

Summit looks at creative thinking in healthcare

★ **PUTTING** The Bahamas on the cutting edge of the future of health and ushering in a paradigm-shift in health and technology in the region and globally is the focus of The 2018 Inaugural HEALinc Future Health Innovation Summit, taking place at the Melia Hotel, Nassau, from October 7th to 9th.

This unique Summit is the brainchild of **Dr Desiree Cox, MD, PhD**, and is the first of its kind in The Bahamas and possibly the Caribbean region.

Where Regenerative Medicine Meets Technology And Social Enterprise is the title of the Summit. As the title implies, the Summit brings top minds together to take a comprehensive, multi-faceted, collaborative approach to creating the future of health

for the region, now. The Summit will be under the distinguished patronage of the Governor General **Dame Marguerite Pindling** who will attend the opening ceremony. **Dr Duane Sands**, Minister of Health, will speak at the opening ceremony on Sunday, October 7th.

“How do we encourage and inspire creative thinking in addressing the major healthcare challenges of our time? How do we pay for future health innovations and ensure that they are available and accessible to the majority of the population, rather than the few?” says Dr Cox, the founder and CEO of **The HEALinc Incubator** and the **HEALinc Future Health Summit**.

“Most of all,” says Dr Cox, “how do we integrate cutting-edge developments in digital health, precision health,

regenerative medicine and application of advanced cellular therapies to treat chronic non-communicable diseases, into the educational curricula for healthcare professionals, patients and even high-school students?”

These are the questions that led Dr Cox to invite international and regional speakers and sponsors to work with her to create an annual Summit as a means of opening and expanding the minds of people in the region to exploring unlimited possibilities of accelerating technologies and the medicine and healthcare of the future.

The Summit will be an educational event, with something for everyone—patients, students, government officials, investors, entrepreneurs and more.

Healthcare professionals from all

over the world will be able to obtain continuing medical education requirements (up to 20 ACCME and AMA approved credits) points.

Innovation is the key word—new ways of thinking applied to creating **unique solutions for redefining old challenges**.

“Current wisdom says that education, industry and innovation are no longer mutually exclusive just as creativity, technology and science are no longer so compartmentalized in their separate boxes. A massive shift in thinking has taken place. And **cross-pollination is now the order of the day**,” says Dr Cox.

Advances in technology have already been applied in many fields, from the simple use of the internet at home to the exponential growth of breakthroughs in medical, scientific, manufacturing and business industries. Artificial Intelligence, Stem Cell therapies, Bio-tech and Regenerative Medicine use tech knowledge to create better services, applications and the efficacious delivery of those services.

Design Thinking and Hacking are other new words which are now embedded in the language used to describe the changes taking place in schools, libraries and educational facilities as well as in private enterprise. In the academic world, this has meant the breaking down of departmental “silos”, instead encouraging a **multi-disciplinary approach to learning and enquiry**.

All of these topics will be covered by featured speakers at the 2018 HEALinc Future Health Innovation Summit including **Dr Peter Diamandis**, founder of the XPrize and Singularity University; **Dr Robert Hariri**, founder of Celularity; **Professor Joshua Hare**, Interdisciplinary University of Miami; **Dr Marc Penn**, CEO of Black Beret Life Sciences; **Tanmay Bakshi**, a self-taught developer, who at age 14 is the youngest developer of IBM Watson; **Bernie Knobbe**, VP Benefits of AECOM, named one of Fortune magazine’s “World’s Most Admired Companies” for the fourth consecutive year, and more.

Sponsors and partners of the Summit include IBM, Okyanos Center for Regenerative Medicine, Doctors Hospital Health System (DHHS), Longeveron, Celularity, Maxwell Bioscience, University of Central Florida’s iCORPS (UCF-iCORPS), Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship, Santa Clara University, Silicon Valley, The Bioinformant, Bhava Communications, VSee, and University of the West Indies.

Registration for the 2018 Summit is now open. Take advantage of the **Early Bird registration** by logging on to www.healincfuturehealthsummit.com.



● **DR DESIREE COX:** She is the founder and CEO of The HEALinc Incubator and the upcoming HEALinc Future Health Summit