

THE VIEW

Life Sciences | August 2020



The coronavirus has put virtual care and vaccines against COVID-19 under the spotlight. Digital health investments continue to show an uptick, with large deals such as the \$18.5 billion Teladoc-Livongo merger leading the pack. This signals that the industry is on a path towards a digital-first future and healthcare providers must adapt to this change to stay ahead.

In this month's newsletter, we bring together the latest in digital health and COVID-19 R&D, along with top stories from our blog.

Digital health trends and innovation

Despite market slowdowns due to COVID-19, the digital healthcare sector continues to witness steady growth. Meanwhile, AI innovation is also emerging as one of the top trends in the industry.

Teladoc acquires digital disease management company Livongo for USD 18.5B ([fiercepharma](#))

FDA approves Abbott's chronic pain management smartphone app ([fiercebiotech](#))

NABH digital health standards to expedite adoption of telehealth and telemedicine in India ([expresshealthcare](#))

Zebra Medical's breast cancer AI approved by FDA ([fiercebiotech](#))



Emerging trends in digital health

As the industry shifts toward virtual care, here are the emerging digital health trends that will impact healthcare innovation and investment in the future.

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Startups in the spotlight

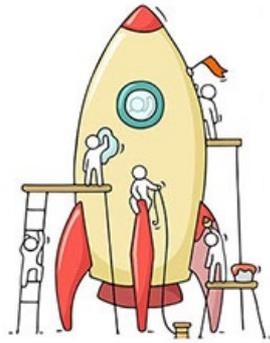
As growth opportunities in the life sciences industry arise, investment in innovative startups continues to remain strong.

Foghorn Therapeutics: partnered with Merck in a USD 435M deal

Entera Pharmaceuticals: raised EUR 28M to advance restorative therapy for Type 1 diabetes and inflammatory bowel disease

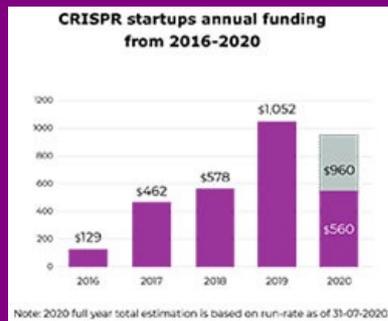
Caption Health: raised USD 53M to fund its AI-

assisted ultrasound platform



Tasso: raised USD 17M to grow its at-home blood collection platform

A closer look at the CRISPR startup ecosystem



CRISPR-Cas9 technology is revolutionizing genome editing, creating various opportunities across industries. We make a deep dive into the CRISPR startup ecosystem to uncover the emerging applications, top-funded startups, and key life sciences firms betting on this technology.

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COVID-19 R&D

More pharma and med-tech firms are pacing ahead in their clinical trials, in hopes to be ready with a cure by 2021. Initiatives like the UK govt pledging GBP 100 mn for vaccine manufacturing, continue the trend of promising developments to expedite the eradication of the pandemic.

Eli Lilly starts phase 3 trial of COVID-19 antibody in nursing homes
([fiercepharma](#))

India's Zydus Cadila begins phase 2 clinical trial of its DNA vaccine
([fiercebiotech](#))

FDA approved first diagnostic for asymptomatic COVID-19 patients
([fiercepharma](#))

Pfizer and BioNTech, and Moderna begin phase 3 of their mRNA vaccine trials ([fiercebiotech](#))



Impact of COVID-19 on the Indian home healthcare market

The Indian home healthcare market is expected to see more virtual solutions emerging in the next five years. According to Netscribes research, it is expected to expand at a CAGR of 18.91% during the 2020-2025 period.

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41 East, 11th Street, New York,
NY10003, USA
+1-877-777-6569
info@netscribes.com



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