

# DicoTechnologies

**Empowering the voiceless** 



# The Challenge

Just in Italy, roughly 500 Intensive Care Units (Terapia intensiva, rianimazione)

More than 200.000 patients admitted every year



70% of these patients are intubated, often awake but unable to communicate Inability to communicate perceived as major source of distress for patients and clinical staff



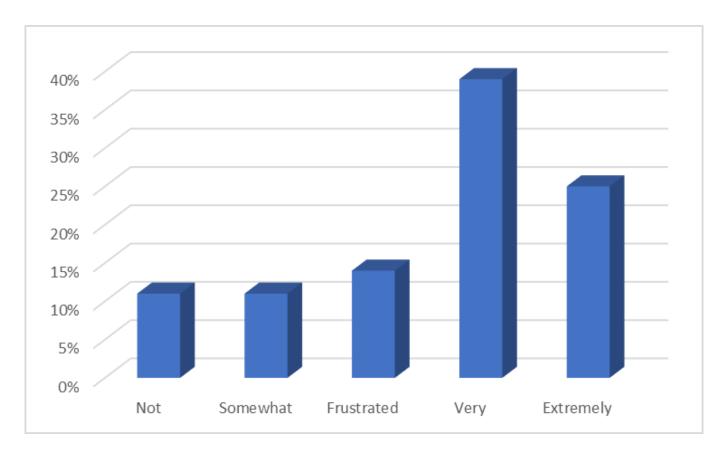
# Experiences reported by ICU patients (65) who had endotracheal tube (ETT)

Not being able to speak60 (92)1090Pain or discomfort associated with ETT59 (91)2278Pain or discomfort associated with endotracheal suctioning56 (86)1882Pain or discomfort associated with ETT fastening53 (82)3664Feeling chocked by ETT45 (69)3466ETT interference with sleep45 (69)3268ETT interference with swallowing53 (82)2377	e a bit %
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ETT interference with swallowing 53 (82) 23 77	
Feeling of thirst associated with ETT55 (85)1387	
Not getting enough air from ETT39 (60)3763	
Difficulty breathing after ETT removed32 (49)3862	

Source: IJssennagger et al., 2018



### Level of frustration reported by patients for inability to communicate



Source: Patak L et al. Heart Lung 2004;33:308 –21.



# Vision



#### **Empowering the voiceless**



# Mission



Our mission is allowing each patient, who cannot speak, to communicate, with family, friends, medical staff and with the rest of the world thru simple, easy to adopt and affordable technologies-based solutions, fully adaptable to the patient's capabilities



# Our History

# 2020 – March 2021

Giacomo Bellani, Associate Professor & ICU researcher, conscious of communications need for ICU patients, met Eng. Aldo Padova, manager with enterprise organizational expertise. After deep market analysis and clinical researches, initial intuition has been confirmed and decision has been taken to found a company.

> 1<sup>st</sup> round

# 2021, March-Sept.

Company founded and listed in the innovative startup register Components identified and co-designed, solution assembling, strategical suppliers identified Prototype development completed Patent and brand deposited Website activated

# 2021, Oct.-Dec.

Team growth and consolidation B2B commercial partner identified and negotiation started CE Mark achieved MVP made available and evaluation phase with University of Medicine & Nursing started

# 2022, Jan. – June

Operative office made available Commercial Partnership for Italian B2B marked signed First orders collected Ongoing R&D projects with University Milano and NEMO Lab Research Center

Clinical evaluation with 3 KOL ICUs Exploring no

Exploring new markets and new use cases International patent extension (PCT) registered





# The DICo® 1000 Solution

The motion co-engineered sensor transmits via Bluetooth protocol to the proprietary software which converts the user's gestures into the selection of textual content showed on the tablet screen



Designed for clinical environment, CE Mark as LTV device (2014/35/UE), made compliant with additional medical directives to ensure clinical usage





# DICO® 1000 - how it works

#### The device supports multiple interaction setups:

- Single gesture interaction
- Up to 4 gestures interaction

#### as well as different interfaces:

- Virtual adaptive keyboard based on algorithm for text enhanced selection
- Configurable semiotic interface for messages editing





# The MVP in a nutshell

CE Mark as LTV device (2014/35/UE), compliant with additional medical directives. Ready for clinical trials

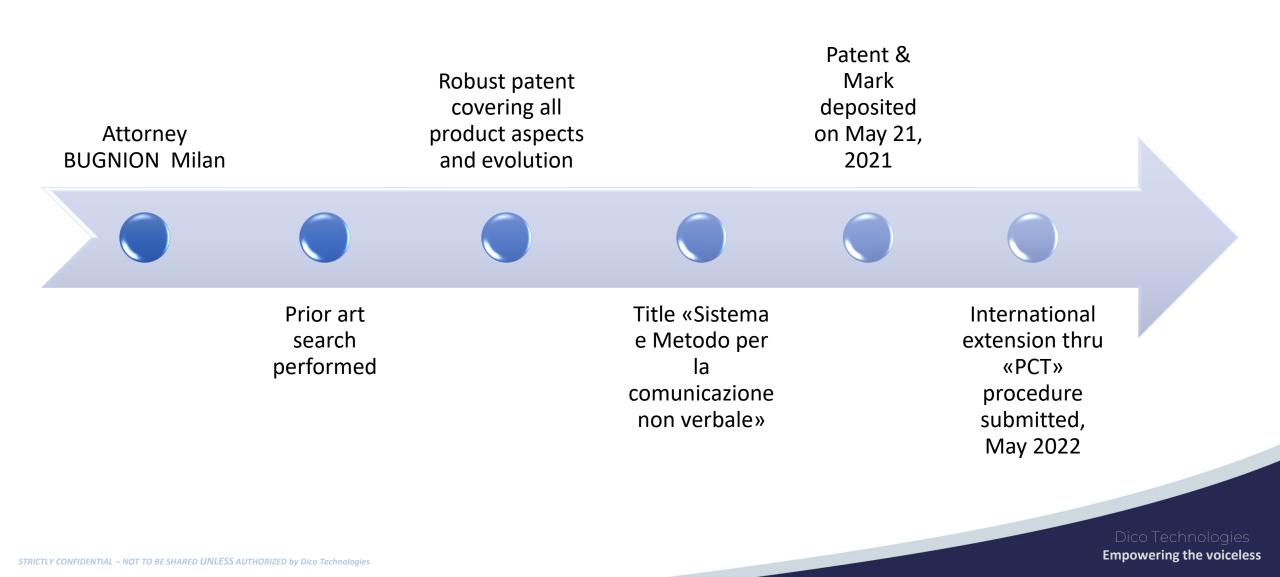
Primarily designed for usage as AAC in ICU Department, currently exploring other Departments

Simple and stand-alone architecture, securing smooth delivery & quick adoption process.

Natively designed to enhance voiceless experience, adapting to patient needs.

Smart terminal to the patient bed, suitable for hosting additional digital services

# Patent's roadmap





# Competitive advantages

#### User experience

Easy to use with quick calibration process

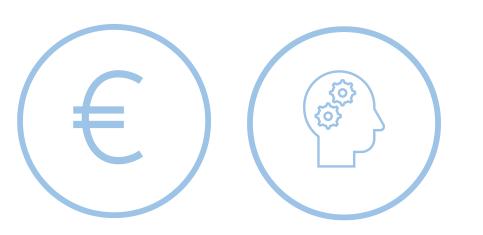


#### Ergonomics & Safety

Designed for medical environment, compliant with medical directives

#### Materials & costs

Antiallergenic and non-toxic materials, competitive quality/price ratio

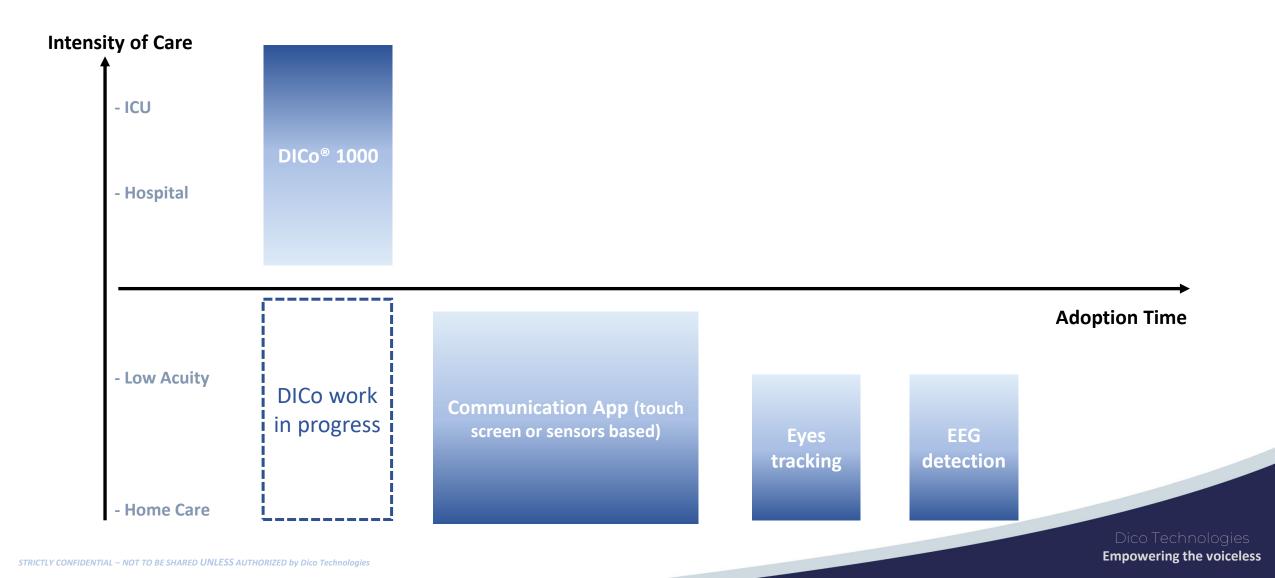


#### Flexibility

Different interfaces and interaction modes ensure customization to user needs



### AAC Tools - Competitive Analysis





### Competitive landscape of AAC tools in ICU

	Cost	Adoption Time	Patient independence	Operator dependent	Compatible with ETT	Specific movement needed
Lips reading						Lips
Writing tables						Arm/finger
Speaking Valves						
Eyes/Head tracking						Eyes/Head
AAC Apps						Arm/finger
DICo <sup>®</sup> 1000						



# The Team





Aldo Padova CEO

Engineer & MBA, experienced senior advisor & executive manager **Giacomo Bellani** Scientific Advisor

Associate professor of Anesthesia and Critical care Medicine, with a passion for teaching and research



**Lorenzo Colnago** Operation Director

Senior biomedical engineer, experienced on the digital health domain in medical devices corporates



**Riccardo Monti** Product Developer

Biomedical Engineer and Android Developer passionate for digital technologies



### SWOT Analysis

#### Strengths

Quick adoption curve Affordable Easy to maintain Design based on deep knowledge of clinical domain





#### Weaknesses

Imitable Require to change clinical staff behavior Provisioning process at public hospitals

#### Opportunities

Unmet needs of Hospital Dept. beyond ICU Home care and B2C Telemedicine Wellbeing services





#### Threats

After pandemic, less priority ICU critical environment Entry barriers to the medical market



### The voice of the market

2020 2nd half: one to one interviews conducted involving 12 ICU Doctors (mainly dept. Heads), acting both in private and public hospitals, spread along Italy

- Clinical need and purchasing propensity confirmed
- Expected price 15-30% higher vs. internal business plan
- Roughly 20/30% of ICU beds perceived as suitable, willing to evaluate the device on real patients

#### 2022 1st half: launching online survey involving roughly 200 ICU KOLs

- Focus on how lack communication in ICU affects care process and quality of life
- Collecting more details on % of ICU beds suitable for DICo 1000 usage



#### Clinical assessment

#### 2021 2nd half: MVP tested on healthy subjects in frame of a Thesis of Nursing University

- Hints to enhance usability and user interface
- Confirmation of the smooth adoption process

#### 2022 1st half: assessing MVP in 3 reference ICU Departments

 Focus on how lack of communication in ICU affects care process and quality of life, % of ICU beds suitable for DICo<sup>®</sup> 1000 usage

#### 2022 1st half: running R&D projects in partnership with University and Research Center

- Involving NEMO Lab to evaluate DICo 1000 on patients affected by neuromuscular diseases
- Involving Nursing University of Milano Bicocca to evaluate DICo <sup>®</sup> 1000 on in-patients belonging to different Hospital Departments





#### **Overall Italian Market**

- 13.307 ICU beds during Covid19
- Roughly 10K beds confirmed post Covid19 in Italy, 60-80K beds in Europe

Addressable Market

• 30% of total number of beds

#### Target Market Share

• 30% of the Italian market (and 3% of the European one) within 2025





Commercial agreement with SEDA S.p.A. (<u>https://www.seda-spa.it/</u>) active since February 2022. SEDA is in charge for exclusive distribution in Italian Hospitals (private end public) with target on ICU and other suitable departments.

SEDA, one of the major Italian medical device's suppliers, has been founded in 1973 with specialization in the fields of cardiac surgery, cardiology, anesthesia, resuscitation and general surgery. SEDA has always placed, alongside and beyond the commercial purpose, the best protection of the health of patients, through the introduction of new more effective techniques, validated with the scientific help provided by the medical profession in order to fully demonstrate the clinical advantages and the opportunity for use in our country.





# B2B Business Model

#### Italy - public/private hospitals thru commercial partnership with medical device distributor (Seda S.p.A)

- Target Departments: ICU (as fist), Neurology Department, Surgery, liaising with Speech Therapy teams
- **Revenues Model**: device and disposables selling (CAPEX), post warranty service contracts & ancillary services
- Status: partnership started on January 2022, promotion phase till June 2022 then forecast and orders collection

#### Italy - Long Term Care, Home for Elderly, Care Homes, Rehabilitation, Mental Health Facilities

- Timeline: 2nd Half 2022 1st Half 2023
- **Status**: identifying and selecting commercial partners (ideally medical assets suppliers)

#### Europe - Hospitals Departments (ICU, Neurology Department, Surgery...)

- Timeline: from 2023
- Status: Finalizing business analysis and identifying commercial partners (e.g., medical device distributors) & countries. OPEX model as well



# B2C-B2B2C Business Model

#### Italy – Domiciliary Care, Assisted Living, "Case di Comunità"

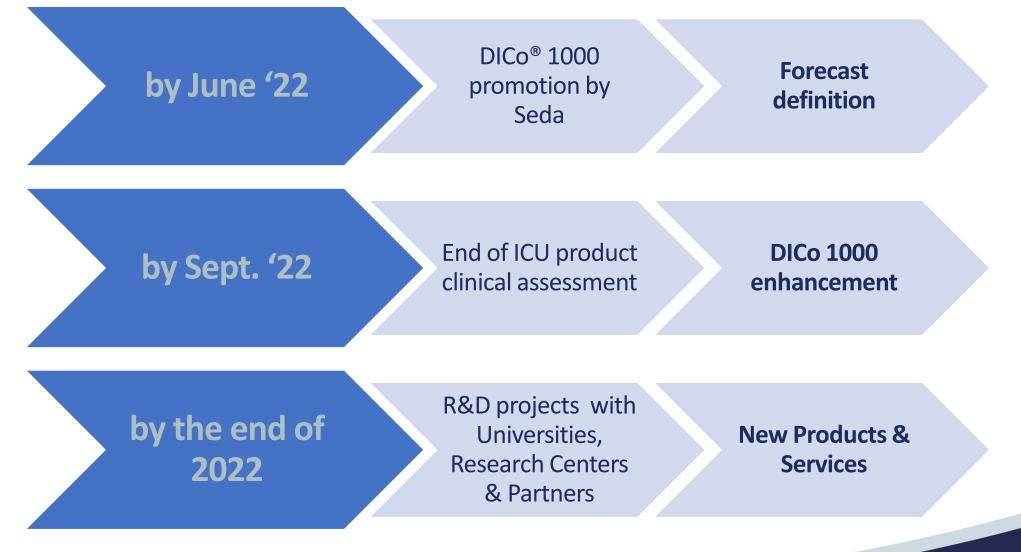
- Timeline: from 2nd Half 2023
- Status: currently assessing needs & functions, starting identification of commercial partners (ideally OEMs, like ventilators/medical gases suppliers,) and territory

#### Europe - Domiciliary Care, Assisted Living

- **Timeline**: 2024
- Status: needs & functions to be assessed, to start identification of commercial partners (ideally OEMs, like medical assets suppliers or Telemedicine suppliers) and targeted Countries



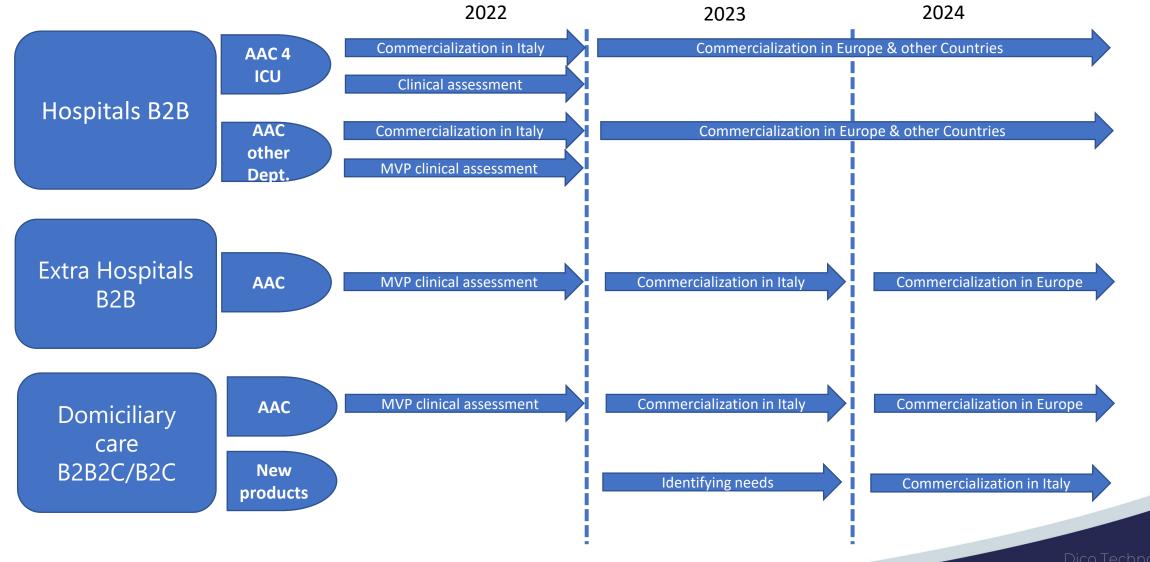
### Short term roadmap



STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL - NOT TO BE SHARED UNLESS AUTHORIZED by Dico Technologies



### Medium/long term roadmap



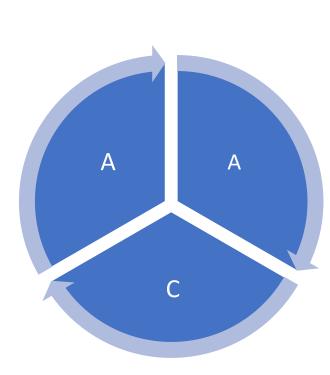
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## Surrounding AAC strategy



Dashboard for Clinical team & Family





#### Patient monitoring & rehabilitation

Clinical trails & Sedation scales

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Dico Technologies Empowering the voiceless

Language support tools





## Contacts Us

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