



## Women authoring scientific articles in eHealth, 2015 – 2019

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Since 2014, the Working Group on Women (WoW) of the International Society for Telemedicine and eHealth (ISfTeH, [https://www.isfteh.org/working\\_groups/category/women\\_wow](https://www.isfteh.org/working_groups/category/women_wow)) and the Women Observatory for eHealth of the Foundation Millennium2025 Women and Innovation (<http://www.m2025-weobservatory.org/#>), have been working together to support the publication of scientific articles in eHealth at the Journal of the ISfTeH (<https://journals.ukzn.ac.za/index.php/JISfTeH/>) authored by women as first author and in English.

The first Special Theme “Women in eHealth” was published in 2015, with five original research articles and one preliminary report, covering maternal health, science and engineering, ePrevention and telemedicine for diabetes. The issue opens with four Guest Editorials and one Invited Commentary that highlight the need to “Make it happen” by Dr Najeeb Al Shorbaji, former eHealth director at the World Health Organisation (WHO), to invest in women and the roles of women in eHealth by Patricia Mechael, Public Health Specialist at HealthEnabled.

The second issue is published in 2017, with three research articles covering HIV virtual nursing intervention for women, an online training toolkit to fight violence against women and the telemedicine project for rural women. The Guest Editorial strengthens the need to leave no one behind, women too, by Dr Regina Ungerer, former eHealth scientist at WHO.

The third issue is published in 2019 with seven articles covering psychological distress, mHealth for maternity and midwifery, education, drug abuse, social media and MOOC for dentistry. The issue is introduced by a Guest Editorial of Michele Griffith, member of the ISfTeH Board ([https://www.isfteh.org/about/board\\_members](https://www.isfteh.org/about/board_members)).

In order to expand the reach of the articles, their abstracts are translated in French ([http://www.m2025-weobservatory.org/uploads/3/9/5/1/39512321/jsfteh\\_2015\\_-\\_2017\\_fr\\_final.pdf](http://www.m2025-weobservatory.org/uploads/3/9/5/1/39512321/jsfteh_2015_-_2017_fr_final.pdf)) in collaboration with ISfTeH working Group Francophonie ([https://www.isfteh.org/working\\_groups/category/francophonie](https://www.isfteh.org/working_groups/category/francophonie)).

With a total of sixteen scientific articles, the Special Theme “Women in eHealth” contributes valuably to the “Digital Health Global Commons” through the promotion of the scientific research in eHealth conducted by women around the world.

The new Special Theme on “Nurses and Midwives in Digital Health” is expected by 2020, in line with the World Health Organisation declaration (<https://www.who.int/hrh/news/2019/2020year-of-nurses/en/>) with the ISfTeH Working Group Tele-Nursing ([https://www.isfteh.org/working\\_groups/category/telenursing](https://www.isfteh.org/working_groups/category/telenursing)).

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