شـركـة وادي الـريـاض
Riyadh Valley Co

Remote Diagnostics

The next frontier of Medical Innovation

May, 2026

Growth by Innovation

Riyadh Valley Co. A Quality Shift towards the Future

Riyadh Valley Company

Riyadh Valley Company (RVC) established in 2010 by Royal Decree No. 116 dated 1431/4/13 AH, to be the investment arm of King Saud University in the fields of Knowledge economy and the university strategic projects

Based on the company's stated purposes in the Articles of Association, the following main activities have been identified:

1. **Venture Capital Investments**
2. **Strategic Investments**
3. **Enriching Innovation Ecosystem**

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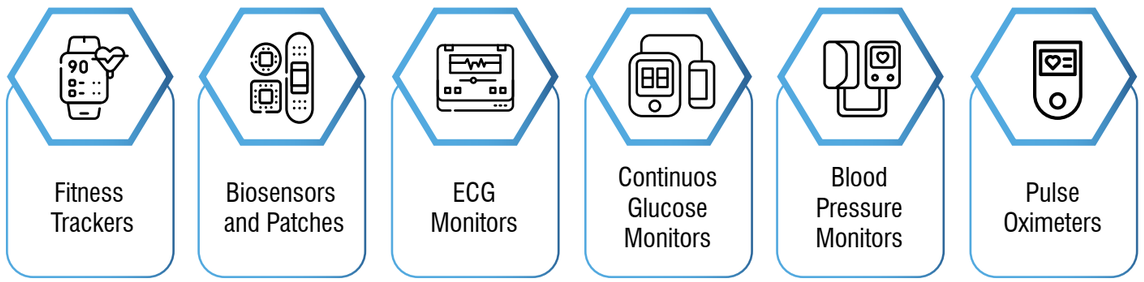
1 Introduction

Traditional healthcare models typically require in-person visits for patient consultations and lab diagnostics. With the advent of technology, this need not be the case now. Virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics are reshaping the industry by enabling patients to interact with specialists from the comfort of their homes and at times of their choosing. Patients need not even visit the lab to have their samples drawn. With just a click of a button, they can schedule a mobile phlebotomist to visit their location to collect their samples, which will then be processed in a laboratory, with results shared digitally in a few hours.

Apart from consultations and diagnostics, technology has revolutionized medical devices, enabling them to gather data in real time. The rise of 5G, cloud-native platforms, and AI-enabled healthcare services has made virtual care and remote diagnostics increasingly stable, intelligent, and customized. When critical health parameters fall outside the normal range, it immediately flags the anomalies for the patient and the healthcare provider, so they do not miss the critical golden hour to provide necessary treatment.

Healthcare devices used for Remote Monitoring



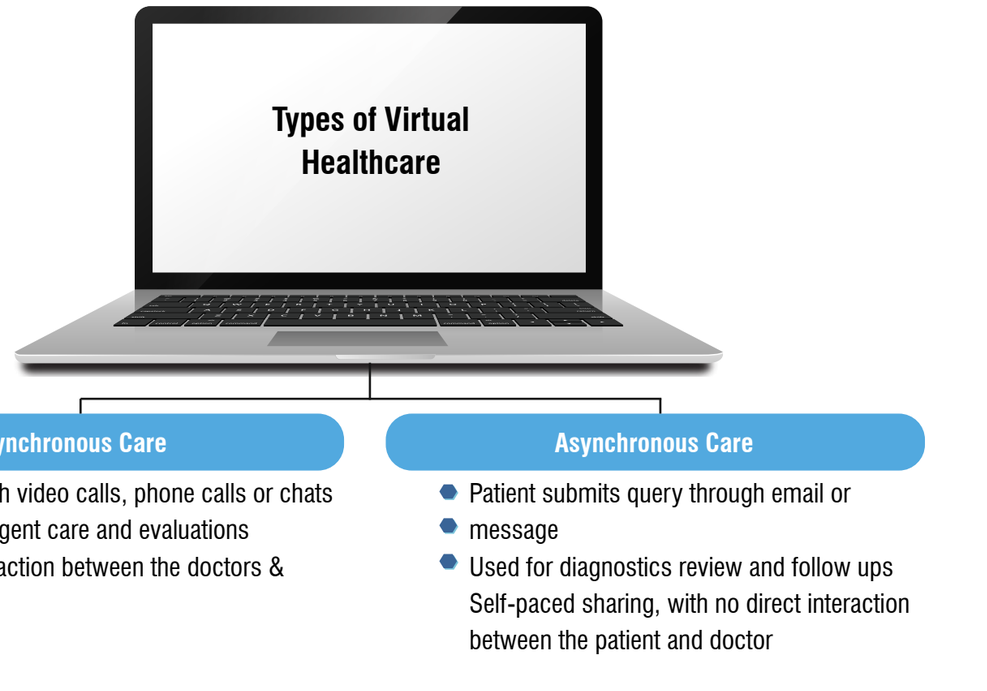
Source: Pi Tech, Various

Several regulatory sandboxes and policies are emerging globally to set guidelines for the production and distribution of medical devices, ensuring high quality and protecting patient data and privacy.

Within the GCC region, Saudi Arabia and the UAE are the leading players in virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics, supported by modernized healthcare infrastructure and a supportive regulatory environment. Saudi Arabia's SEHA Virtual Hospital is the world's largest virtual hospital, connecting over 200 hospitals with more than 40 specialized health services. Saudi Arabia is utilizing revolutionary technology to perform remote surgeries guided by physicians and to support virtual consultations, as part of the Health Sector Transformation Program of Vision 2030.

2 A primer on Virtual Healthcare Management & Remote Diagnostics

Virtual healthcare is the care rendered remotely for diagnosing, monitoring, and treating illness using technology instead of a physical hospital visit by the patient. Remote diagnostics uses connected technology such as sensors or wearables to collect, transmit, and analyze a patient's health information, outside the clinical set-up.



Source: Science Insights, Bask Health

Both remote diagnostics and virtual care gained widespread popularity after the global pandemic in 2020, which made physical visits difficult. Convenience, coupled with technological advancements, led to the evolution of virtual healthcare, which first emerged in 1876, when the telephone was invented. Medical professionals used telephones to reduce office visits as early as 1879. Virtual healthcare management took a major leap when Willem Einthoven transmitted heart sounds through the telephone from hospitals to his lab in 1905.[1]

[1] Bask Health

Evolution of Virtual Healthcare Management over the years

1910

Cardiologists in New York successfully transmitted electrocardiograms (ECG) through cables from wards to the ECG room. English engineer Sidney Brown upgraded telephone so that doctors could listen to the sound of a stethoscope held by a patient miles away to arrive at an accurate diagnosis.

1920s

Two-way radio communications were introduced which enabled the Haukeland Hospital in Norway to communicate with sailors to render medical treatment remotely.

1959

Two-way video communication was used for the first time by the University of Nebraska in US to transmit neurological examinations across campus to medical students.

1960s

NASA, Lockheed Corporation and Indian Health Services launched Space Technology Applied to Rural Papago Advanced Health Care (STARPAHC) project to render easier healthcare for people in remote areas.

1980s

The success of the STARPAHC project led to various government-supported telemedicine projects providing medical care to patients in war zones, Arctic and Antarctic.

1990s

The advent of World Wide Web and internet enabled patients to share data with doctors asynchronously.

2000-2010s

Dedicated telemedicine software emerged and increased adoption of smart phones with internet at higher bandwidth led to synchronous consultation.

2013

Doctor on Demand, a major, early player in virtual care market was launched in US, to offer on-demand, video-based medical consultations with physicians.

2015

Teladoc Health, US based virtual care provider, became the first telehealth company to list on the New York Stock Exchange.

2019

Amazon launched Amazon Care, the pilot phase of a virtual primary care clinic for employees in Seattle, with an option for nurses to visit them in their homes.

2020

The lockdown during the pandemic pushed people towards virtual healthcare to maintain access to services while reducing infection risks.

2023

Virtual wards in UK rapidly expanded, caring for people in their own home through a frailty virtual ward, supported by the National Health Service (NHS).

Source: Bask Health, CNBC, Various

How has remote diagnostics redefined healthcare systems?

Diagnostics is an important step in healthcare, providing doctors with the data they need to treat patients. Almost 50% of the patients skip diagnostics because they must physically visit labs to get their vitals, which could lead them to miss the window for preventive care.

Telehealth

- Utilizes electronic information and telecommunication technology to render long-distance clinical healthcare
- Diagnosing conditions, ordering tests, monitoring treatment, and connecting patients with specialists remotely.[2]
- Major conditions that are treated virtually are:
  - Respiratory problems
  - Pain and musculoskeletal issues
  - Digestive complications and infections
  - Preventive care[3]

AI-Powered Remote Diagnostics

- Patients can assess their conditions from home using platform-integrated diagnostic tools, or have a mobile phlebotomist visit to collect samples.
- AI integrates 5G, Internet of Medical Things (IoMT), and blockchain, advancing remote diagnostics through connected, data-driven innovations.[4]

Remote Patient Monitoring (RPM)

- Post consultation, diagnosis, and treatment, the patient's health can be monitored remotely, where RPM enables clinicians to measure metrics such as blood pressure, heart rate, and oxygen levels through smartwatches and wearable devices.
- Cardiovascular monitoring dominates the U.S. market, summing up to 74% of AI-enabled remote monitoring solutions.[5]

Digital Healthcare Applications

- Streamlines patient care, reduces cost, and increases efficiency by enabling providers to analyze healthcare data transmitted in real time.
- Some of the major digital healthcare applications globally are Mahalo Health, BrightInsight, Huma, and Avegen Health.[6]

Source: Various

[2] [3] [5] Science Insights
[4] Intelligent Pharmacy
[6] Mahalo Health

Emerging Developments in Remote Diagnostics

Remote diagnostics is evolving from occasional clinical check-ins into a continuous, intelligent, and increasingly contactless system of care. Breakthroughs in sensor technology, AI, and connectivity are streamlining remote diagnostics and, in some cases, eliminating the need for any device at all through contactless technology.

1 Rise in Non-Invasive & Continuous Monitoring

- Advancement in wearable devices and remote sensors enable constant monitoring without the need for invasive needles.
- German Biotech company DiaMonTech launched D-Pocket, which uses mid-infrared technology to scan the tissue fluid in the skin and identify glucose molecules which generates heat waves to estimate blood sugar levels.
- Afon's Glucowear which was launched in 2025, uses radio-frequency sensing to track glucose levels.

2 Contactless Vital Sign Monitoring

- Radar and camera systems measure heart rate, respiration and temperature with zero physical contact or wearables required.
- For example, Dozee, an Indian RPM company, has pioneered AI-based Ballistocardiography (BCG) for contactless vitals monitoring with connected bed technology.

3 AI as the First Line of Health Advice

- AI-powered assistants are used to guide patients to appropriate care options.
- AI has increasingly become the first point of medical contact and by the end of 2026, Gartner expects 40% of the enterprise apps to feature task-specific AI agents.
- In 2026, Amazon launched Health AI agent, to provide personalized health insights, book appointment and manage prescriptions virtually.

4 Autonomous AI Diagnostic Imaging

- AI is moving beyond assisting radiologists to independently capturing and interpreting medical images.
- In March 2025, GE HealthCare and NVIDIA partnered to develop autonomous X-ray and ultrasound systems using NVIDIA's Isaac for Healthcare platform.

Source: Vertu; DiaMonTech; Sensio; Amazon; Various

Key Benefits of Remote Diagnostics and Virtual Healthcare

The advent of technology has simplified healthcare, allowing patients to monitor their health through remote monitoring devices and receive real-time feedback from the comfort of their homes.[7] Virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics have also established immense cost efficiencies and enhanced patient and provider satisfaction through video and phone consultations. According to research published in JMIR Medical Informatics in September 2025, the overall 30-day hospital readmission rate was 14.9% for virtual healthcare patients, compared with 20.1% for standard care patients.[8]

Improved Patient Engagement and Clinical Outcomes

- Patients and doctors have enhanced engagement due to remote monitoring devices and apps that keep them connected.
- This led to better adherence to treatment plans and enhanced healthcare outcomes.[9]
- Remote patient monitoring has 50% reduction in hospital readmissions for patients with heart conditions.[10]

Timely Intervention

- Remote Patient Monitoring enables providers to monitor and analyze the patient's health in real-time, identifying complications early and improving patient outcomes.
- According to the Journal of the American Medical Association, remote monitoring could lead to 77% fewer deaths and 87% fewer hospitalizations.[12]

Improved accessibility

- Virtual healthcare management enhances accessibility, as more than 86.9% of US hospitals used telehealth to connect with patients as of 2022, eliminating geographic barriers in remote communities.[11]

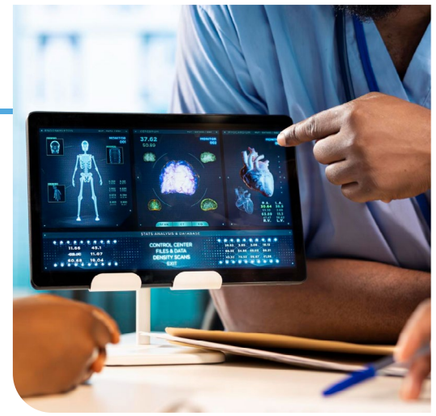
Cost-Efficiency

- Remote diagnostics reduces transportation costs for the patients and administrative overheads for healthcare providers.
- Telehealth interventions led to a 10%-15% reduction in healthcare costs for adults aged between 65 and 80 years, especially for post-surgical follow-ups and virtual consultations, according to a study conducted between 2013 and 2024 globally.[13]

Source: Various

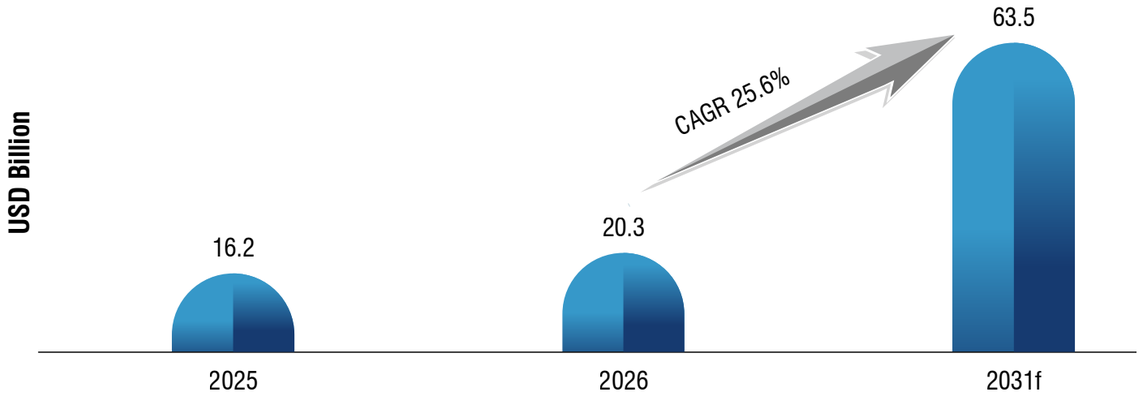
[7] [9] DIBS Technologies
[8] US San Diego Health
[10] World Clinic
[11] American Hospital Association
[12] Mahalo Health
[13] Springer, BMC Geriatrics

3 Global Virtual Care and Remote Diagnostics Landscape



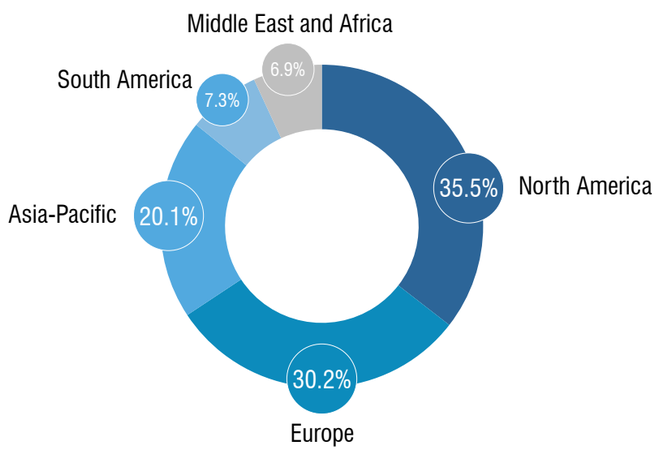
The global virtual care market size is estimated to be valued at USD 20.3 billion in 2026 and to reach USD 63.5 billion in 2031, growing at a CAGR of 25.6% during the period.[14] The expansion of digital infrastructure worldwide is driving growth in the virtual care and remote diagnostics market. The rise in acclimatization of 5G, cloud-native platforms, and AI-enabled triage has made virtual care and remote diagnostics increasingly stable, intelligent, and customized.

Global Virtual Care Market Size



Source: Mordor Intelligence

Regional Share of Remote Healthcare Market (2025)



Source: Data Insights Market

[14] Mordor Intelligence

North America had the highest market share in remote care at 35.5%, owing to its healthcare and technology infrastructure and a clear regulatory framework for Medicare reimbursement of live video healthcare services.[15] In the U.S., regulations regarding virtual healthcare have transitioned from documenting intent to proving technical enforcement, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.[16] Such enhancements to the regulatory framework boost public confidence in data protection and safety while paving the way for greater adoption of remote diagnostics and virtual care across the country.

Major Virtual Care Platforms Globally

Platform	Country	Description/Key Features
Teladoc HEALTH	U.S.	• Teledoc Health offers 24/7 care to patients across segments such as primary care, diabetes management, and mental health management. • It serves both individuals and organizations. • It has over 40,000 providers and 100 million members.
dr on demand by Included Health	U.S.	• Doctor on Demand offers a solution where the cost is displayed upfront and can be covered by patients with or without insurance or health plans through employers. • It provides services across the main segments – Urgent Care, Therapy, Psychiatry, and Primary Care.
Doctolib	France	• Doctolib operates across France, Germany, and Italy. • AI is employed to complete patient files during consultations. • They provide various specialists, such as rheumatologists, neurologists, and cardiologists, for patients to book consultations.
livi	U.K.	• Livi is powered by Kry Tech and supports patients in dealing with diseases ranging from chronic illness to minor infections. • Its digital AI nurse enables the patients' care journey to start immediately before an actual nurse joins the chat.
中国平安 PING AN	China	• Ping An Health provides primary care with family doctor memberships and online-to-offline healthcare services to patients. • It also offers hospital referrals and appointments, health management, and wellness interaction services.
practo	India	• Practo is India's largest digital health startup with a comprehensive health ecosystem. • Patients are linked to doctors, pharmacies, diagnostics, clinics and hospitals virtually.

Source: Various

European virtual care market share stood at 30.20%, primarily driven by Germany, the U.K., Italy, and France. To make healthcare more accessible and equitable, Sweden and Norway launched the 'Kontiki Project' to provide healthcare services in remote areas of both countries.[17]

The Asia Pacific region accounts for 20.1% of the market share, driven by developing countries such as China, South Korea, and India. As of April 2025, India's national virtual healthcare platform 'eSanjeevani', launched in November 2019, had delivered over 360 million teleconsultations and over 232,000 registered healthcare providers.[18] In China, around 72% of urban patients prefer AI-triaged telemedicine, and Ping An Health's AI system reportedly achieves 99% accuracy in routing patients to the right care.[19]

Summary of Regional Analysis of Virtual Healthcare Markets

North America leads in market maturity and RPM adoption, while Europe is setting the global regulatory standard for health data. Asia Pacific is the fastest-growing region, driven by scale and government-led digital health mandates.

Particulars	United States	European Union	Asia Pacific
Virtual Care & RPM Adoption	30 million Americans used RPM in 2024, up from 23 million in 2020. Hypertension, diabetes, and heart disease are the top RPM use cases in the US.	Over 40 member states have integrated telehealth into national health strategies.	China established over 3,000 internet hospitals by late 2023, delivering more than 120 million telemedicine consultations annually.
Regulatory Environment and Healthcare Data Privacy	HIPAA governs data privacy in the US. Medicare billing for RPM reimbursements exceeded USD 500 million in 2024.	The European Health Data Space (EHDS) entered into force in March 2025, creating an EU-wide legal framework for the exchange of electronic health data across all member states.	India's Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission aims to establish an integrated national digital health ecosystem. In Japan, the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Act enhanced regulations for AI medical devices and digital health tools in 2024.
Key Technology Focus	RPM adoption spans cardiology, gastroenterology, endocrinology, and pulmonology — moving beyond primary care into specialist settings.	EU Commission is investing in 17 AI Factories focused on healthcare and working on a Cloud and AI Development Act to support AI-powered diagnostics and patient-centred care models.	5G rollout is enabling telemedicine and remote surgery in China, South Korea and Singapore. Ant Group launched AI health app AQ in China in 2025, offering 100+ services, including AI doctor agents and report analysis.
Primary Challenge	Medicare reimbursement uncertainty creates a risk for providers investing in long-term RPM programs.	Growing compliance burdens for digital health startups.	Dense urban economies enjoy seamless telehealth access, but rural areas still struggle with stable internet connections.

Source: Various

Use Cases for Remote Diagnostics and Virtual Healthcare

World's First Cross-Boarder Telesurgery

In 2025, the world's first cross-border telesurgery was demonstrated between France and Germany with haptic feedback over 5G and Wi-Fi 6 networks. The procedure involved robot-assisted image-guided percutaneous needle implantation on a mannequin, between operating rooms 115 Km apart. The procedure was completed successfully and the integration into the medical workflow proved seamless.

e-ICU Program

Philips launched eICU program to monitor patients constantly. Specialists can access data through an information management system called eCareManager and additionally have access to other information systems present in the hospital. Large amounts of data are collected and streamed for real-time monitoring by a remote ICU team.

Virtual Physical Therapy

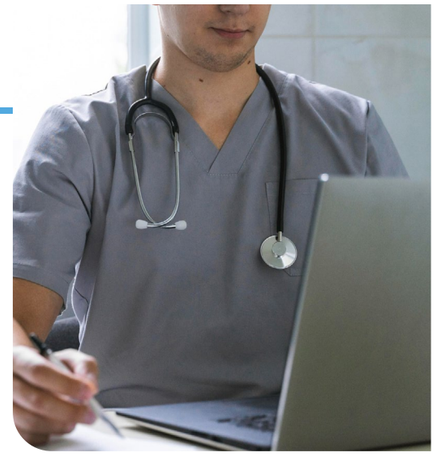
Recovering from surgery or dealing with chronic pain usually requires traveling to a clinic for physical therapy. Digital physical therapy platforms like Kemtai utilizes Advanced Computer Vision Technology for AI guided exercising and assessments at home. Their technology analyzes 111 data points on the patient's body and provides real-time feedback and corrective guidance.

Virtual Mental Healthcare for Corporate Employees

Many Fortune 500 companies offer this service as a standard benefit, allowing employees to schedule sessions during breaks, lowering the barrier to entry for people who previously felt stigmatized or too busy to seek help. Platforms like Teladoc offer 24/7 access to specialists for virtual mental healthcare.

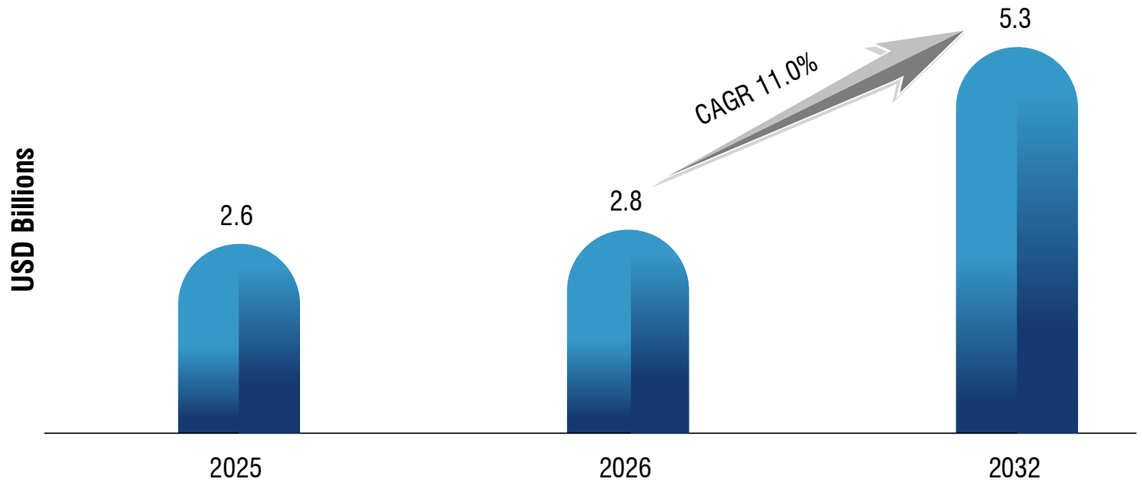
Source: IHS, Philips eICU; Kemtai; Teladoc

4 A deep dive into the GCC Remote Diagnostics market



The remote diagnostics market size in the GCC region is expected to increase from USD 1.6 billion in 2025 to USD 9.1 billion in 2035 at a CAGR of 19.3% during the period.[20] From being the most feasible solution during the pandemic to emerging as a long-term strategy supported by the governments, virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics are reshaping the healthcare landscape in the region.[21] Saudi Arabia and the UAE are leading players in this space in the GCC, owing to their advanced infrastructure and government initiatives.

GCC Telemedicine Market Size forecasts



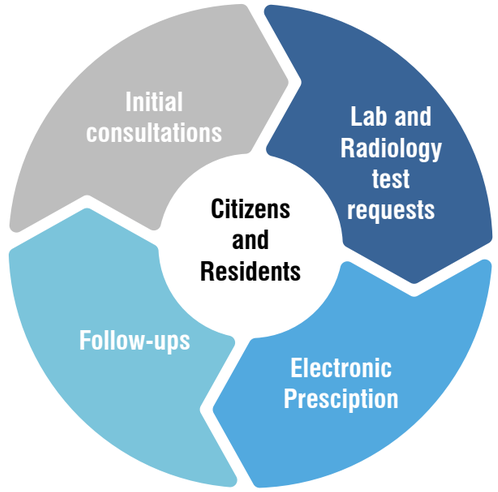
Source: P&S Intelligence

Key Developments in GCC Remote Medical Diagnostics

In the UAE, the Dubai Health Authority launched the 'Doctor for Every Citizen' telehealth services in December 2019, to facilitate video and audio consultations through the Dubai Health App.[22] Owing to the country's diverse population, virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics help overcome barriers of time, language, and working hours.[23]

[20] MRFR
[21] [23] Gulf Magazine
[22] Dubai Health Authority

Services offered under the 'Doctor for Every Citizen



Source: Dubai Health Authority

Initiatives in Virtual Healthcare and Remote Diagnostics in the GCC region

Country	Initiative	Description
Dubai, UAE	In November 2020, the Dubai Health Authority (DHA) launched the National Backbone for Integrated Dubai Health (NABIDH), its official Health Information Exchange.	It seeks to reduce duplicate tests, enhance care coordination, and improve operational efficiency by providing clinicians with real-time access to patients' medical records.[24]
Abu Dhabi, UAE	In 2025, Abu Dhabi Health Data Services collaborated with SRI International and VantageBridge Partners to establish an Innovation Hub.[25]	With the Innovation Hub, Abu Dhabi seeks to position itself as a global epicenter for AI and healthcare advancements and serve as a catalyst for digital healthcare transformation.
Qatar	Lbaih platform was launched by Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) in July 2025.	'Lbaih' is a medical platform that enables patients to get AI-powered health insights and personalized wellness tips on their smartphones.[26]
Bahrain	Telemedicine is through primary healthcare centers.	The Bahrain Ministry of Health's primary healthcare centers offer telemedicine services which ensures compliance with Bahrain's Personal Data Protection law. Providers ought to register with the National Health Regulatory Authority to ensure quality and patients are required to provide accurate medical information.[27]

Source: Various

[24] Felix Happich
[25] ET Health World
[26] Marhaba
[27] Ministry of Health

In Kuwait, the remote healthcare market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 21.9% between 2025 and 2030, and remote patient monitoring is expected to be the most lucrative revenue-generating segment with the fastest growth during the forecast period.[28]

Oman's National Vision 2040 underscores the country's commitment to international standards through initiatives such as the Oman Medical Devices Registration System and the Oman Quality Mark.[29]

AI in Diagnostics: PureHealth Digital Mega Lab - UAE

Source: Tech Africa News

PureHealth launched its AI-powered diagnostics lab in the UAE in December 2025, spanning 70,000 square feet. It seeks to enhance the national diagnostics services through AI-driven automation, robotics and real-time quality control with a network of more than 140 accredited laboratories. As the central hub for the UAE's Digital Pathology Initiative, the lab uses AI-powered digital pathology tools to convert traditional slides into high-resolution digital formats, enabling real-time AI-supported analysis, remote consultations between oncology centers, and swift diagnosis.[30]

[28] Grand View Horizon
[29] Medical Buyer
[30] Tech News Africa

Emerging Players and Venture Capital Funding in the GCC Virtual Healthcare Market

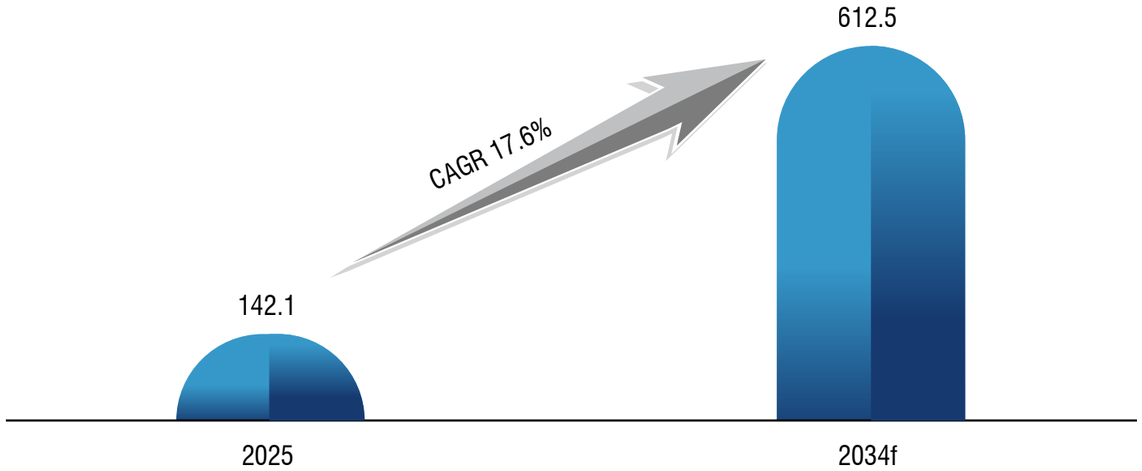
Platform	Funding Round	Amount raised (till date)	Investors	USP
TruDoc Always With You	Series A	USD 15 million	Al-Nahyan Family, Al-Ketbi Family and Pulsar Capital	GCC-based virtual first platform which seeks to expand its home-based critical care service.
الطبي altibbi	Series B	USD 53 million	DASH Ventures, Hikma Ventures, and MENA Partner	A subscription-based telehealth platform in Dubai that has over 192 million users annually.
almahealth	Series A	USD 10 million	Knuru, Ibtikar Fund, and Salica Investment	An Abu Dhabi-based platform that facilitates teleconsultation and the delivery of prescribed medicines.

Source: Tracxn

5 Remote Medical Diagnostics in Saudi Arabia

The Saudi Arabian remote healthcare market size is expected to reach USD 612.5 million in 2034, up from USD 142.1 million in 2025, exhibiting a CAGR of 17.62% over the period.[31] The Saudi Vision 2030 emphasizes equitable access to healthcare for all Saudi Arabian citizens, regardless of geographic location. To achieve this, the Saudi Arabian government is expected to invest SAR 269 billion in healthcare and social development in FY 2025.[32]

Remote Healthcare Market Size in Saudi Arabia (in USD millions)



Source: IMARC Group

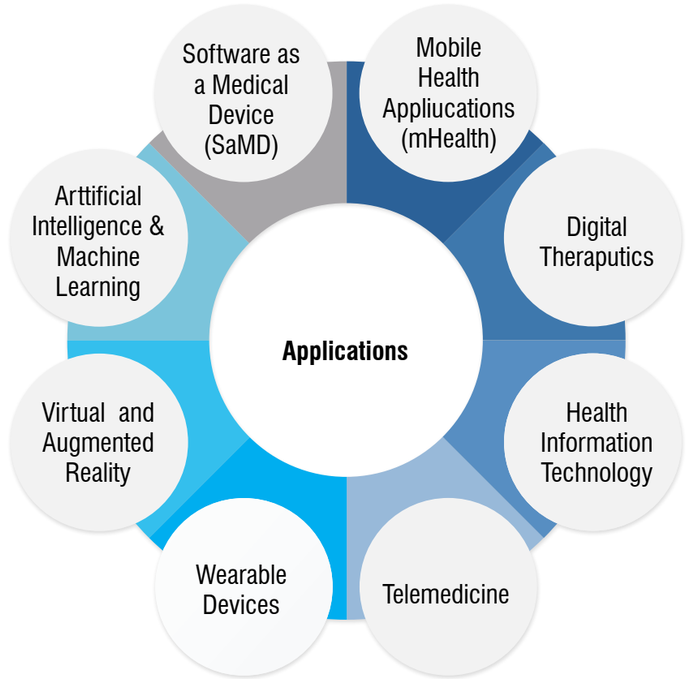
While the country boasts a young overall demographic, people aged 60 and over account for over 4.8% of the total population as of 2025.[33] Virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics in Saudi Arabia seek not just to proactively treat illness but also prevent it among Saudi citizens.

Is Virtual Healthcare Regulated in Saudi Arabia?

The Saudi Food and Drug Authority (SFDA) monitors the country's digital healthcare sector. If the digital health product is concerned with the diagnosis, prevention, supervision, treatment, or management of medical conditions, it falls under the Medical Devices Law of Saudi Arabia.[34] The law provides scope for innovation while laying down provisions for design, manufacturing, import, distribution, and storage of medical devices.

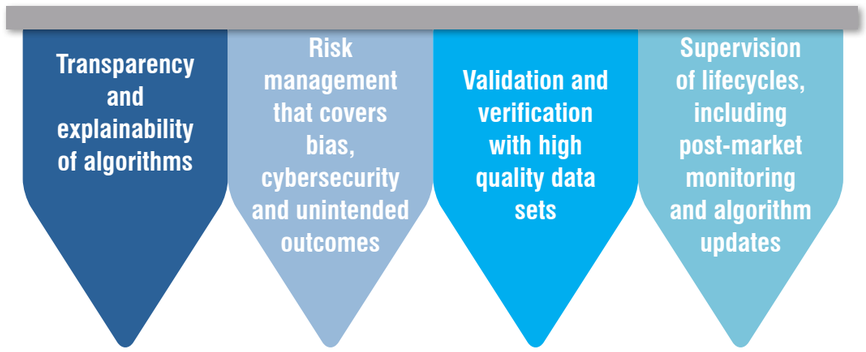
[31] IMARC Group
[32] Saudi Arabian Budget Statement FY 2025/2026
[33] Elderly Survey 2025
[34] Law of Medical Devices

Scope of SFDA Guidance for Medical Devices



Source: Regulatory Affairs

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning require special oversight by SFDA owing to their unique complexities. SFDA requires:



Source: Regulatory Affairs

The virtual healthcare sector is regulated by the government, from the manufacturing of monitoring and diagnostic devices to teleconsultations with specialists and ensures data security so that the patient's medical records remain confidential, reinforcing their privacy.

Government Initiatives in Virtual Healthcare in Saudi Arabia

National e-Health Strategy

To enhance healthcare in the country by improving equity, availability, standards, and quality, Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Health launched the National e-Health Strategy to improve service efficiency and reduce the time required to retrieve patient data, enabling swift care.[35]

Saudi Telehealth Network (STN)

The government launched the Saudi Telehealth Network (STN) in 2013, which is responsible for implementing and updating the national telehealth policies and regulations. STN is tasked with coordinating all public and private stakeholders while monitoring and evaluating policy implementation.[36]

Health Sector Transformation Program

The Health Sector Transformation Program was launched in 2021 under Vision 2030 to reshape the healthcare industry in Saudi Arabia. It seeks to deliver a comprehensive, integrated health system tailored to individuals, grounded in the principle of value-based care, ensuring transparency and financial sustainability.[37]

Virtual Clinics and Hospitals

To realize its vision, the government launched Seha Virtual Hospital to render teleconsultation, remote diagnostics, and monitoring. Virtual hospitals ensured that people from remote areas of the country had access to healthcare by eliminating the hindrance of time and place.

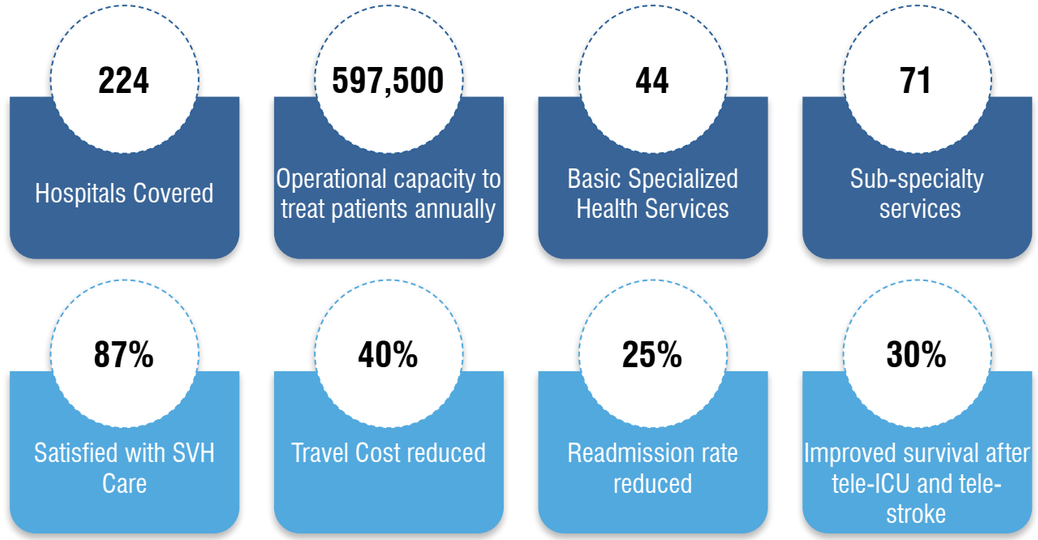
Source: Various

Seha Virtual Hospital

Seha Virtual Hospital positions itself as a catalyst for Saudi Arabia's healthcare landscape. Boasting a Guinness World Record for being the world's largest virtual hospital, it was launched by the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Health in February 2022. The idea of a virtual hospital was first conceived to fast-track treatment of patients during the COVID-19 pandemic, which later became the norm due to the fast-paced lifestyle of Saudi nationals.

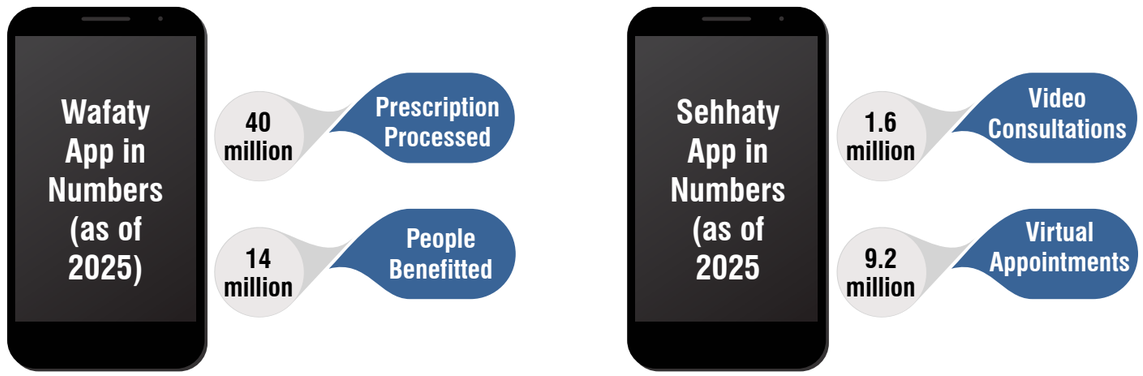
[35] IJIRMPS
[36] National Health Information Centre
[37] Global Health Exhibition

Achievements of Seha Virtual Hospital in Numbers (2025)



Source: Entrepreneur MENA, Tanmeya Capital

The Ministry of Health also launched two digital infrastructure offshoots of the Seha Virtual Hospital: The Sehhaty Platform and the Wasfaty App. The Wasfaty App focuses on prescription dispensing. Sehhaty Platform is a unified platform that enables users to access health information and obtain a range of integrated healthcare services from various entities in the Saudi Arabian healthcare sector.[38]



Source: Entrepreneur MENA, Tanmeya Capital

The Sehhaty AI integrated platform not only flags the high-risk for a disease beforehand, but it also books the patient's appointment, suggests changes to lifestyle, and provides virtual support from a specialist. Saudi Arabia has also set a precedent for proactive healthcare globally by screening around 71% of its population for diabetes.[39]

[38] Entrepreneur MENA
[39] Entreprenuer

Analysis of Drivers and Bottlenecks for Virtual Healthcare and Remote Diagnostics in KSA

The Catalyst (Growth Driver)	The Friction Point (Challenge)	Analysis
High Connectivity Saudi Arabia boasted 48.7 million cellular mobile connections and 99% online penetration rate as of late 2025.	**Last Mile** Weak digital infrastructure in rural regions results in low technology adoption.	While the nation is "online," the quality and stability of that connection aren't equitable for remote diagnostics.
Regulatory Innovation In August 2024, the Saudi Ministry of Health launched the regulatory healthcare sandbox, which provides a secure environment for start-ups to experiment in digital health and innovate with AI solutions.	**Framework Fragmentation** While there are many regulations for healthcare and data privacy, KSA lacks a unified regulatory framework for telemedicine.	The government is encouraging innovation through a regulatory healthcare sandbox, but the fragmented regulatory framework remains a hindrance to the widespread growth of virtual healthcare management.
Physical Accessibility Virtual hospitals are bridging the gap for healthcare in remote locations.	**Socio-technical Gaps** Digital literacy and adoption hurdles remain among older and rural populations.	While virtual healthcare services are accessible in remote areas, the users may not yet have the digital fluency or trust to utilize them fully.
Efficiency & Convenience Patients in remote areas can skip the commute through remote diagnostics and virtual care.	**Diagnostic Confidence** Physicians in KSA expressed concerns about their limited ability to perform physical examinations and maintain diagnostic accuracy when conducting remote evaluations during a research study in 2025.	Telemedicine addresses the logistical "where" in KSA, but it has yet to fully address the clinical "how" regarding physical diagnostic accuracy.

Source: Data Reportal; Saudi Arabia Healthcare; Alenzi, Salman & Al-haimi, Basheer & Alrwuili, Khalid. (2026). Telemedicine in Saudi Arabia: Applications, Enabling Technologies, Challenges, and Strategic Pathways. International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences; Alshammari, Reem Falah, et al. "Adaptation of Telemedicine in Saudi Family Medicine Clinics: A Cross-Sectional Study on Patient and Physician Satisfaction." Journal of Pioneering Medical Sciences (2025)

Spotlight

Getlabs

GetLabs is one of Riyadh Valley Company's investments through the RRE Ventures fund, through which it launched in 2018 with total funding of USD 41.7 million in three rounds, with one objective – to make diagnostics accessible to all. Getlabs facilitates at-home diagnostics - while they don't perform the lab tests themselves, they provide a mobile clinical workforce and the logistics platform to draw samples that are sent to labs for diagnosis. Patients can receive their diagnosis directly on their phones or through their doctor.

Getlabs customizes its operational workflows to cater to the specific needs of its partners. Getlabs has partnered with several organizations, including labs, health plans, health systems, research and clinical trial organizations, employers, and telehealth companies, to facilitate at-home diagnostics and remote patient monitoring.

Partners of Getlabs

labcorp · Quest Diagnostics · one medical · Teladoc HEALTH · Providence · GRAIL · MAYO CLINIC

How does GetLabs work?

Book Appointment
Patients can specify time at which the specialist could come and collect samples from their home or office.

Sample Collection
The specialist arrives at the specified time to collect samples and deliver them to LabCorp or Quest Diagnostics.

Get Results
Patients can receive their lab results on their phone via Apple Health, from their doctor or laboratory

Source: Getlabs

Benefits of Getlabs

Convenience
Patients need not wait long in queues to get their lab results. Just booking an appointment through the platform enables a specialist to draw samples from the place and time of their choice.

Comfortable
Patients need not leave their homes to get a diagnosis. It could be undertaken from anywhere and at any time.

Professional Service
Getlabs assigns a professional phlebotomist to the patient's home to collect samples.

6 Conclusion

Advances in technology have revolutionized healthcare, with virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics gaining momentum globally. The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) with remote diagnostics is reshaping both preventive and post-treatment healthcare. With the rising demand for convenience and flexibility among patients, the outlook for virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics remains positive.

Patients could have access to the fundamental step in healthcare – diagnostics, without stepping out of their house. It also reduces travel costs for patients, as they can have their samples drawn at a location of their choice and at the time of their choosing. This provides patients with autonomy and prioritizes them and their time.

Emerging developments in virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics have led to the rise of several non-invasive, rapid diagnostic methods that enable patients to detect diseases early, helping prevent disease progression. AI is also increasingly becoming the first line of contact for health advice due to convenience and accessibility.

In the GCC region, virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics are gradually evolving from pandemic-era solutions to mainstream healthcare. Governments in the region are introducing policies to ensure equitable access to healthcare, including initiatives that support remote diagnostics and virtual healthcare. High mobile phone and internet penetration rates of around 99% are making virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics highly feasible options in GCC.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE are the region's major players in virtual healthcare, supported by efforts to modernize healthcare infrastructure and a growing population. Growth in virtual healthcare and remote diagnostics in KSA is largely driven by government initiatives such as the National e-Health Strategy and the Health Sector Transformation Program of Vision 2030, which place special emphasis on healthcare accessibility for all citizens.

شـركـة وادي الـريـاض
Riyadh Valley Co

Riyadh Valley Company

Riyadh Valley Company established in 2010 by Royal Decree No.116 dated 13/4/1431 AH to be the investment arm of King Saud University in the fields of Knowledge Economy and the university strategic projects.

Vision

To be the regional leader in knowledge-based investment and technology.

Mission

Riyadh Valley Company is a strategic investor, focused on leveraging the local capabilities, investing locally and globally in growth - stage businesses to create financial and strategic returns that will support the future of economic development in the Kingdom.

The Core Focus Areas of RVC

Venture Capital Investments

- Healthcare Investment
- Renewable energy& Sustainable Recourses
- Information & Communication Technology
- FinTech
- Education
- Logistics and Trasportation

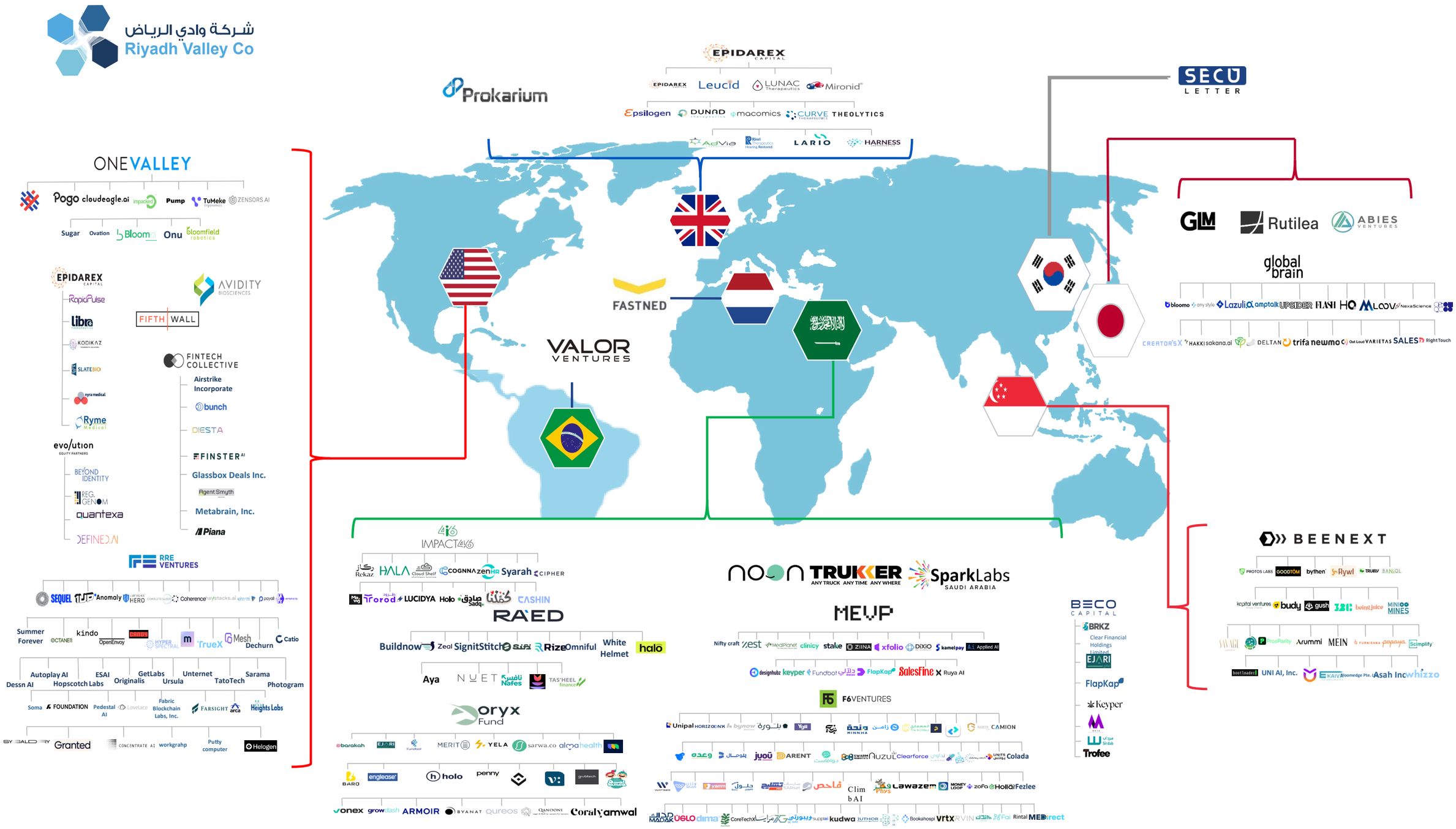
Strategic Investments

- Innovation and R&D Projects
- Educational Projects
- Healthcare Projects
- Commercial Projects
- Residential Projects
- Mixed-use Projects

Enriching Innovation Ecosystem

- Attract distinguished scientists and consultants
- Prepare students for work experience through training
- Supporting Scientific Research and technology industry
- Enhance the environment to support the knowledge economy

Knowledge Investment Portfolio



Strategic Investment Portfolio

Sudair Pharma Company Project

Research center and offices

Four Directions Company Project

Office project

Derma Clinic Company Project

Residential project

Qasr Alaaredh Company Project

Building

NMR Real Estate Company Project

Mixed-use project

Commission for AlUla Building

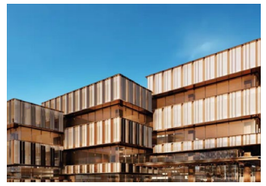
Building

ELM Information Security Company Project

Research & Innovation center

Majd Real Estate Company Project

Offices project



City Lights Real Estate Company Project

Mixed-use project

Sahat Al-Ardh Company Project

Mixed-use project

Takween Altanmia Company Project

Offices project

Oasis of creativity Schools

Educational project

Al-sorooh Al-Mubarakah Company Project

Offices project

Derma Clinic Company Project

Healthcare project

Four Directions Company Project

Commercial project

The Esplanade Project

Commercial project

Arrowad Education Company Project

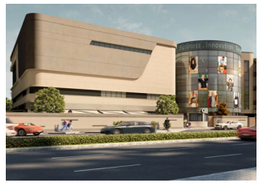
Educational project

Top Golf Project

Commercial project

Obeikan Company Project

Commerial project



Dur Alkuttab Company Project

Educational project

U WALK Project

Commercial project

Al Maarefa University and Diabetes Research Center

Buliding project

Innovation Tower Project

Office building project

Diriyah Project

Mixed-use project

شـركـة وادي الـريـاض
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