

[View this email in your browser](#)



Welcome to the June edition of the Health Innovation Manchester bulletin, bringing you news, events and insights from across Greater Manchester's academic health science system and life sciences sector.

#WeAreHInM

Health Innovation Manchester News



Health Innovation Manchester and QIAGEN launch new ground-breaking precision health company

At a ceremony on 23 May, Health Innovation Manchester and QIAGEN launched 'APIS Assay Technologies', a new business dedicated to developing novel techniques (called biomarkers) for diagnosing disease and pinpointing the treatments which are right for each individual patient.

APIS, based in Citylabs 1.0, located on the main Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust campus, help to realise the clinical and commercial potential of genomic medicine in diagnostic tests and personalisation of treatment, and in the prediction and prevention of disease. Using the transformational power of genomic medicine and big data, APIS will overcome the hurdles that have so far hampered these amazing scientific breakthroughs being developed into clinically approved tests and companion diagnostics which are in day to day use.

Rowena Burns, Chair of Health Innovation Manchester and Chair of Manchester Science Partnerships, said: "Greater Manchester's vision is to create a globally-leading precision health campus for innovation, translational science and molecular diagnostics, employing up to 1,500 highly skilled people. Our partnership with QIAGEN underlines their role as the UK's flagship industry partner and acts as a catalyst for Manchester to become a major hub for genomic research and industry in Europe.

"This is a major development for life sciences here – and across the North – and a testament to our long-standing history of forming public-private partnerships to support the creation of jobs, growth, address the health needs of local people, while also making an important international contribution to improved diagnosis and treatment of disease."

[Read more](#)

Want to find out more about Health Innovation Manchester and why Manchester is leading in the field of precision health? Watch this video



“ There has never been a more exciting time to work in health tech and Greater Manchester has many fantastic digital and data science assets to build on, and when these are coupled with delegated financial control for health and care across the city region with mature governance structures, the possibilities are endless.

”

Guy Lucchi

Newly appointed Digital Director at
Health Innovation Manchester



Guy Lucchi joins Health Innovation Manchester to drive digital transformation forward

Guy Lucchi is joining Health Innovation Manchester as Digital Director this month to lead on the organisation's digital transformation programme, across Greater Manchester's £6bn devolved health and care system.

Guy is a digital leader with a proven track record in shaping and delivering large and complex digital health strategies and transformation programmes. He has spent much of his career as a Chief Technology Officer with global IT giant DXC Technology, leading on digital healthcare and life sciences initiatives across the Group.

Notably, Guy was the CTO for DXC's product portfolio that has led to significant digitisation of administration and electronic patient record systems across much of the NHS. He was also instrumental in developing DXC's global healthcare cloud strategy.

The city-region is working on plans to revolutionise digital technology across its health, care and public services - from developing advanced data sharing technologies as part of NHS England's Local Health and Care Record programme (led by GMHSCP), to mobilising a digital innovation programme to unlock the potential of health data to inform world leading research and transform care through Health Innovation Manchester.

Guy said: "There has never been a more exciting time to work in health tech and Greater Manchester has many fantastic digital and data science assets to build on, and when these are coupled with delegated financial control for health and care across the city region with mature governance structures, the possibilities are endless.

"I am really looking forward to working with the Health Innovation Manchester team and colleagues across the city-region to maximise the full benefits of digital technology to drive better outcomes for the citizens of the place where I come from."

[Read more](#)



Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham visits Health Innovation Manchester

Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham visited the Health Innovation Manchester office on Friday 17 May, taking a tour of the new space in Citylabs 1.0 and hearing about the innovative work that is currently taking place throughout the organisation.

A number of key projects were highlighted by HInM staff, including Eliminating Hepatitis C, Smart Hearts, Co-op health stations and the COPD programme including the Aardman COPD awareness animation.

After taking a tour of the new office space and some of the live projects, the visit was rounded off with a Q&A session with staff and Health Innovation Manchester's Chief Executive, Professor Ben Bridgewater.

The Mayor discussed the importance of driving innovation to improve the health of local people, which will in turn increase jobs, prosperity and growth for the city-region. Andy said: "Health is our biggest opportunity and our biggest challenge... we do have an opportunity to change things."

Click the link below to read a Tweet-thread from the event.

[Read more](#)



More mums-to-be offered treatment to reduce cerebral palsy in preterm babies

Mums-to-be in Greater Manchester are now being offered a treatment to help reduce the chance of their preterm babies developing cerebral palsy as Health Innovation Manchester works to increase adoption and spread of the PReCePT programme in the city-region.

PReCePT (Prevention of Cerebral Palsy in PreTerm Labour), sees eligible mothers in preterm labour offered magnesium sulphate, which has been proven to protect preterm babies' brains. The project is one of seven NHS England-funded programmes selected for adoption and spread across the national AHSN Network.

Latest figures show that since the PReCePT project began in 2018, the proportion of eligible mothers receiving the treatment has soared from 58% to 88% in Greater Manchester.

Debby Gould, Maternity Clinical Lead at Health Innovation Manchester and the Greater Manchester and Eastern Cheshire Patient Safety Collaborative, said: "We are delighted that more women in Greater Manchester are now being offered this potentially life changing intervention and we are working with maternity units to ensure it is available for every eligible mother and preterm baby."

[Read more](#)



Sharing knowledge and developing future plans for ESCAPE-pain

Health Innovation Manchester hosted an event on 15 May for providers of the ESCAPE-pain programme at the National Cycling Centre in Manchester.

The event gathered providers, local authority, mental health and leisure trusts, from the Greater Manchester and Eastern Cheshire localities who deliver the ESCAPE-pain programme, to discuss and share knowledge of the programme with partner organisations and to look at how the programme can grow in active sites.

Attendees also heard from people who had completed the programme with their stories explaining how ESCAPE-pain can have a positive impact.

Verity Morton, Programme Development Lead at Health Innovation Manchester said: "This was an excellent session for providers to learn from some inspiring examples of how the ESCAPE-pain programme is being adopted in areas across Greater Manchester and Eastern Cheshire."

[Read more](#)



Nominations now open for NHS in the North Excellence in Supply Awards

The search is on for inspirational examples of businesses, third sector organisations and the NHS working together to provide great patient care in the North of England.

Nominations are now open for the 2019 NHS in the North Excellence in Supply Awards, with anyone who currently supplies goods, works or services to NHS trusts in the North able to apply.

The NHS in the North Excellence in Supply Awards are organised by the NHS Supply Chain Northern Customer Board and the Innovation Agency with Health Innovation Manchester and Yorkshire and Humber AHSN as co-sponsors.

Professor Ben Bridgewater, Health Innovation Manchester's Chief Executive, said: "Collaboration between external partners and the NHS is vital to improving patient care and achieving better value and efficiency. Organisations in the North are proving the value of collaboration and I look forward to celebrating some of these partnerships at the awards."

[Read more](#)

Health Innovation Manchester Blog

Arjun Sikand: Designing low cost health technologies across the globe

Arjun Sikand, Health Innovation Manchester's Associate Director of Commercial Partnerships, recently visited Rio de Janeiro for a workshop aiming to bring engineers and clinicians together in order to build teams, share knowledge and create affordable health technologies across the globe.



The workshop, supported by Global Challenge Research Fund, looked to address access to essential medicines and health technologies, one of the cornerstones of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Arjun said: "This multidisciplinary workshop was the first of its kind with the attendees from Colombia and Brazil providing insight into the demand, opportunities and challenges in designing low cost health technologies in resource restricted settings."

[Read more](#)

Greater Manchester System News

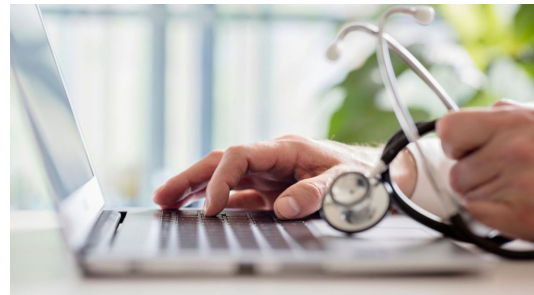


'Shining a light on suicide' campaign launches in Greater Manchester

A new campaign has been launched to encourage people in Greater Manchester to talk about suicide, the biggest killer of men under 49 and women aged between 20 to 34 in the region.

More than 200 people a year take their own life in Greater Manchester and leaders across the city region have said "enough is enough" and that "it's time to break the stigma of talking about suicide, suicidal thoughts and suicide bereavement".

The #shiningalightonsuicide campaign has been created to prevent suicides and aims to take the subject out of the dark by encouraging everyone to talk openly about suicide. It follows



Identifying issues with treatment and care through digital

The Performance Improvement Plan Generator (PINGR) project, developed by a GP-led team at The University of Manchester, utilises digital health records to improve treatment and care.

PINGR is a population health management tool that searches health records and compares patient data to NICE clinical standards to highlight patients potentially not receiving the right care or treatment. PINGR also suggests actions that could be taken for those patients, or their wider care organisation, including changes to medication or quality improvement ideas for GP practices.

research among people who have considered suicide, that talking honestly and openly about suicide helped to save their lives.

The campaign has been commissioned by Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership and is supported by the Mayor of Greater Manchester Andy Burnham and all the partners including NHS, councils, police, fire, emergency services, armed forces' veterans, voluntary and community groups.

[Read more](#)

Currently live in over 20 practices in Salford, PINGR is focussed at present on chronic diseases like CKD, hypertension and COPD, with an evaluation of its use in Salford suggesting that patients viewed in PINGR were 1.6 times more likely to receive improvements in care compared to those that were not.

Further expansion of PINGR is being sought across other localities in Greater Manchester and in other areas of clinical need.

[Read more](#)



Shortlist announced for Greater Manchester's Health & Care Champion awards

After receiving almost 400 nominations, the shortlist for this year's Greater Manchester Health & Care Champion Awards has now been announced.

30 individuals and teams, working in the NHS, a school, local authorities, charities, care homes and many other sectors have been shortlisted across 10 different categories.

A panel made up of representatives from across our public services, plus patient representatives, reviewed all the nominations and agreed the final shortlist. The winners themselves will be announced at a ceremony in July.

The Greater Manchester Health & Care Champion Awards are the only awards that celebrate and recognise our employed and unwaged workforce, who regularly go above and beyond to improve the health and wellbeing of the people in our communities.

The awards are organised by Greater



Manchester patients invited to take part in research as part of new healthcare campaign

Patients, carers and the public in Greater Manchester are invited to get involved in clinical research as part of a new campaign. Be Part of Research is the new nationwide initiative from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

New figures released by the NIHR in May show that the number of people benefiting from clinical research in England reached record highs this year - with 870,250 participants involved in studies supported by the NIHR's Clinical Research Network over the last 12 months.

The number marks a significant step towards the NHS Long Term Plan's goal of one million people taking part in clinical research by 2023/24 - part of the Government's strategy to improve care, treatment and NHS services in England.

Debbie Vinsun, Chief Operating Officer of NIHR Clinical Research Network Greater Manchester, said: "Research is making a difference to lives every single day. Here in Greater Manchester, we're proud to say that people have the

Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership with support from the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham.

[Read more](#)

opportunity to take part in research studies at hospitals, GP practices and other settings across our region."

[Read more](#)



Crucial funding invested to understand link between hearing loss and dementia

People with hearing loss are up to five times more likely to be affected by dementia than those without hearing loss. To try to understand this link, national charities Action on Hearing Loss and Alzheimer's Research UK have teamed up to invest more than £150,000 into a research project conducted by Manchester researchers.

The project, supported by NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre will look to establish if dementia is directly caused by hearing loss, if dementia is an indirect consequence of social isolation caused by hearing problems, or if hearing loss is a marker of biological factors that increase the risk of both hearing loss and dementia. The Manchester team will also investigate whether hearing aids can help reduce the risk of dementia.

Dr Piers Dawes, who will be leading the study, said: "This is a global issue affecting 46.8 million people worldwide and therefore, there is an urgent need to find ways of preventing or delaying dementia. Several studies have reported that hearing loss in mid-life is associated with an increased risk of dementia in later life.

"But, they do not tell us whether hearing loss directly contributes to the risk, or if treating hearing loss, like with hearing aids, would help prevent this condition."



World's first gene therapy treatment for genetic condition in Manchester

A two-year-old patient at the Royal Manchester Children's Hospital (RMCH) is the first in the world to receive a pioneering new ex vivo gene therapy treatment using lentiviral vector-modified autologous stem cells for the rare and life-limiting genetic condition, Mucopolysaccharidosis IIIA (MPSIIIA).

MPSIIIA, also known as Sanfilippo syndrome, is a rare inherited disease caused by a genetic mutation and deficiency in the SGSH gene, meaning that the body's enzyme Sulfamidase cannot break down complex sugar molecules properly. These molecules build up in cells within the brain and nervous system and have a devastating and progressive impact on a child's development.

Children born with the disease develop normally at first but as the disease progresses, it delays their development of speech, learning and walking, and causes severe behavioural problems such as hyperactivity, anxiety and difficulty sleeping. Eventually children lose their speech and mobility, and will die early.

Until now there was no cure for MPSIIIA, however there may be new hope for these children after the two-year-old was the first to receive a new ex vivo bone marrow stem cell gene therapy treatment.

[Read more](#)[Read more](#)

National News



New world-leading technological innovations being introduced for patients across the NHS

3D heart modelling to rapidly diagnose coronary disease and an advanced blood test which can cut the time it takes to rule-out a heart attack by 75% are among a raft of technological innovations being introduced for patients across the NHS.

The new treatments and tests, announced on 5 June by NHS England Chief Executive Simon Stevens, are being delivered as part of the NHS' Innovation and Technology Payment programme, which is fast-tracking the roll-out of latest technology across the country.

Other innovations include pregnant women getting a new pre-eclampsia test, and cluster headache sufferers getting access to a handheld gadget which uses low-levels of electric current to reduce pain.

This is the third year of the drive to identify and fast track specific innovations into the NHS, which has already benefitted over 300,000 patients across the NHS. The 15 Academic Health Science Networks across England, including Health Innovation Manchester, will take direct responsibility for accelerating uptake locally.

[Read more](#)



Extra £9 million for NHS to treat people at high risk of stroke

NHS England has announced they are to invest £9 million to help find and treat people with an irregular heart rhythm that puts them at high risk of stroke.

Experts estimate that more than 147,000 people in England with an irregular heart rhythm are not receiving appropriate treatment. Making sure people with this condition are given optimal treatment – usually blood-thinning medication to prevent clots – can more than halve their risk of having a stroke.

The £9 million investment will fund specialists to work with GPs and advise them on the best treatment for people identified as having irregular heart rhythms (known as atrial fibrillation).

The programme will run across 23 areas of the country with the highest rates of the condition receiving funding for specialist clinical pharmacists and nurses to help identify people who could benefit from medication.

This new approach is being supported by the 15 NHS and care innovation bodies, the Academic Health Science Networks.

[Read more](#)



Chair of the AHSN Network steps down to lead Northern Health Science Alliance

The AHSN Network has announced that its national Chair, Dr Séamus O'Neill, will be stepping down from post at the end of August 2019.

Séamus will be leaving his role as CEO of the Academic Health Science Network North East and North Cumbria (AHSN NENC) to take up the position of CEO of the Northern Health Science Alliance (NHSA).

The NHSA is an alliance of the leading research universities, NHS teaching trusts and the AHSNs across the North of England. It is a driver for investment into the sector, brings together research collaborations and is an advocate for the North's health system in Government.

Piers Ricketts, Vice Chair of the AHSN Network and Chief Executive of the Eastern AHSN, said: "On behalf of the 15 AHSNs I want to thank Séamus for his tireless work. His vision and leadership have been such an important element of the AHSNs during the first year of their second licence, ensuring we are prominently positioned within the health and care innovation landscape."

[Read more](#)

*Simplifying cross-sector working
between NHS Integrated Care Systems,
Sustainability and Transformation
Partnerships and industry
Guidance on governance and process*

New guide to cross-sector working between the NHS and industry

The ABPI and the AHSN Network has published a new guide to cross-sector working between NHS Sustainable Transformation Partnerships (STPs), Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) and industry. The guide sets out governance and process recommendations to make collaboration more straightforward. The guide:

- Reinforces the benefits of cross-sector working for patients and NHS transformation and includes case studies demonstrating how this can be achieved
- Sets out why we need collaborative working
- Will help avoid the problems of the past
- Could help the NHS become more efficient and productive
- Makes maximum use of AHSN expertise as a promoter of innovation

[Read more](#)



Survey reveals local NHS research and innovation priorities

The findings from a survey to identify local NHS innovation and research needs have been published.

The views of local health stakeholders, including clinical leaders, managers and directors, within each AHSN region were collected through qualitative interviews and a questionnaire.

The report outlines the national findings from the survey and includes a detailed analysis of the innovation and research needs at local level across all AHSNs.

Whilst there were some differences in regional priorities, common themes emerged which reflected wider challenges facing the NHS and align with the priorities of the NHS Long Term Plan including addressing workforce challenges and delivery of mental health services.

[Read more](#)

Guest Blogs

Making health research more inclusive for Deaf British Sign Language (BSL) community

In a new blog, Celia Hulme, NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) Doctoral student, a Deaf BSL user, and Olivia Joseph, Manchester BRC PPIE Project Manager, explain how and why they developed research's first Deaf Experts by Experience group (DEEG).

Celia said: "I am thoroughly proud of Manchester BRC valuing inclusivity specifically with Deaf BSL users. They have been innovative, forward thinking, encouraging and enabling by



ensuring Deaf BSL users are involved in all stages and I look forward to continuous work with Manchester BRC."

[Read more](#)



Why we are targeting a better way to diagnose and treat asthma

Following World Asthma Day, Dr Stephen Fowler, NIHR Manchester Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) Asthma Programme Associate Lead, reflects on the current routes to asthma diagnosis, the implications of misdiagnosis and how he hopes our current research will lead to improvements in care by getting each patient on the right treatment at the right time.

Dr Fowler said: "Getting an accurate diagnosis of asthma is really important – it is often a lifelong condition, and receiving the wrong diagnosis and treatment can have life-changing consequences. In Manchester we are conducting a study to try and help work out the best way of diagnosing asthma in order to ensure patients get the treatment they need as early as possible."

[Read more](#)

Opportunities and support

Health Education England North/ NIHR Bridging Scheme

Nurses, midwives, allied health professionals, pharmacists and healthcare scientists are invited to apply for the scheme which is designed to bridge the gaps between Masters and PhD, (Pre Doctoral) and between PhD and Post-Doctoral (Post Doctoral) and to help the awardees successfully apply for either a Clinical Doctoral Research Fellowship for the pre docs or a Clinical Lectureship for the post docs. Awardees will be released for up to 50% of their contracted hours to focus on the development of their research career and work towards a successful NIHR fellowship application. Find out more [here](#)

SME support to evaluate innovative medical technologies

SMEs can apply for a share of £1.5 million to support the evaluation of innovative medical devices, diagnostics and regulated digital health products. The Office for Life Sciences (OLS) will work with Innovate UK, as part of UK Research and Innovation, to support developers of innovative medical devices, diagnostics and regulated digital technology to evaluate their product in a real world clinical setting. Competition closes: 3 July. Find out more [here](#)

Researcher development funding schemes

The University of Manchester Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health, has launched two new internal funding schemes to support researcher development in the faculty. The schemes include the International Conference Attendance Fund; Training, Visits, Workshops and Discipline-Hopping scheme (funded by the Wellcome Institutional Strategic Support Fund); and the Research Collaboration Fund. Find out more [here](#)

Events

Manchester: Cities Changing Diabetes 17 June

Join us at Manchester Art Gallery as Health Innovation Manchester and Novo Nordisk announce a new partnership, discuss their shared ambition to bend the curve of type 2 diabetes and explore the possibility of Greater Manchester becoming the twenty-first city in the Cities Changing Diabetes programme. The CCD programme aims to accelerate the global fight against urban diabetes by working with partner cities to develop new approaches and design interventions that can begin to deliver real impact. [Read more](#)

NHS Confed19 19-20 June

The NHS Confederation's annual conference and exhibition is a unique experience where health and social care leaders can face shared challenges, find practical solutions, expand their professional network and debate topical issues. The two-day conference includes engaging workshops, keynote speeches, breakout sessions, seminars and panel discussions. [Read more](#)

Windrush Day 2019 - Health Walk and Festival 22 June

After the successful NHS70 and Windrush70 celebration last year, the theme of the event is 'celebrating the Windrush generation and contribution of migration in general to our health and social care sector.' There will be a health walk followed by celebration with performances, speeches and family fun activities. Health Innovation Manchester are sponsoring the event and will be offering health advice and health checks. [Read more](#)

Patient Safety Congress 2019 2-3 July

Returning to Manchester on 2-3 July, the 12th annual Patient Safety Congress will have experts in safety from healthcare and other safety critical industries. Guests will see meaningful patient and relative input across the whole programme, and there will be examples of innovation from front line teams. Crucially, the event will continue to challenge the speakers to focus on what attendees can learn from them so that you can return to work and implement real changes and improve patient safety where you work. [Read more](#)

Our full events calendar is also available on our website

[Read more](#)

Masterclasses and Courses

- [Networking and Webinar: Trial and Study Contracting](#) — 13 June
NIHR Manchester BRC
- [Networking and Webinar: NHS Ethics Application](#) — 20 June
NIHR Manchester BRC
- [Strategic focus and funding opportunities for cancer research](#) — 3 July
MRC Molecular and Cellular Medicine Board

[Read more](#)



Copyright © 2019 Health Innovation Manchester, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).