

In memoriam: Ilkka Winblad

The founder and first editor-in-chief of the Journal, Dr. Ilkka Winblad, lääkintöneuvos, docent and director of FinnTele-medicum at the University of Oulu, died of sudden illness in November 2011.

Ilkka Winblad, as the first Finnish de facto professor of clinical telemedicine and eHealth made a significant contribution to the field. Relying on his extensive clinical experience, he started a whole new field of research, the evaluation of telemedicine and eHealth applications focusing on clinical practice and effectiveness. He was pre-examiner and opponent of numerous dissertations in different research fields and supervised a great deal of research work. He was open to new views, and was actively involved in co-researchers' articles in different scientific fields. Due to his influence the articles appeared in major international journals and research projects were organized and the tasks were defined. Under Ilkka Winblad's guidance an internationally unique time series on the implementation of ICT in health care was compiled in Finland, and as his last work he took an active part in the current evaluation of a patient information system used by physicians. Ilkka Winblad was a much sought after teacher and lecturer. As the only one of its kind in Finland, he initiated the regularly held telemedicine web-based teaching at the University "Basics of e-Health", an online course and broadening the international forum in the Arctic medicine master's program. With his publishing experience he served the common good by setting up the FinJeHeW journal in 2009 – timely manner, moving directly to the online version. For a long time he served on the boards of the Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth and the Finnish Social and Health Informatics Association as well as being vice-chair of the Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth. We will miss his friendship, his wisdom and profound verbal creativity.

Finnish Social and Health Informatics Association and the Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth will continue to follow Finnish Journal of eHealth and eWelfare (FinJeHeW) publishing. Because of the successful work of Ilkka Winblad the journal's activity is stabilizing and the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies has assessed that the journal meets the criteria of a scientific publication channel. The next challenge is to get the journal into the PubMed indexing. To achieve this goal welcome all suggestions from readers for publication in Journal.

Jarmo Reponen

**Chair of FinJeHeW editorial board
Chair of Finnish Society of Telemedicine and eHealth**

Kristiina Häyrinen

**FinJeHeW Editor-in-Charge
Chair of Finnish Social and Health Informatics
Association**