it offers, including the digital platform, the source code registered with INDAUTOR, the functional architecture, the digital product designs, the continuous monitoring methodologies, and the MED-IO brand.

15



WINNER

MEDDI

Country:  México

DESCRIPTION

A digital health ecosystem that integrates prevention, medical care, electronic health records, digital prescriptions, access to medications, clinical tests, and coverage management into a single interoperable platform. It connects patients, doctors, companies, pharmacies, laboratories, and insurers, reducing fragmentation in the system. Its data-driven, preventive approach enables early risk identification. It currently serves more than 1.5 million users through B2B, B2C, and B2B2C models.



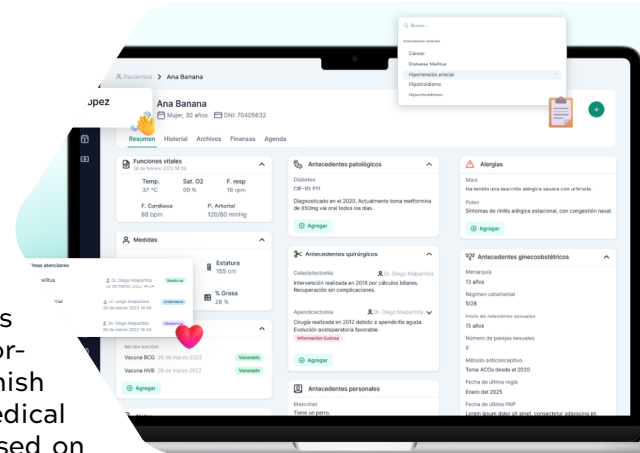
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Strategic management focused on protecting its key intangible assets, including its interoperable SaaS platform, digital care and prevention processes, population risk management methodologies, and its registered trademarks, thereby strengthening its commercial scalability.

16

DOCTOCcountry:  **Perú****DESCRIPTION**

An AI-powered clinical management platform that automates medical documentation and adapts to each professional's workflow. Its proprietary AI Scribe technology, trained on Spanish medical terminology, automatically generates structured medical records, ICD-10 diagnoses, prescriptions, and instructions based on the doctor-patient conversation, reducing documentation time from 15 minutes to less than 2 minutes. It integrates smart scheduling via WhatsApp and a no-code architecture.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Strategic management focused on protecting its key intangible assets, including the platform, artificial intelligence models trained on Spanish medical terminology, automated clinical documentation processes, and the no-code configurable architecture.

17

HOPPNICCountry:  **Perú****DESCRIPTION**

Develops customized bionic prostheses for the upper limb using scanning and measurement processes, digital design, and 3D printing. It integrates different actuation methods and control options, including myoelectric systems, voice control, and buttons, adapting to the needs of each user. It combines rapid local manufacturing, clinical fitting, and a comprehensive program of medical and psychological support.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Strategy to protect its key intangible assets, including customized bionic prostheses, industrial designs, modular architecture, parametric digital design, 3D printing manufacturing processes, and clinical technical know-how.

18

INSPIRAcountry:  **Perú****DESCRIPTION**

Developed by Cayetano Heredia University, this is a medical interface designed to monitor patients with respiratory diseases in high-demand or low-access settings. It integrates a mobile app for patients, a web platform for doctors, and a kit of Bluetooth-connected biomedical devices (pulse oximeter and mask strap) that enable the collection and transmission of real-time data for remote monitoring.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

It incorporates protectable elements related to the prototypes of connected biomedical devices, the mobile app, the web platform, clinical workflows, the industrial designs of the kit, remote monitoring methodologies, and their distinctive marks.

19

**WINNER****WATER TREATMENT SYSTEM WITH SELECTIVE ARSENIC REMOVAL**Country:  **Perú****DESCRIPTION**

Developed by the National Institute of Health of Peru to purify water in rural communities affected by arsenic contamination at levels exceeding those permitted by the WHO (0.010 mg/L). The technology is based on a highly selective filter medium made from plant waste and previously patented. Two treatment systems were designed—one of which has a patent application pending as a Utility Model in Peru—and both were successfully validated in Tacna and Pisco.

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Protects the patented filter medium, treatment systems, decontamination processes, and associated product designs. The existence of a prior patent and a utility model application reinforces its technological differentiation and its potential for technology transfer.

20

IMMERSIVE FISIOR TAPESTRY

Country:  Perú

DESCRIPTION

A gait rehabilitation solution that integrates Mixed Reality (MR), ankle sensors, and artificial intelligence, based on the patented Tapiz Fisior Method. Designed for gait reeducation in older adults and neurological patients, it enables objective performance monitoring and the development of structured therapies in clinically validated modules for clinical or home settings.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Comprehensive strategy for the protection of intangible assets associated with its Mixed Reality, sensor, and AI technology. It incorporates protectable elements related to the patented Tapiz Fisior Method, the technology platform, the AI models, the sensor kit, the clinical protocols structured into 33 modules, and its distinctive mark.

21

XRAI

Country:  Perú

DESCRIPTION

A cloud-based SaaS platform that uses artificial intelligence and computer vision to automate the analysis of panoramic and periapical dental X-rays, generating structured clinical reports in a matter of seconds. It transforms a traditionally manual process into a standardized and reproducible one, reducing diagnostic errors and optimizing dentists' time in private clinics, universities, and public health settings.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The initiative incorporates protectable elements related to AI-assisted diagnostic methodologies, structured generation of clinical reports, and distinctive features, thereby strengthening its technological differentiation, scalability, and potential for adoption.

11. What **LHC 2026** teaches us about Latin America

The 2026 edition of Latam Health Champions shows a clear evolution: Latin America not only has talent distributed across the region, but that talent is being translated into solutions designed for scalability and intellectual-property protection from early stages. **The data proves it: the predominance of software (41%) and medical devices (26%) signals a shift toward homegrown technological assets.**

Overall, LHC 2026 portrays a region that is turning that talent into concrete solutions—moving from isolated efforts to a more connected, sophisticated ecosystem with a global outlook. **Health innovation in Latin America is no longer emerging; it is consolidating as a real capability, driven by its people, with tangible impact on health systems and the potential to compete and collaborate internationally.**



Three key takeaways for decision-makers:

- 1. Digitalization is a reality, not a trend:** 56% of solutions include digital components, which requires updated regulatory and interoperability frameworks.
- 2. IP is the bridge to sustainability:** The 8 winning solutions integrate intellectual property into the core of their business models—not as paperwork, but as an enabler for investment and scaling.
- 3. The talent exists; the challenge is coordination:** For these 234 solutions to go further, coordinated efforts among governments, investors, and the private sector are needed to close gaps in financing, regulatory capacity, and IP strengthening.

12. Boston Mission

Boston, recognized as one of the world's strongest innovation ecosystems—became the epicenter of the Latam Health Champions 2026 mission. Over four days, eight leading health innovators, selected from more than **200 entrepreneurs in the region—took part in an immersive experience** that allowed them to see first-hand the models transforming healthcare globally. Through visits to benchmark institutions such as **the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Broad Institute, LabCentral, Amgen, and the Harvard University Cambridge Innovation Center**, among many others, participants closely explored the dynamics that drive innovation in the sector.

In parallel, a group of prominent Latin American journalists joined the experience, approaching the mission from a reporting perspective. Their participation not only helped document and amplify innovation stories, but also shed light on how these emerging solutions are impacting and transforming health systems across Latin America.

“We brought them to Boston because it is essential that we all understand what characterizes a successful innovation ecosystem, so that we can promote in our countries the changes that will allow us to have much more dynamic and successful systems.”

Carlos Felipe Escobar Roa

Director of HUB iEX - INNOS

Universidad El Bosque

“In Latin America, innovative solutions are already emerging to respond to major health challenges, and you are proof of that. Boston's Innovation Mission shows us that innovation does not happen in isolation: it flourishes in ecosystems where academia, entrepreneurs, investors, industry, and governments work in a coordinated way to turn knowledge into solutions with impact.”

The main takeaway from this experience is that the question is not whether Latin America can innovate. The question is how we continue strengthening the ecosystems that allow more innovators—and more solutions born in our region—to grow, attract investment, and reach more patients.

Raquel Sorza

Director of Health Policy

FIFARMA



Boston Mission 2026

Connecting the past and present of medicine to transform health

The mission began with the Healthcare Innovation Trail, an immersive tour through Kendall Square—recognized as one of the most dynamic innovation districts in the world and often called “the most innovative square mile on the planet”. In this environment, universities, hospitals, startups, and large companies converge, creating a unique ecosystem where scientific research, capital, and talent coexist to accelerate the development of health solutions.

Throughout the tour, participants saw first-hand how this proximity among actors makes it possible to turn ideas into real solutions, from the lab to the patient. **El trayecto incluyó referentes globales como Massachusetts**

The route included global references such as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Massachusetts General Hospital, Biogen, pioneering the development of innovative therapies and a key ecosystem player, Moderna, and Google, as well as innovation hubs and entrepreneurship spaces that are driving the next generation of health solutions.

This first immersion helped illustrate how coordination between academia, industry, and entrepreneurship has turned this ecosystem into a global model, where collaboration and proximity are the engine behind scientific and technological breakthroughs impacting millions of patients worldwide.

The power of MIT

The mission’s second stop took place at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, two global leaders at the intersection of science, technology, and innovation in health. This visit allowed the delegation to understand how one of the world’s most influential academic ecosystems integrates cutting-edge research with entrepreneurship and technology transfer.

During the visit, Freddy Nguyen shared with the delegation the main initiatives and mentoring programs that MIT promotes to strengthen technology-based startups, highlighting how collaboration with industry occurs organically within the ecosystem. This natural connection between academia and industry is one of the key factors that accelerates the transformation of ideas into solutions with real impact.



“ In Boston, we like to think we have a strong and robust ecosystem in the life sciences and biotechnology. But we also know we can't do this alone. [...] The key is not only how we bring those ideas here, but also how we allow our ideas to travel to other places. That exchange of ideas and people is essential, all with the same goal: to improve patients' lives and build a better society.

Testimonial from Fredy

A physician and scientist at MIT and an expert in translational research and the development of advanced biomedical technologies.

“ The idea is that, through these connections and mentorship opportunities, project development will be supported and clear paths to impact will be identified. There are people who, otherwise, would have no way to connect with the Boston ecosystem.

Mercedes Balcells

A researcher in the institute's biomedical innovation program, she highlighted the value of networks and strategic support.

This visit demonstrated how MIT not only generates cutting-edge knowledge but also acts as a global catalyst, facilitating connections, promoting international collaboration, and accelerating the delivery of innovations to the market and to patients.

From science to impact:

Infrastructure, research, and industry collaboration

The mission continued with a visit to LabCentral, one of Kendall Square's most prominent biotechnology innovation hubs. There, the delegation learned how this space goes beyond simply providing infrastructure: it serves as a true launchpad for science-based startups. LabCentral offers a comprehensive environment that eliminates operational barriers—such as permits, waste management, procurement of supplies, and technical training—allowing entrepreneurs to focus on what matters most: advancing their research and development.

In addition, its model is strengthened by a highly connected community, with active programming, events, and a support program that facilitates collaboration among founders and provides access to key players in the biotechnology ecosystem. This combination of infrastructure, community, and mentorship significantly accelerates the journey from science to the creation of high-impact companies.



The delegation then visited the Broad Institute, where they took a tour focused on understanding how cutting-edge research translates into concrete solutions for patients. The institute's mission is to understand the biological basis of diseases and bridge the gap between scientific knowledge and its clinical application.

Founded in 2004, following the completion of the Human Genome Project, the Broad Institute has established itself as a global leader in genomic medicine. Its approach is based on tackling large-scale scientific challenges through multidisciplinary teams, developing and sharing cutting-edge technologies that accelerate biomedical research and expand its global impact.

The day continued with a visit to Amgen, where the management team welcomed the delegation and shared the key initiatives they are leading in the global biotechnology ecosystem.



AMGEN
*Innovation Center in Boston,
United States*

The central focus of this event was a pitch session, during which the Latam Health Champions 2026 presented their solutions to industry experts and venture capitalists. This exercise allowed the entrepreneurs to receive direct feedback, validate their proposals, and refine their strategic approach in a highly demanding environment, aligned with the real dynamics of the global health innovation ecosystem. The event established itself as a space for learning, exchanging ideas, and finding inspiration, strengthening the participants' commitment to continue driving solutions that will transform the future of healthcare in Latin America.

“

The lessons we've learned and a better understanding of innovation. I'd like to think that, for the country, we'll be able to scale up what we're doing, take the technology to the next level, and, of course, have a positive impact on more people.

Luis Aragon
PREMIA

“

It has been a deeply enriching experience. Not only does it provide an up-close look at a culture of innovation, but it also helps build community and provides access to highly valuable and practical content. I'm taking away concrete tools to implement changes that will drive my company's growth.

Pablo Aguirre Zabala
Meddi

Scaling Innovation:

from the laboratory to the global ecosystem

The final day of this experience began with an impactful session at the Cambridge Innovation Center, where the delegation participated in a meeting with Scale Up Labs, a lab focused on creating and driving high-impact projects, reducing risks, fostering growth, and generating sustainable returns.

In this space, the eight innovators had the opportunity to present their solutions during a *pitch* session, receiving strategic feedback from *Scale Up's* team of experts. This exercise not only allowed them to refine their value propositions but also to forge meaningful connections that could lead to future collaboration opportunities within the global ecosystem.

To conclude the mission, the delegation returned to LabCentral, thereby gaining a comprehensive understanding of how science-based startups are built and scaled in one of the world's most advanced ecosystems. More than just a shared lab space, LabCentral serves as a true launchpad for innovative biotech companies, hosting more than 100 teams that are constantly growing.

In this way, the mission concludes with a deep understanding of the elements that make it possible to transform scientific knowledge into concrete solutions, leaving participants with not only technical knowledge but also a broader vision of Latin America's potential to scale up health innovation with a global impact.

14. Credits and Acknowledgments

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Latam health Champions 2026

Document created by
the HUB iEX and INNOS team at El Bosque University

Third edition