



Company FAQs

What does IDx do?

IDx LLC is a medical device company based in Iowa City, Iowa that is focused on developing software-based algorithms that can identify disease in medical images. Its mission is to transform the quality, accessibility, and affordability of global healthcare through the automation of medical diagnosis and treatment.

When was IDx founded?

IDx was founded in 2010 by Dr. Michael Abramoff and a group of leading retinal specialists at the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics.

Why is IDx focused on the eye?

The eye is IDx's starting point for introducing automation to healthcare because it allows for the observation of blood vessels and nerve tissue *in vivo*, which enables non-invasive, image-based disease detection.

What is IDx-DR?

IDx-DR, an automated solution for the detection of diabetic retinopathy, is the company's first product to be introduced to the healthcare market. The device is designed to scan retinal images for the signs of disease that a specialist looks for when making their diagnosis.

How does IDx-DR work?

IDx-DR was created through the combination of classical image analysis, deep learning techniques, and ophthalmic expertise. The algorithm is trained to detect indicators specific to diabetic retinopathy, such as lesions, hemorrhages, and exudates. IDx-DR's output is aligned with the International Classification of Diabetic Retinopathy (ICDR) scale, which defines clinical diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy.

Is IDx-DR currently in use today?

Yes, IDx-DR is currently used in the EU at multiple clinical practices. In 2013, IDx-DR obtained its CE mark as a Class IIa Medical Device for sale in the European Union. In 2017, IDx-DR launched an FDA clinical trial at 10 primary care sites across 7 states with the goal of obtaining clearance to sell in the United States.

What other products is IDx working on?

IDx has an extensive product pipeline that includes algorithms for the detection of macular degeneration, glaucoma, Alzheimer's disease, cardiovascular disease, and stroke risk. These products are being developed based on two decades of research that has generated over 17 patents, scores of peer-reviewed journal publications, and significant commercialization investments.

What is IDx's relationship with IBM Watson Health?

IDx is a member of the IBM Watson Health Medical Imaging Collaborative and has partnered with IBM Watson Health to distribute IDx-DR in the EU.

What is IDx's relationship with the University of Iowa?

The company's ongoing research efforts are supported by an exclusive IP-sharing agreement with the University's Research Foundation and relationships within the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics and Carver College of Medicine.