

Springboard Studio Receives Bowditch Award

MGB Springboard Studio has won the prestigious Nathaniel Bowditch Award for its Hexapod Personal Protective Booth innovation (pictured below). The Bowditch Award is awarded annually by the Mass General Board of Trustees to recognize the efforts of a team or individual who has improved quality of care, while reducing the cost of that care.

The Hexapod COVID-19 Testing Booth was developed in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic by working closely with our frontline providers to understand the existing testing workflow and identify ways to improve capacity. This rapid cycle innovation and production, which was facilitated by a partnership between clinicians and private companies, Eleven and HIP, created a workable and scalable solution in a matter of days. The data show the Hexapod tripled COVID testing capacity while dramatically reducing cost-per-test and decreasing use of personal protective equipment (PPE). The final design was implemented at multiple Mass General Brigham (MGB) testing sites, saving up to \$1.7 million per booth annually across the MGB system.

“The fact that the team was testing a prototype in nine days and had a device in use within weeks really speaks to the process and the group,” said Paul Currier, MD, MPH Mass General Respiratory Acute Care Unit director who was a project co-leader alongside Kristian Olson, MD, MPH Vice President of Springboard Studio.

The Springboard Studio believes the best solutions come from those closest to the challenges and this collaborative project exemplified this approach. The Hexapod booth is just one of Springboard Studio’s solutions that makes health care more user-friendly, efficient and effective. Their work – both at Mass General Brigham and overseas – includes over 100 innovations that have been trialed on patients and providers, with more than 40 patents filed and over 35 companies formed, 23 of which are revenue-generating.

More information on the Hexapod’s impact can be found in the Springboard’s manuscript published in JAMA Open Network: <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2782130>



Jackie Chu, MD, inside the first Hexapod at MGH Chelsea HealthCare Center



The Springboard Studio team with Mass General Hospital leadership and Board of Trustees members at the Bowditch Award ceremony, April 2023



Hexapod Covid-19 Testing Booth at MGH West