ShanX Medtech awarded EU4Health procurement to lead consortium developing rapid point-of-care antimicrobial susceptibility test

Eindhoven, The Netherlands, December 18, 2025 — ShanX Medtech BV (SXM) announces the awarding of the contract *"Development of a rapid point-of-care antimicrobial susceptibility testing diagnostic medical device"* (HADEA/2025/CPN/0006), signed with the European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HaDEA) in line with the policy priorities set by the European Commission's Health Emergency, Preparedness and Response Authority (DG HERA) and funded under the EU4Health program. **SXM will lead the project as the group leader of a joint tender for a total amount of EUR 8,850,000 (~USD 10,400,000).** The contract is focused on accelerating the development of rapid, point-of-care antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) technologies to address one of the most urgent challenges in global health: antimicrobial resistance (AMR), a threat that undermines modern medicine and pandemic preparedness.

For this contract, SXM has brought together a group of established industry players with decades of experience in in-vitro diagnostics (IVD) manufacturing and market credibility at the point of care (POC). Namely, Aidian Oy (Finland), Biosurfit S.A. (Portugal), Unitron B.V. (Netherlands) and Fundación para la Investigación Biomédica del Hospital Universitario Ramón y Cajal (Spain). ShanX Medtech BV, the Dutch IVD MedTech company based in Eindhoven, coordinates and leads the group.

The contract will advance SXM's proprietary antimicrobial susceptibility testing (AST) technology through product development and large-scale clinical studies. These activities will push the product toward regulatory approval, delivering a clinically validated, regulatory-ready POC diagnostic solution. The platform will be aligned with European IVD regulations and real-world healthcare needs across multiple EU countries.

A strong validation of vision, science and execution

> "The selection by DG HERA and HaDEA represents a significant validation of our proprietary technology, long-term vision, and scientific progress, and powerfully affirms why we founded ShanX Medtech," said Dr. Sophia E. Shanko, CEO of ShanX Medtech BV. "**We founded the company with the ambition to improve patient outcomes and public health through a novel approach to POC AST; long before this received broader attention, already back in 2019**. Since then, we have made significant and steady progress. The success of this tender validates not only the hard work of the team throughout the years, but also the vision we set out with from the beginning."

Advancing a historic moment in the fight against antimicrobial resistance

The HaDEA and DG HERA call for tenders represents the first such call specifically dedicated to rapid POC AST development, aiming to move such technologies from early innovation toward regulatory-ready solutions. Traditional AST methods often rely on central laboratories and can take days, delaying optimal treatment decisions.

The initiative is aligned with the actions set out in the 2017 EU One Health Action Plan against AMR, which emphasizes the need to support innovation and improve access to diagnostic and other medical countermeasures, and it is also consistent with the provisions of the 2023 Council Recommendations. Additionally, it directly supports international efforts to address antimicrobial resistance, which the World Health Organization (WHO) has identified as one of the top global public health threats. In its Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance, the WHO emphasizes the urgent need for rapid, accessible diagnostics to enable appropriate antimicrobial use, effective stewardship, and outbreak response. By accelerating the development of rapid POC AST solutions, the HaDEA contract aligns EU health innovation with these globally recognized priorities.

By enabling rapid AST close to the patient, this initiative contributes not only to better routine care, but also to pandemic preparedness and health-system resilience; ensuring clinicians have fast, actionable data when healthcare systems are under maximum pressure.

> "As this is the first call for tenders of its kind in the field of antimicrobial resistance, we see it as a true milestone for the sector," Sophia added. "**The entire ShanX Medtech team and our group members are excited and deeply motivated by the trust placed in us by HaDEA and DG HERA.** We are committed to working hard to make this project a success and to deliver meaningful impact for patients and healthcare systems."

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

AMR is one of the most serious global health threats of our time. As bacteria and other pathogens become resistant to existing treatments, routine infections grow harder to cure, leading to longer hospital stays, higher healthcare costs, and increased mortality.

A key driver of AMR is the lack of rapid, actionable diagnostic information at the POC. Today, clinicians often prescribe broad-spectrum antibiotics while waiting days for laboratory results, inadvertently accelerating resistance, compromising patient outcomes and increasing costs.

Rapid, POC AST has the potential to change this paradigm; enabling targeted treatment decisions when they matter most, improving patient outcomes, and preserving the effectiveness of existing antimicrobials.

> "**Rapid AST at the POC is critical to adequate antimicrobial stewardship, efficient outbreak response and pandemic readiness**," said Prof. Dr. Alex van Belkum, Key Opinion Leader in AST, IVD Strategy Lead at ShanX Medtech and Senior Manager of the project.

About ShanX Medtech BV

Founded in 2019, ShanX Medtech is a Dutch Medtech company based at the High Tech Campus in Eindhoven. The company develops innovative In-Vitro Diagnostic (IVD) solutions that deliver ultra-rapid and accessible antimicrobial susceptibility testing, supporting global efforts to combat antimicrobial resistance and improve public health.

For more information, please visit shanxmedtech.com or contact: info@shanxmedtech.nl