

SIN India Assists to Secure a £1 million Wellcome Trust Grant for Prosthetic Development

SIN brings together leading UK and Indian researchers to help make affordable prosthetics.



Photo courtesy: Indian Institute of Science

Prosthetics in India

In India, prostheses are either unaffordable or unsuitable for long-term use for many people who need them. Work on prosthetic designs has resulted in new prototypes but translating these commercial products has proved extremely difficult. SIN India has been able to use its expertise to help.

Supporting a Partnership

SIN workshops brought together biomedical engineers experienced in clinical translation and commercialisation from Oxford University, experts in affordable prosthetic device design from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), and market experts from the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) to deliver a new UK-Indo partnership. The collaboration is taking forward new concepts of design and clinical translation in the area of biomechanics, something that will have the potential to have a major impact on affordable healthcare in India. The technologies developed will also be assessed for application in the UK NHS, thus helping the NHS in commercialisation of new technologies. More crucially, however, the research will have far-reaching human benefits helping people who have lost limbs by enabling them to have reduced recovery times after injury while also boosting their chances of work productively again.

Securing Partnership Funding

In order to create the change, the newly organised UK-Indo partnership secured a Wellcome Trust Award of almost £1 million through the Affordable Healthcare in India Scheme which supports R&D in India to develop accessible healthcare solutions. SIN's integral role in creating the trust and engagement between Oxford University and IISc ensured both organisations were well positioned to work more closely with Wellcome Trust to secure the funding. This collaboration will ensure that new design ideas from IISc have a positive effect on affordable healthcare in India and will also allow Oxford University to investigate models of medtech clinical translation and commercialisation in new healthcare settings.

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