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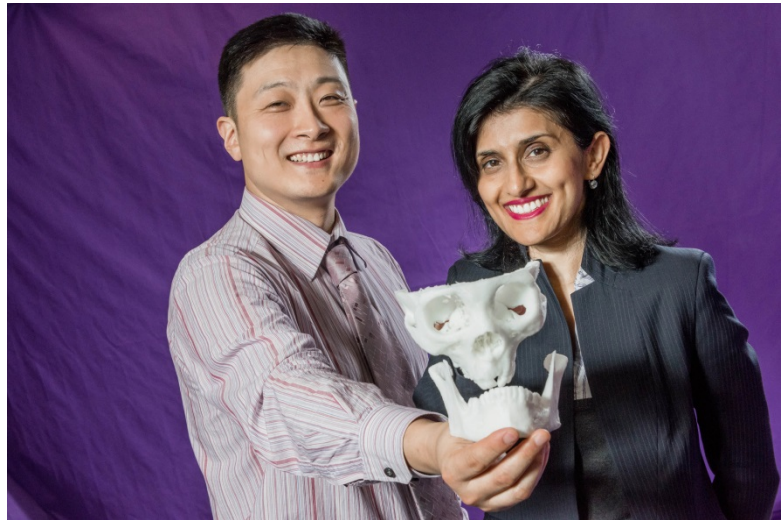
16 June 2017

Healthcare in the third dimension

This year's Sydney Innovation and Research Symposium will have a touch of virtual reality.

The Institute of Academic Surgery's ear, nose and throat research lead Dr Payal Mukherjee will demonstrate the power of disruptive technologies and their effectiveness in healthcare.

After winning \$50,000 funding in the District's innovation competition, the Pitch, in 2015, Dr Mukherjee has progressed with research using 3D printing and augmented reality to assist with complex surgical cases.



"There are a lot of anatomical challenges in ENT. We use the technology to plan before we go into surgery. It can help to inform us whether to go ahead or not and to talk through and visually demonstrate the surgical plan with patients," she said.

The initial investment from the Pitch funded a 3D printer and software, making the use of the technology inexpensive.

"Something that might cost thousands of dollars, is about \$20 in materials for each case."

Dr Mukherjee's research project is looking at the potential cost savings to the health care system and the scalability of the idea.

"We want to spread the knowledge to others so they can think about how it applies to other areas of medicine, and how they could use it to benefit their patients."

Be sure not to miss this interactive keynote presentation along with a range of snapshot sessions on the District's leading innovative projects on Friday 23 June at the Sydney Innovation and Research Symposium, from 7.30am at Carriageworks. Entry is free – register now at www.slhd.nsw.gov.au/InnovationSymposium.