



## THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE...

Radical change offers opportunities for growth and public good.

Metis Intelligence launches "The Future Of...." Series of discussions and in-depth reports, investigating Asia's role in the new normal for a post pandemic world. Part 1 looks at the future of HEALTHCARE.

- The current coronavirus pandemic is the single largest test for healthcare for generations. The urgent need for solutions is creating an environment for many aspects of healthcare to develop at unprecedented speeds.
- Healthcare around the world is likely to get cheaper, better co-ordinated and more tech infused as a result.



## HEALTHCARE AT THE BRINK...

“Only when the tide goes out do you discover who's been swimming naked.” Although Warren Buffet wasn't specifically talking about healthcare when he made his remark, it is a remarkably sage observation on how the world's medical system is dealing with the coronavirus outbreak. On the whole there aren't many swimming costumes on display.

The single biggest global challenge since the Second World War has exposed a host of frailties in healthcare in almost every country, some old, some new. The need for major investment in a plethora of fields has become painfully – and often fatally – obvious.

Huge, unparalleled amounts of public funds have been thrown at the response, but it isn't enough; and with economies rapidly shrinking the world over, there won't be much more to give. More private money is needed if health systems are to survive and thrive beyond the immediate need.

Even before the true effects of the coronavirus were being felt, investment in healthcare was up. In the US digital health investment in Q1 2020 had its biggest ever inflow (\$3.1 billion) and China had announced billions of dollars of sector investment in the coming years.

But with the scale of change in the sector currently happening it is hard for current and future investors to know where to prioritise.

This is where Metis Intelligence's new framework analysis comes in. PECTED™ goes through the six key areas of change that have the most material impact on investments: politics, economics, culture, technology, environment/ESG, and demographics.

Looking at politics first, a welcome boon from the pandemic has been the relaxing of regulations in a number of jurisdictions as governments aim to speed up the response. Unfortunately, most of the other political responses have not been so positive.

The recent posturing between the America and China has been high in the headlines, but so too has the lack of a joined-up international response. Healthcare nationalism has instead emerged, fanned by countries feeling that they cannot rely on neighbours or allies to help them out of the crisis.

This was something President Macron alluded to recently when he said that France would need to examine its supply chain reliance on others. Post-crisis it is highly likely that the countries that can will invest heavily in their own healthcare manufacturing capabilities, potentially at the expense of existing providers like India and South Korea.



There is bound to be a wider economic impact too, not least on private healthcare provision. Some countries, like Ireland and Portugal, have temporarily nationalised their private hospitals, and developing nations without either strong public provision or a cultural allergy to nationalisation will be watching this with interest.

The health insurance model is also being tested, as policy holders the world over find themselves unable to access most kinds of treatment despite all they have paid. Many will not renew their policies and return to public provision, putting further pressure on governments to review the system.

Partly because of regulation, partly because of culture, healthcare has often been slow to take advantage of the technologies reinventing other sectors. Covid-19 looks set to drastically change this.

Already telemedicine - the remote diagnosis or treatment of patients using video and other calls – has gone from almost nowhere to the next big thing, as medics and patients alike realise the dangers of crowding lots of sick people together in the same building when there are easy alternatives. Appointments via PlushCare, a telemedicine service, are up by 70% so far this year, and Amwell, another service, had its app use increase by a whopping 158% in the US since January. But it is from a low base, and it is not the same picture in every country.

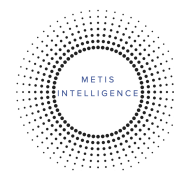
Many more innovations, from AI-based drug discovery to automatic clinical decision support systems, are now being rushed into wider use. The crisis is heralding a fundamental shift in the industry's attitude to tech as governments and private healthcare alike see its benefits.

Then there are demographics. The world is aging at an accelerating rate, particularly in parts of Asia, and governments have known for some time that they needed to reform their healthcare sectors to cope. Covid-19 may provide this impetus, and once the virus is under control and the backlog of non-virus cases that is steadily building cleared, much of the required investment is likely to switch to dealing with this impending crisis.

This is the single largest test for healthcare for generations, and the problems being thrown up need quick solutions, many of which will be totally new to the industry. Healthcare is likely to get cheaper, better coordinated, and more tech infused as a result.

Get it right and the returns could be dramatic – both financially, and for mankind too.

For your copy of the Metis Intelligence in-depth report on The Future Of Healthcare, please email [info@metisintelligence.com](mailto:info@metisintelligence.com)



**Metis Intelligence is launching "The Future Of..." Discussion Series with a webinar on The Future of Healthcare.**

Experts and investors in telemedicine and internet health will be sharing their insights on the lightspeed innovations that are bringing about radical changes, offering a long term opportunity for growth and public good.

***Date and time: Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 10am Singapore (GMT +7hrs)***

*Please register interest to attend at [info@metisintelligence.com](mailto:info@metisintelligence.com)*

Metis Intelligence is a strategic research consultancy. Its mission is to provide businesses and investors with deep actionable insights and an essential decision-making framework in situations of flux.

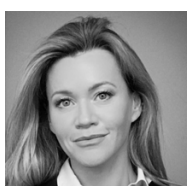
Using proprietary PECTED™ methodology to understand political, socio-economic and technological drivers of change, we engage our extensive resources to access key on-the-ground insights. Its rigorous analytical framework aggregates this laterally connected information to facilitate decision making around changing circumstances.

For our clients, we are curators of knowledge and of people, providing the opportunity to connect with key strategic players in the region and beyond. The Metis Intelligence Access Programme of webinars, private events and roadshows affords the opportunity to engage and debate with business owners, subject matter experts, ethical commentators and investors in key areas of pragmatic and strategic focus.

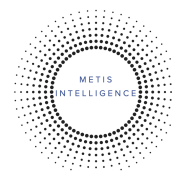
Metis Intelligence has been established in Singapore by Sam Olsen and Sasha Young. Their partnership brings together decades of unique commercial and strategic engagement in the APAC region and beyond.



**Sam Olsen** is a seasoned expert on the politics and business of Asia, where he has lived for the past decade. An award-winning entrepreneur with deep experience of assisting Western companies to expand into Asia, he has also contributed to UK Government policy on foreign and trade affairs and was a campaign manager for Prime Minister Theresa May. Before that he served as a British Army intelligence officer in Iraq and Kosovo and is a graduate of Oxford University.



**Sasha Young** began her career in the financial markets with Citibank in New York before returning, via London, to her home in Hong Kong. After a decade broking Asia Pacific equities, she moved on to investing and entrepreneurial interests. She has since worked closely with international and regional businesses looking to expand in the Asia Pacific region. Sasha graduated from Cambridge University with a degree in Social & Political Science.



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