

# Editorial



Through the last few decades the fictions are becoming reality. What we used to see and awe struck in the science fictions movies are no more things to be seen on the screen but have become integral part of our life. Technological innovation and its application have resulted in the change of our lifestyle not only for a small group of elite population but for the mass as a whole. While there may be debate as to whether the technological revolution and its effect on the society is bane or boon but apparently it appears that this debate may be buried if the contribution of the technology is considered towards the medical science. The confluence of the two noble professions, i.e. Medical Science and Engineering, has revolutionized the medical care system and made an inexorable impact on our lives.

Design engineers and manufacturers working in the field of Medical Engineering have to face lot more challenges as Quality Control is more stringent there than in any other application be much higher. Added to this is the fact medical electronics product face much arduous life cycles than other products.

Increasing demand for improved quality of health care and requirement for reduced medical cost specially for developing countries are two of the key drivers propelling the growth of Medical Electronics. While on one hand it has become an immense help to the doctors, helping them for more precise diagnosis and treatment on the other hand it has helped the patients in providing modern technologies including in-vivo (inside the body) and in-vitro (outside the body) diagnostic and therapeutic devices and disease targeting drugs. Invention of non-invasive technique of testing and diagnosis has resulted in a painless process with considerable reduction in health complications and time.

Emerging field of nanotechnology will enable shrinkage of the implantable devices to such dimensions that nano-robots injected into the body will become a reality. Microelectronics technology like MEMS along with advances in telemetry and software driven tools are opening new frontiers in health care system. But how all these innovations and inventions contribute to the society? It enables to precisely control the known diseases and maladies as well as help in accurate prediction and preventive treatment of not-yet-detected illness lurking in the human body.

So, should we keep all our doubts aside that it is indeed only boon and there is no curse associated with the technological development in the field of medical electronics? However, like any other field potential misuse of this technology is also possible, unless government keeps a guard against unscrupulous use of wrong or faulty devices.

Where do we draw the line? Only time will tell.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Choudhuri".

**Prof (Dr) Samiran Choudhuri**  
*Consulting Editor, Technorama*