## Comphya among the winners of the European Venture Contest Startupticker.ch

20 winners were announced last week at the European Venture Contest Final. 1250 start-ups had applied for the competition.

The 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the <u>Tech Tour</u> European Venture Contest (EVC) Final took place on the 11-12 of December 2017 at the Düsseldorf Congress Centre, uniting 125 up and coming entrepreneurs and 100 investors and industry representatives for a 2-day pitching, networking and idea-sharing spree. These companies were filtered from over 1250 applications and 600 pitches held throughout Tech Tour's 2017 calendar of events.

## **EVC Final selection process**

The 125 presenting companies were invited as the top-rated companies of the Tech Tour European Venture Contest, selected over a series of 18 regional or sector—focused qualifying events which compose the Final Contest. These 125 companies were reviewed online and onsite by investors and the investor jury on 6 criteria. The Top 20 winners got the highest review ratings following online screening and onsite pitches.

One of the winners in the health-tech category is Comphya which was represented by COO and co-founder Rodrigo Fraga-Silva. Comphya is a Swiss medical device company specialized in the treatment of erectile dysfunction to patient non-responsive to oral therapy. Comphya patented technology is based on neuroprosthetics expertise, and consist of implanting a neuro-stimulator in the pelvic cavity, which will selectively activate the nerve to trigger penile erection. The device will provide self-controlled stimulation (via a wireless remote control) to the cavernous nerve to restore natural erectile function. This envisioned medical device will provide a painless, safer, easier, comfortable and more effective alternative to intrapenial injections or penile implants. Comphya emerged from the research group of Prof. Nikos Stergiopulos, at EPFL (https://lhtc.epfl.ch), one of the most active and successful academic labs developing medical technology from the lab bench to the clinic.

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