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HNSN is the first in Paraíba to adopt non-invasive monitoring of brain pressure and compliance in the ICU

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The Nossa Senhora das Neves Hospital (HNSN), in João Pessoa (PB), has just adopted in the ICU routine the non-invasive method of monitoring compliance

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and intracranial pressure from the Brazilian startup brain4care. With this, the HNSN is the first in Paraíba to have this technology. This investment takes place in line with three pillars: innovation, effectiveness of the monitoring method in the ICU and investment in scientific development”, says Luís Livieri, CEO of HNSN. The effectiveness of brain4care's non-invasive monitoring is recognized by the doctor José Lopes de Sousa Filho, Coordinator of Neurosurgery at the HNSN. According to him, the brain4care method has proved to be important as decision support for ICU doctors. “It is a disruptive technology that, because it is non-invasive and without risks for the patient, becomes an additional parameter to guide medical conduct”,

According to Livieri, the HNSN's project is to use the solution for three months in the ICU, consolidate the data and then form a committee to assess where else non-invasive monitoring can be used. One possibility to be studied is in the triage of patients in the Emergency Room. The HNSN also has a Research Institute and is considering investing in studies involving data on intracranial pressure and brain compliance. In addition, the CEO highlights that brain4care provides its technology through a business model that facilitates the scalability of the solution: a fixed monthly subscription per sensor, regardless of the volume of monitoring.

Why is it innovative and disruptive?

To understand why non-invasive brain monitoring is innovative and disruptive, it is necessary to know that medicine in the world in relation to the adult braincase is guided by one of the pillars of the scientific doctrine of Monroe-Kellie, from 1783. This theory states that the braincase is inextensible in the adult and that, therefore, any data on intracranial pressure can only be obtained through invasive procedures. And so, the conventional and established protocol in medicine for obtaining information about intracranial pressure presupposes drilling a hole in the braincase and inserting a catheter into the patient's brain. Because it is invasive, this surgical procedure is only performed in selected cases, in which the physician evaluates the risk versus the benefits for the patient.

But Brazilian scientist Sérgio Mascarenhas discovered that the braincase is expandable and published his first article on the topic in 2012. Based on this discovery, he created brain4care to bring the benefit of non-invasive monitoring of pressure and brain compliance to as many people as possible. Using the brain4care method, changes in intracranial pressure and brain compliance are captured using a totally non-invasive sensor placed on the patient's head with the aid of a strap. The data can be monitored online, in real time, on a device (tablet, smartphone or hospital monitor) connected to the internet. In addition, the brain4care system issues detailed monitoring reports

that are interpreted by the doctor. (*Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act*). The solution is certified by Anvisa, in Brazil, and released by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), in the United States.



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