

Impact Report 2024-25



A photograph of three people sitting together and looking at a notebook. On the left, a woman with long, wavy brown hair is smiling. In the center, a man with a beard and short dark hair is smiling. On the right, a man with a shaved head and a gold hoop earring is looking at the notebook. They are all dressed in casual business attire. The background is a blurred indoor setting with large windows.

1

Introduction

1. Introduction

Welcome to our 2024/25 Impact Report

At a time when the healthcare landscape is rapidly evolving, the Health Innovation Network continues to be a driving force behind the transformation of our health and care system. Health innovation has the potential to boost the UK economy by up to £278bn per year, as our report, **Defining the Size of the Health Innovation Prize by Frontier Economics**, found earlier this year. This Impact Report demonstrates the critical role we play in delivering the ambitions of the Government's Plan for Change.

The work we do to bring together **place-based innovation partnerships**, collaborations rooted in local needs and priorities, continues to be recognised as the proven model for translating research, development and technological advances into real world impact. These partnerships bring together patients, the NHS, academia, local government, industry – from SMEs to multinationals - to deliver better patient outcomes, cut waiting times by reducing demand and administrative burden on the workforce, and drive economic growth. By embedding innovation at the local level, we not only strengthen communities and deliver local change but also lay the foundation for national transformation and impact.

The outcomes speak for themselves:

- **11,000 jobs** have been created or safeguarded in companies we've supported boosting local economies and strengthening the UK's health innovation ecosystem.

- **4.9 million patients** across the country have benefitted from our national programmes since 2018, demonstrating our capacity to spread impactful solutions at scale.
- **340,000 hours** of healthcare staff capacity have been released through our initiatives since 2020, freeing up precious time for patient care.
- We have helped leverage almost **£3bn** in investment into innovative health companies accelerating the development and adoption of cutting-edge technologies.

In 2024/25 we harnessed the power of the 15 local health innovation networks to deliver against our three strategic priorities - cardiovascular disease, patient safety and tackling health inequalities - as well as NHS priorities in workforce, Net Zero, improved uptake of NICE-approved medicines and technologies, and increasingly patient-led care.

This work has seen over **150 innovations** introduced into new clinical settings and a further **200 evaluated**, delivering benefit to over **1 million** patients, creating or safeguarding over **900 jobs** and leveraging over **£500m** in funding.

These achievements underscore not just the strength of our network, but the power of collaborative, place-led innovation in delivering better health outcomes, economic growth, and a more resilient health system.

“The work we do at the frontline in bringing place-based innovation partnerships, collaborations rooted in local needs and priorities, continues to be recognised as the proven model for translating research, development and technological advances into real world impact.”

Richard Stubbs
Chair, Health Innovation Network

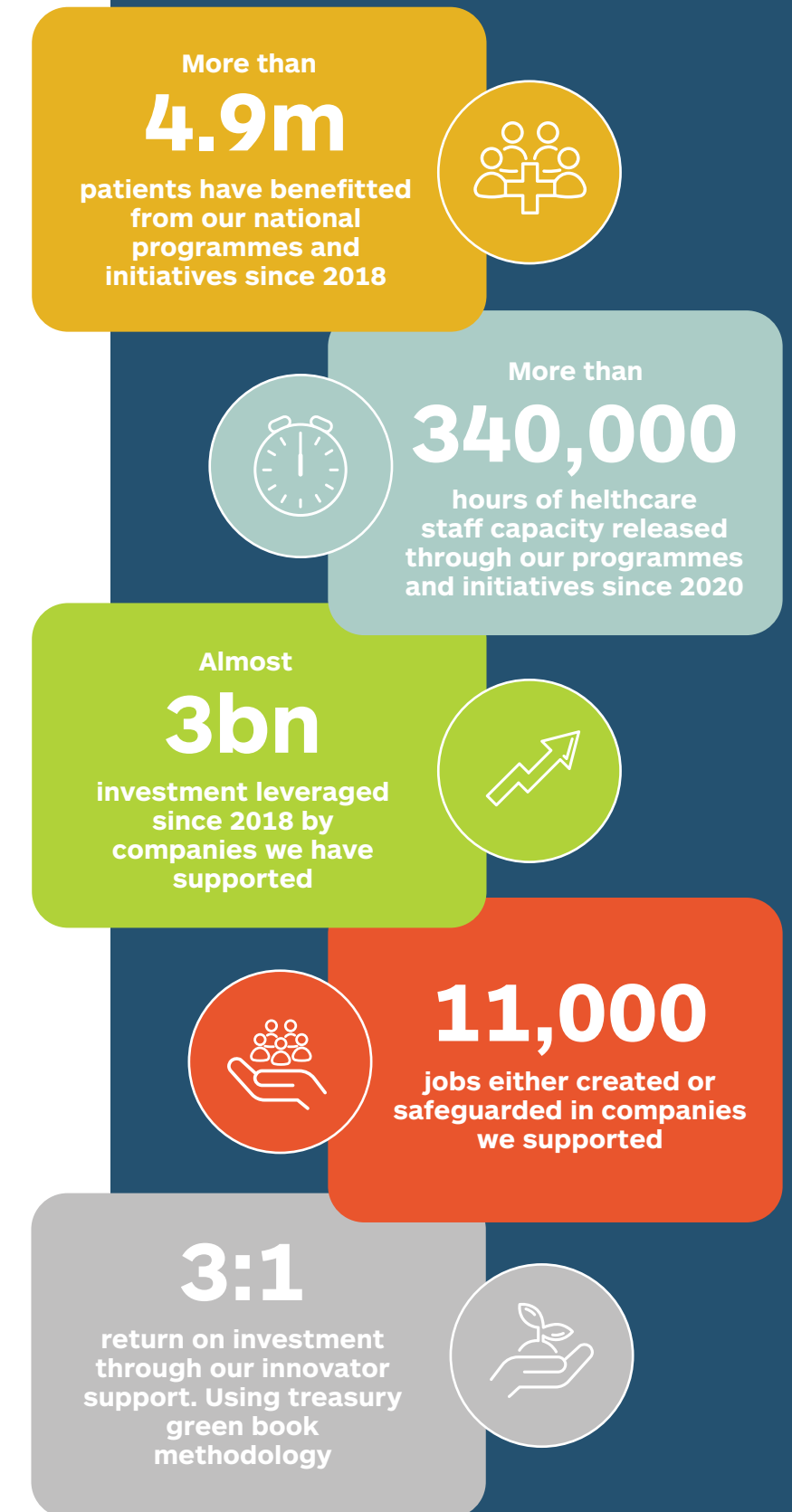
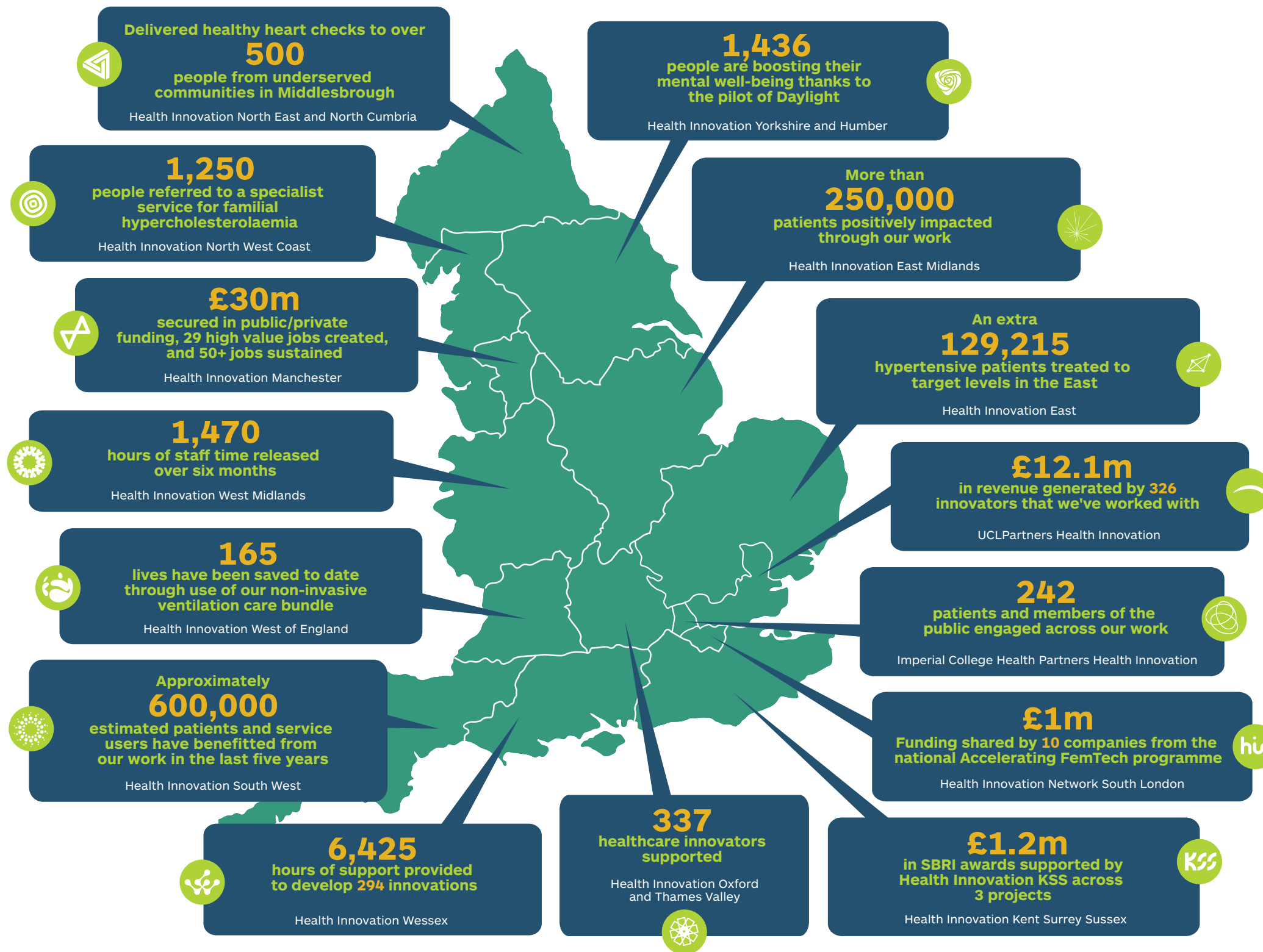


As a Network, we look forward to playing a vital role alongside our partners to deliver the ambition of the 10 Year Health Plan and Life Science Sector Plan, delivering national impact through local change.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Richard".

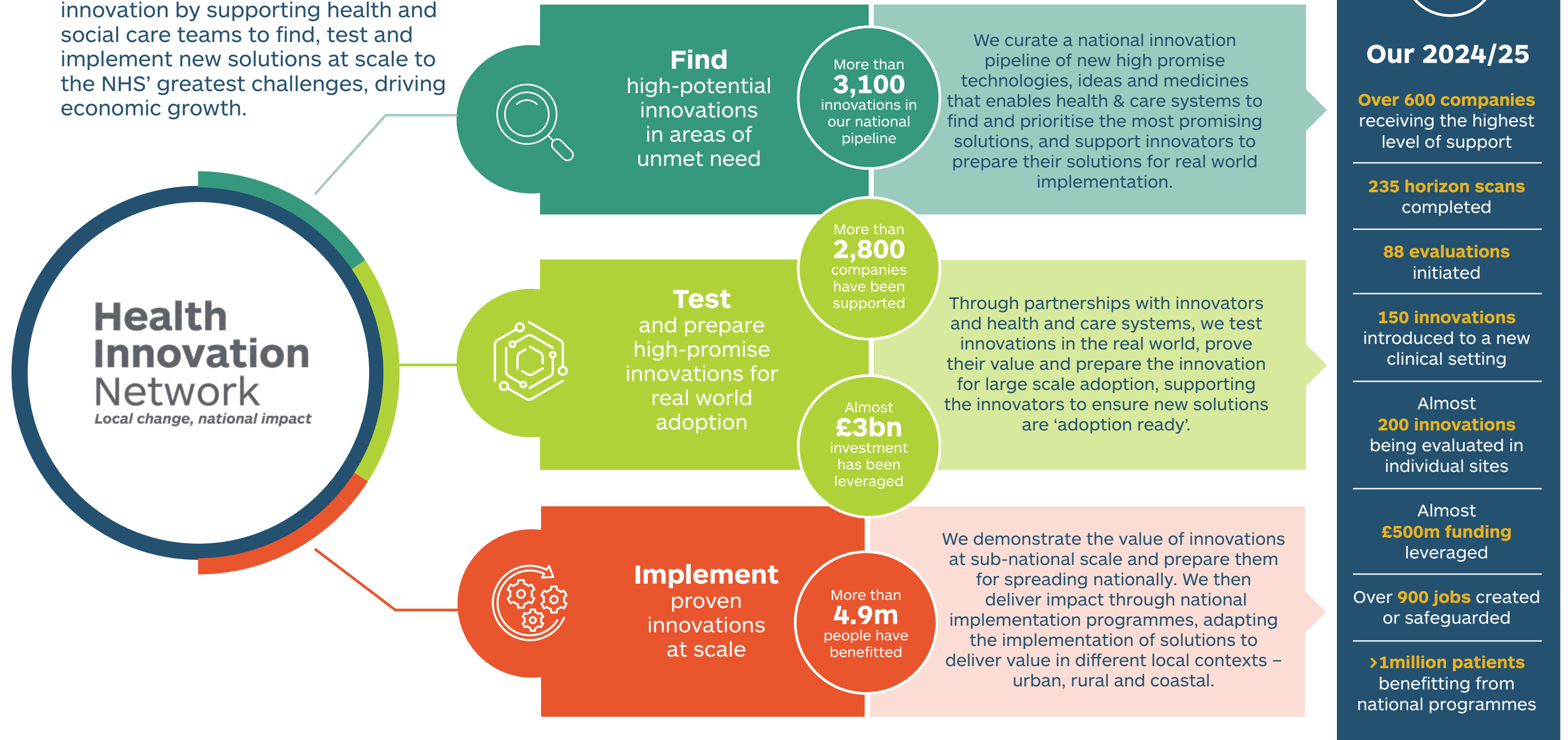
Richard Stubbs
Chair, Health Innovation Network

Local change, national impact



We are the health innovation adoption experts

We transform lives through innovation by supporting health and social care teams to find, test and implement new solutions at scale to the NHS' greatest challenges, driving economic growth.



2

Local change, national impact

2. Local change, national impact

Each of our 15 health innovation networks across England, who collaborate as the Health Innovation Network, is embedded in its local ecosystem, driving health innovation at place level through our connections with the NHS, industry, academia and communities.

Place-based health innovation offers a proven model for translating research and technological advances into real-world impact, ensuring innovation reaches patients and frontline services efficiently.

Over the past decade, we've demonstrated how our collaboration as a Network can spread proven innovations across the country, at pace and scale.



For 2024/25, as a Network we identified three main priorities:



Cardiovascular disease



Patient Safety

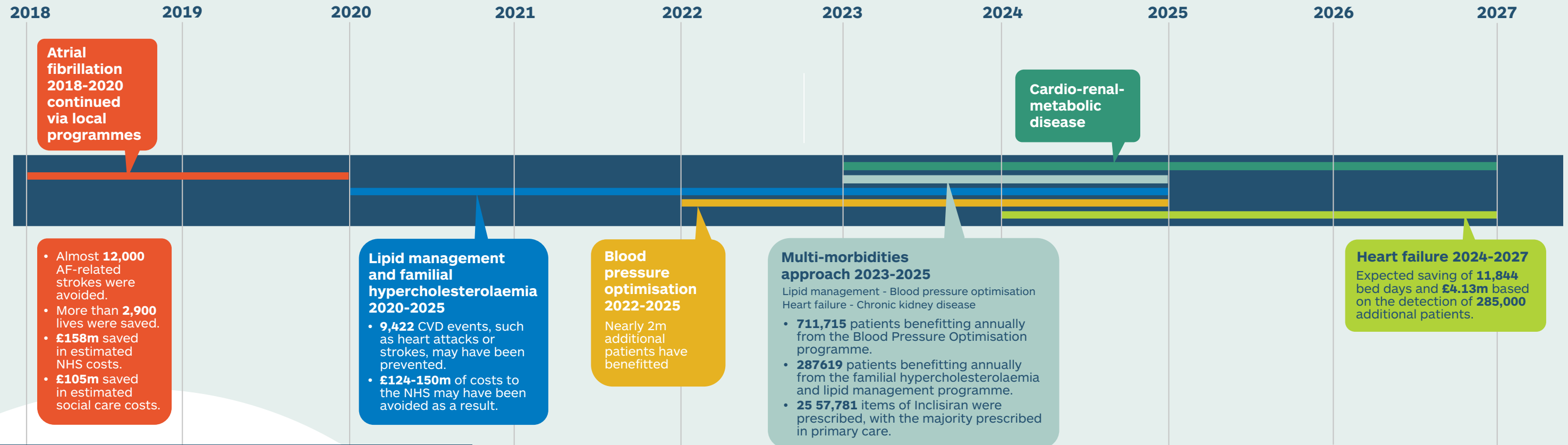


Health inequality



We also continued our support for **national NHS priorities**, including productivity, patient-led healthcare, and Net Zero.





Transforming cardiovascular care through innovation

Improving the care and treatment of Cardiovascular disease (CVD) has been a long-term priority for the Network. From our work in Atrial Fibrillation (AF) detection, which led to the avoidance of 12,000 AF-related strokes, to our lipid management and familial hypercholesterolaemia programme potentially preventing over 9000 CVD events (such as heart attacks or strokes) and our Blood pressure Optimisation programme benefitting an additional 2 million patients: our work in this area has saved lives, prevented disability, and delivered hundred of millions of pounds in costs-avoided to the NHS and social care.

In 2024/25, we continued our multi-morbidities approach to spreading CVD innovations, allowing for local alignment to ICB needs and priorities. Focussing on:

- Increasing heart failure and chronic kidney disease diagnostic capability within primary care/community-based settings.
- Evidencing the adoption and spread of innovation(s)/pathway transformation and/or redesign over programme duration.
- Supporting innovators to leverage funding for new innovations across the CVD clinical pathway.
- Prioritising supporting a shift to community services and increasing diagnostic capabilities within primary care to tackle heart failure.

Our 2023-2025 impacts

287,619 patients benefitting annually from the Lipid Management and Familial Hypercholesterolaemia Programme

711,715 patients benefitting annually from the Blood Pressure Optimisation programme

57,781 items of Inclisiran were prescribed, with the majority prescribed in primary care



Tackling cardiovascular disease

In addition to our national portfolio, there are over 90 local programmes across the Network prioritising improving the detection and treatment of cardiovascular disease, through innovation.

Over
90
local
programmes
tackling
cardiovascular
disease
nationally



Find out
more



Cardiovascular
programme

Examples of local and regional programmes from across the networks

Healthy Heart Checks

PocDoc is a digital health platform that can be used in non-clinical settings to detect people who might be at risk of cardiovascular events, such as heart attacks and strokes, acting as a catalyst for **further clinical support and/or treatment**. Over a six month period, PocDoc demonstrated that it could deliver 6,120 Healthy Heart Checks saving 10,000 hours of GP surgery time. The test also identified 1,021 people at high risk of cardiovascular disease and directed them onto further assessment and treatment. It has saved the NHS **£5.1m** in 6 months. Initially supported by Health Innovation North East and North Cumbria (NENC), who shared results through the entire network, leading to spread of additional pilot sites for evaluation and improvement, and support to access funding, including from SBRI Healthcare, PocDoc is now being supported with implementation by 8 health innovation networks, and is delivering pilots in London, West Yorkshire and North West Coast and is a 2024/25 NHS Innovation Accelerator Fellow.

Transforming CVD prevention with smart data

Developed by UCLPartners, CVDACTION is a smart risk stratification tool to support GP practices and PCNs to optimise care in high-risk conditions to deliver a step change in prevention of heart attacks and strokes.

In 2024/25, CVDACTION was deployed with structured implementation support across 10 PCNs (600,000 population). In a six-month snapshot from these demonstrator sites, **1,785** patients with hypertension were newly treated to target.

This will prevent around **18 heart attacks** and/or **26 strokes** in five years. **426** patients with pre-existing CVD were also started on essential lipid-lowering therapy.

This can be expected to prevent **43** heart attacks and strokes in five years. Taken together, in this limited timeframe and pilot population, this improvement in treatment optimisation could **save around £900,000 in NHS spend**, and significantly more could be saved through reduced social care need and additional economic activity.

Looking ahead to 2025/26

- > Health innovation Wessex are working with Astra Zeneca to develop a pathway blueprint for heart failure.
- > Health innovation East are piloting a point of care diagnostic in primary care.
- > We are developing a pipeline to identify improvements in chronic kidney disease and a wider portfolio of cardio-renal-metabolic disease.



Patient safety in partnership

The health innovation networks host 15 Patient Safety Collaboratives (PSCs), who are commissioned to deliver the National Safety Improvement Programmes, by NHS England's Patient Safety team. Since 2020, this work has saved over 2500 lives and delivered up to £536m in cost avoidance.

In 2024/25 we continued to deliver against the priorities outlined in the national Patient Safety Plan, with a continued focus on maternity and neonatal, systems safety, managing deterioration and medicines safety.



“It's brilliant to see this fantastic impact report on the work of the Patient Safety Collaboratives. Their help in implementing transformational change in the NHS, making care safer and supporting both patients and staff, is absolutely critical to the delivery of our national Patient Safety Strategy.”

Ramani Moonesinghe,
interim NHS Patient Safety Director

Managing Deterioration

In 2024/25, we extended the Martha's rule pilot to **143** acute hospital sites. To date, **129** potentially life saving interventions have been triggered as a result. Next year we will continue to spread this work further to include **200** sites (100%), delivering pilots in Maternity/Neonatal services, Emergency department, Mental Health and Community settings.



Maternity and neonatal

We introduced two additional elements into the pre-optimisation care bundle for pre-term births. **Their inclusion has led to 1592 babies surviving as a result of either optimal cord clamp or the prescription of antenatal steroids***. We also introduced the Perinatal Culture and Leadership programme to support units to improve the culture of care.

163
lives saved
as a result
of avoiding
Strep B
infection

*through
optimal cord
management,
antenatal
corticosteroids
and intrapartum
antibiotics since
April 2020

1130
babies
survived due
to optimal cord
management

Medicines safety improvement programme

In 2024/25, our medicines safety improvement programme, which is dedicated to reducing high-dose opioid use, took a whole system approach to deliver improvements in the management of chronic pain. **This saved 884 lives and reduced the risk of death by 50% for 13,334 pain sufferers.**

884
lives saved
as a result of
reducing
high-dose
opioids

129
potentially
life saving
interventions
triggered as a
result of Martha's
Rule

Our current programme

2,508

lives have been
saved & up to £536m
of costs avoided
since 2020 across
The National Patient
Safety Improvement
Programme

Systems safety

Our work to deploy the Patient Safety Incident Response Framework (PSIRF) achieved 100% implementation, meaning all acute ambulance, mental health and community health settings have now adopted the improvement framework. We also ran a GP practice pilot for the programme, which will continue in 2025/6.

2025/26

From September 2025/26 we will be launching a new programme in Avoiding Brain Injury in Childbirth (ABC) in all maternity and neonatal units across England. We will also lead a new medicines safety programme reducing psychotropics in people with learning disabilities who present with challenging behaviour using a whole system approach to save lives and reduce harm.



**Find out
more**



**Patient
Safety
portfolio**



Contributing to better patient safety outcomes*

commissioned by Innovation Research Life Sciences and Strategy, part of the NHS Transformation Directorate

Transforming Woundcare

This year, the evaluation of the **Transforming Wound Care programme**, a Network-wide programme delivered by Health Innovation East (2022-2024) that built on the previous National Wound Care Strategy Programme's implementation of the Lower Limb Recommendations (LLRs) demonstrated positive impact across the eight Test and Evaluation Sites. The programme will be rolled out further in 2025/26. The programme evaluation showed:

94%
healing rate
at 52 week for
all lower limb
wounds.**

819
patients received
a full assessment
within 14 days
of lower leg
wounds.

**healed wounds only



PERIPrem

The PERIPrem (Perinatal Excellence to Reduce Injury in Premature Birth) care bundle, consisting of 11 evidence-based elements designed to reduce preterm brain injury and mortality by at least **50%**, through incremental gains, was rolled out by two further networks (West Midlands and East Midlands).

Funded, developed, and implemented by Health Innovation West of England and Health Innovation South West in the South West NHSE region, working with the Neonatal Operational Delivery Network using the validated PReCePT model, PERIPrem is being used to support the reduction of inequalities in areas of high deprivation. This work will continue in 2025/26, supporting the pre-term optimisation bundle offered to all units across England.

Problematic Polypharmacy

Launched in **April 2022** the programme sought to reduce the number of people over 75 years of age on 10 or more prescribed medicines, by increased use of the NHSBSA Polypharmacy Comparators dataset, and improving the quality of Structured Medication Reviews. In **2024/25**, the programme delivered the following impacts:

- **42 ICBs** engaged with some or all elements of the programme with **21 ICBs** showing evidence of a **decline or flattening of the 'line'** in 1 or more of the NHSBSA therapeutic polypharmacy prescribing comparators locally (against baseline forecast data).
- **5887** GPs, pharmacists and HCPs attended Network **Polypharmacy Education and Training offers**.
- **6039** stakeholders attended live or viewed recordings of Network **National Polypharmacy Masterclass Series**.

- **2335** colleagues downloaded Network Patient Resources for SMRs.
- **1650** SMRs were completed, driven by our recent **SMRs in Seldom Heard Communities** projects across England with veterans, housebound, learning disabilities and English not as a first language patient groups.
- **123 Communities of Practice** delivered, attended by over **5000** stakeholders.

“At a regional level, it is awesome to hear how PERIPrem has become the language automatically used when talking about optimisation, and to hear and see how this continues to unite perinatal teams throughout the region. Nationally, it has been great to see how PERIPrem continues to influence and support teams across the four nations of the UK and further afield to improve outcomes for preterm babies and their families.”

Dr Sarah Bates, Consultant
Paediatrician and Neonatologist,
Great Western Hospitals
NHS Foundation Trust



Read more

Guide for Primary Care
to tackle Problematic
Pharmacy





Tackling health inequalities through innovation: Innovation for health inequalities programme (InHIP)

Since 2022, our work in health inequalities has focussed primarily on delivering NHS England's Innovation for Health Inequalities Programme (InHIP). InHIP, a collaboration between the Accelerated Access Collaborative (AAC), NHS England's National Healthcare Inequalities Improvement Programme and the Health Innovation Network, delivered in partnership with integrated care systems (ICSs), seeks to work together with local communities to identify, address and minimise healthcare inequalities through projects to improve access to the latest health technologies and medicines.

The programme focused on five clinical areas aligned with the national Core20PLUS5 approach to reducing healthcare inequalities, which includes maternity, mental health, respiratory, cancer diagnosis and cardiovascular disease.

In 2024/25 we published our Impact and Learning Report, which demonstrated that around 4,000 underserved people were referred on to clinical pathways with around 3,000 accessing a NICE-recommended technology.

Following publication, we convened senior clinicians, NHS leaders, policymakers, and community representatives to discuss the findings, resulting in our **Forging a more equitable future through policy and partnership: Tackling Health Inequalities Through Innovation** report, which captures how culturally competent approaches, data-driven insights, and place-based partnerships can create a new blueprint for equitable health services.

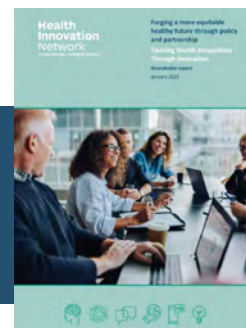
Wave 2 of the programme, started this year, also saw a further £2.7m leveraged in funding for InHIP programmes nationally, across 39 ICBs.



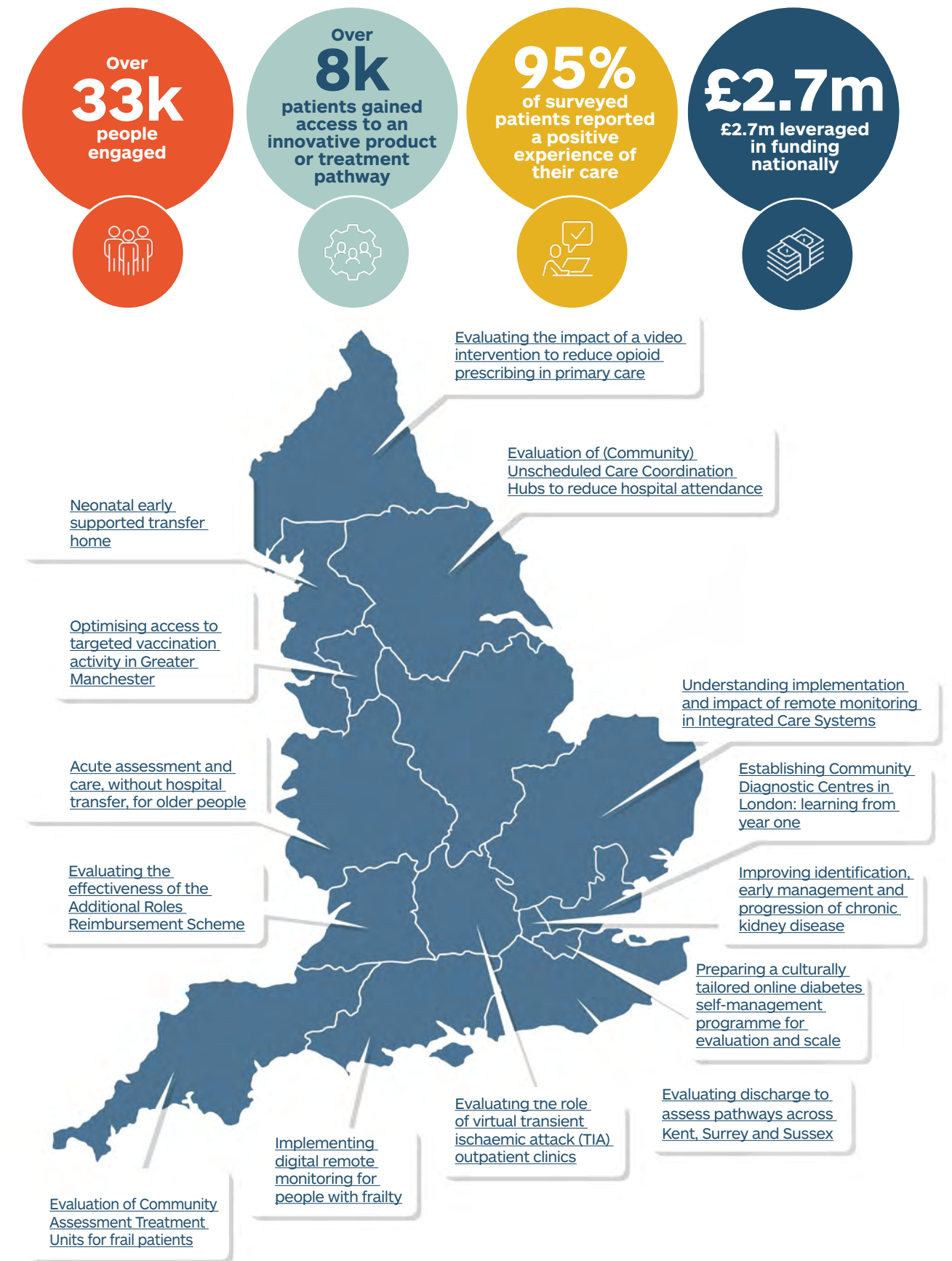
Read more >



Innovation for healthcare inequalities programme impact report



Forging a more equitable healthy future through policy and partnership





Tackling health inequalities across the Network

Tackling health inequalities remains one of the greatest challenges facing the NHS and the wider health sector today. Innovation presents a unique opportunity to reshape our health system to serve everyone, irrespective of their circumstances. As a Network, we are determined to widen access to care and create health equity across the population.

“Without an explicit focus on equity, innovations risk marginalising the most vulnerable groups. However, when designed and implemented with equity at their core, these approaches can significantly reduce long-term pressures on the NHS and stimulate local economies.”

Kathy Scott,
Acting Chief Executive,
Health Innovation Yorkshire
and Humber



Examples local programmes tackling health inequalities

Accelerating FemTech



Accelerating FemTech supports early-stage companies, university spinouts and entrepreneurial-minded academics focused on reducing the health inequalities found in women's health - either with specific health needs or those that affect women disproportionately - to gain commercial and funding momentum. It is delivered by the **Health Innovation Network (HIN) South London** and partners across the UK, utilising **Innovate UK** funding, in collaboration with the **Medical Research Council**.

The first cohort saw 10 companies awarded £1m of **Biomedical Catalyst** funding. The second cohort of 21 solutions aims to address a wide range of women's health needs, from AI-driven menopause support systems to hormone monitoring devices, at-home cervical screening kits and revolutionary maternity training platforms. This cohort's companies are 71% majority female, 10% majority disabled and 33% **global majority** owned.

Improving cancer care for people with mental illness



People with serious mental illness experience significant health inequalities related to cancer; they are more than 2 times more likely to die from cancer than the general population. In 2024, the **Health Innovation Network (HIN) South London** and the South East London Cancer Alliance collaborated with over 70 people with lived experience of serious mental illness (SMI) and cancer to co-develop eLearning resources aimed at improving cancer care for this group.

Population Health Academy



After a successful inaugural year, **Health Innovation Network KSS** was recommissioned as a key partner in advancing population health by applying a health equity lens by using ten core principles for health equity:

12

Health Equity Fellows

345

system-wide training (webinar) participants

17

Academy sessions



Find out more



Read our blog on how FemTech is an engine for health and growth. **International Women's Day: FemTech an engine for health and growth - The Health Innovation Network**

Learn about Health Innovation Kent Surrey and Sussex's **ten principles for equity for innovators** **Ten principles of health equity for innovators - The Health Innovation Network**



Meeting the productivity challenge

Tackling the productivity challenge requires capability and capacity building. While implementing new digital and AI technologies to improve the NHS' capacity is high on our agenda, supporting creating innovative capabilities in the NHS workforce is equally vital.

Highlights for 2024/25 include:



Digital Fellowships



Health Innovation Kent Surrey Sussex (HI KSS) have co-designed Digital and Innovation Fellowships to equip NHS Trusts, ICBs, and other organisations with the skills and knowledge needed to lead digital transformation. These programmes are co-designed with participating organisations to ensure they meet the unique needs of each organisation.



Tackling Cholesterol Together



HEART UK partnered with the NHS Accelerated Access Collaborative (AAC) and the Health Innovation Network to provide a comprehensive and varied education programme for healthcare professionals. The programme was funded by Novartis. Five roadshows took place over a 3-year period, across the country and included Health Innovation North West, Health Innovation South West, Health Innovation Kent Surrey Sussex and Health Innovation East, who joined forces with charity HEART UK to improve the treatment of cholesterol in their regions. The roadshow series is a national educational initiative aligned with the NHS Long Term Plan and Cardiovascular.



Non-clinical AI



Several health innovation networks collaborated on a project funded by the Health Foundation focused on advancing non-clinical applications of AI. As part of this initiative, we conducted a desktop review of existing non-clinical AI solutions currently available to the NHS. Leveraging our networks, we then identified which of these solutions are actively deployed within NHS settings. From this, we selected a small number of case studies to extract key insights and lessons learned from these early implementations.

Workforce Challenge Hub



The Workforce Challenge Hub is a joint venture between NHS England and Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber. This partnership brings members' workforce and behaviour change expertise from NHS England, with a digital and innovation approach from Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber.



Find out more

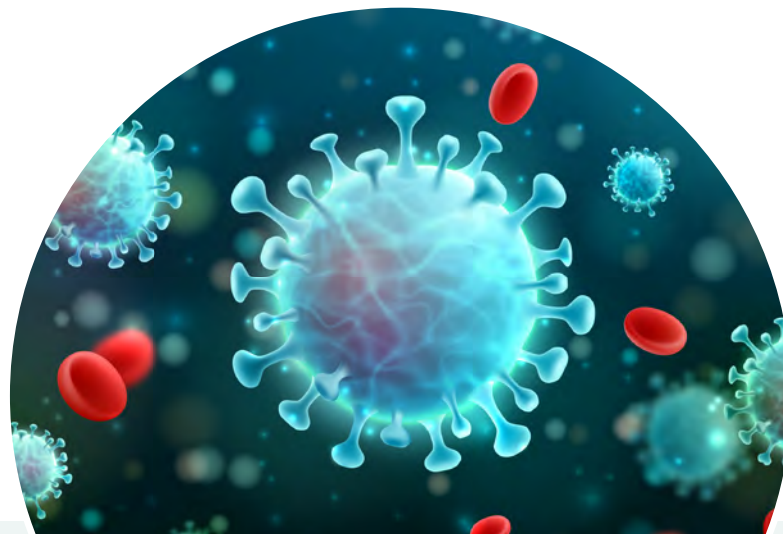


In 2024/25 we also partnered with the Academy of Royal Medical Colleges to find out what front line staff and innovators felt they needed to deliver a more innovative NHS. [Read the report here](#)

Supporting the adoption of NICE recommended MedTech

The MedTech Funding Mandate (MTFM) programme is designed to get selected NICE-approved cost-saving devices, diagnostics and digital products to NHS patients more quickly.

Local funding arrangements are agreed by NHS commissioners and providers to ensure equitable access for patients, while we as a Network support Integrated Care Systems to increase the uptake of suitable products in locally tailored ways.



Find out more >

MedTech Funding Mandate -
The Health Innovation Network

Sickle cell transformation

For 24/25, our primary objective was to ensure the additional resources required to pump prime sickle cell apheresis pathway transformation were allocated and increase the cost of the tariff for sickle cell apheresis treatments, ensuring that the procedure is fully reimbursed through the NHSE Tariff Payment Systems.

National impact

Nearly **£10m** of NHSE funding will flow into sickle cell services in 2025, bolstered by a **40% increase** in the tariff prices (from £1600 to £2335) and £1.5m of funding for 24 new sickle cell apheresis machines provided in 23/24. We estimate that this will make the life-changing treatment available to over 1000 additional sickle cell patients.

Local impact

Health Innovation East worked closely with the NHSE Regional Specialised Commissioning team, NHS BT and local NHSE service providers to develop a system-wide approach. In London, the NHSE London Regional Director of Nursing worked with sickle cell apheresis to optimise both local and system-wide improvements. In the North of England, Health innovation networks in Yorkshire & Humber, Manchester, North East North Cumbria and North West Coast, worked with the NHSE North West and North East regional teams and all local sickle cell service providers to develop their regional approach.

Future plans

The NHS Innovation Research and Life Sciences Strategy team and Health Innovation Network will continue to monitor local sickle cell patient access to sickle cell services. Longer-term, the Health Innovation Network hope to use the experience of delivering this programme as a launchpad for tackling health and healthcare inequalities at scale.

Improving access to innovative procedures

Since 2022, work through 22/23 and 23/24 aligned objectives with the NHS Get It Right First Time (NHS GIRFT) team, to deliver increased patient access to a wider range of NICE-recommended treatment options for benign prostatic hyperplasia and catalysed local alignment between urology service commissioners and providers, to offer a wider patient choice at each of England's 48 Urology Area Networks.

National impact

Across England's 48 Urology Area Networks, 24 are now offering all patients access to at least 4 of the different procedure options, with all 48 offering at least 2 of the different procedure options.

Local change

Health Innovation Yorkshire and Humber took a data-driven approach, developing a data dashboard to help ICS stakeholders understand which technologies could be the most impactful so they could better target their implementation efforts. Health Innovation Manchester worked at system level to secure patient access to all four NICE recommended procedures.

Future plans

The Health Innovation Network has written a detailed report document some of its key findings from talking a system-wide approach across multiple providers to technology implementation. The learnings from this approach will be embedded in future medical technology implementation and scale programmes.

Inspiring patient-led healthcare

Ensuring that healthcare innovation is shaped by the people it serves remains a pressing priority – one made all the more important by the growing emphasis on health equity in the 10 Year Health Plan. Patient and Public Engagement and Involvement remains a theme for all 15 health innovation networks, who collaborate and share learning as part of our Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) forum. Here are some local examples of work from across the 15:



ICHP and Ipsos UK were commissioned to deliver an innovative engagement programme on the future of primary care in London. This comprehensive and inclusive process brought together clinical leaders and 40 front-line staff before culminating in a deliberation with 100 Londoners. Participants co-produced a set of informed expectations for NHS decision-makers relating to:

- **Access and triage**
- **Continuity vs. convenience and the role of patient choice**
- **Workforce innovation, including the role of neighbourhood teams.**
- **Proactive care and enhancing population health to support prevention.**

The insights are feeding into local, ICB and regional strategies to make sure they are driven by the needs and insights of people in London.



Find out more



Read the case study on ICHP's website: [Full deliberation report](#)

Health Innovation
North East and
North Cumbria



Health Innovation North East and North Cumbria (HI NENC) is part of a collaboration between regional NHS partners to deliver a Secure Data Environment for its 3.2m population. The team at HI NENC worked with a group of public members who were recruited onto the programme to help advise and shape how they work with the public. A sub-group of these public members co-produced and fed back into the development and design of public facing communication materials. The public members helped shape the key messages, the brand identity and all the materials.



Find out more



Communications toolkit:
Secure Data Environment - North East and North Cumbria NHS
How we are working with the public:
How we are working with the public - North East and North Cumbria NHS

Health Innovation
Wessex



Health Innovation Wessex has been supporting local systems to advance women's health, driven by the government's Women's Health Strategy: Call for Evidence which received nearly 100,000 responses from women in England. Feedback from local systems, also highlighted several issues leading to the publication of the **Women's Health Strategy for England** - GOV.UK (DHSC, July 2022). Across both systems, organisations collaborated to address concerns and explore local solutions. Digital surveys engaged the public, with Hampshire and Isle of Wight focussing on period pain and menstruation, while Dorset covered the 12 areas outlined in the strategy. Both surveys received significant engagement with over 1,900 responses in total. In addition to the survey, both systems engaged public representation within steering groups and projects and engaged over 30 community groups. In Dorset, they held multiple focus groups (approx. 50 attendees), symposiums (approx. 180 attendees), and workshops integrating representation from the public. Insights directly shaped programmes, with content on pelvic health, gynaecology and menstrual health prioritised for a new resource website in Dorset and additional menopause education and information was developed in response to the feedback received.



Find out more



This year, we also partnered with the Patients Association on a new report: **Forging a more equitable future through Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement**

Supporting the NHS' Net Zero ambition through our support to innovators

Here are a selection of this year's Net Zero focussed programmes from across the Network.

Apos Medical Device offers Substantial Carbon Savings



Alongside AposHealth, Health Innovation Kent Surrey Sussex conducted a sustainability assessment of the Apos device, an FDA-cleared medical shoe clinically proven to reduce the symptoms of knee osteoarthritis. Apos offers a non-invasive, personalised treatment that alleviates pain by retraining gait and redistributing weight away from painful areas. By decreasing the need for knee replacement surgeries, Apos contributes to significant carbon savings within the NHS. At each adoption rate, ranging from 5% to 50%, whilst there is an initial carbon cost for manufacturing and distributing the Apos device, the carbon savings from avoiding surgery outweigh the carbon cost significantly: the savings range from **1,000 to 10,000 tonnes of CO₂e**, depending on the adoption rate.



[Read more](#)



Read the [full report here](#)

Reducing Gas Waste in NHS Trusts and exploring procurement of indirect PPAs



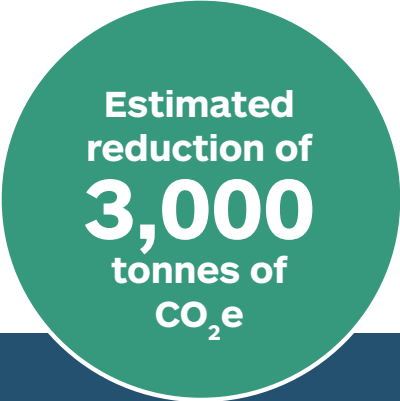
Nitrous oxide, a potent greenhouse gas, makes up over 80% of NHS medical gas emissions, with 75–99% wasted due to pipeline leaks and other forms of waste. In partnership with NHS England, UCLPartners developed the Nitrous Oxide Waste Reduction Toolkit. This explains how to reduce nitrous oxide waste, featuring input and insights from **70+ stakeholders** across **20 NHS trusts**. It includes comprehensive recommendations for multiple use-cases and clinical areas, including switching to portable cylinders. The toolkit has been accessed **over 1,000 times**. Accompanying the toolkit, we delivered a webinar series attended live by **47 trusts**, with recordings accessible for continued reference and use.

UCLPartners are also supporting University College Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (UCLH) to procure the NHS's first indirect Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). This is a contract for green, renewable electricity supplied through the National Grid. Electricity accounts for 50% of UCLH's direct (owned) emissions, and costs are rising as consumption continues to grow. UCLP's economic modelling run in partnership with UCLH, Real Zero and Akereos, evidences that a cautious 50% wind and solar PPA could save UCLH **£1 million** and reduce carbon emissions by **7,500-8,000 tonnes** yearly, for 10 years. The work addresses accounting and procurement hurdles, with a toolkit in development to support further NHS bodies to consider indirect PPAs in due course.

New Polycystic Ovary Syndrome Test Reduces NHS Carbon Footprint



A new blood test has been developed to help diagnose polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS), a common condition affecting women of reproductive age. The simple test can be incorporated into routine phlebotomy appointments, eliminating the need for an invasive ultrasound scan and an additional hospital visit. The blood test has been included in the recent update to the Rotterdam Criteria for PCOS diagnosis. By simplifying the diagnostic process, the test can reduce waiting times, improve the patient experience and lower the carbon footprint. Health Innovation Oxford and Thames Valley (HIOTV) worked with Roche Diagnostics, who developed the test, to quantify its potential environmental benefits: the estimated overall carbon reduction for the NHS related to switching to the blood test is approximately **3,000 tonnes of CO₂e**.



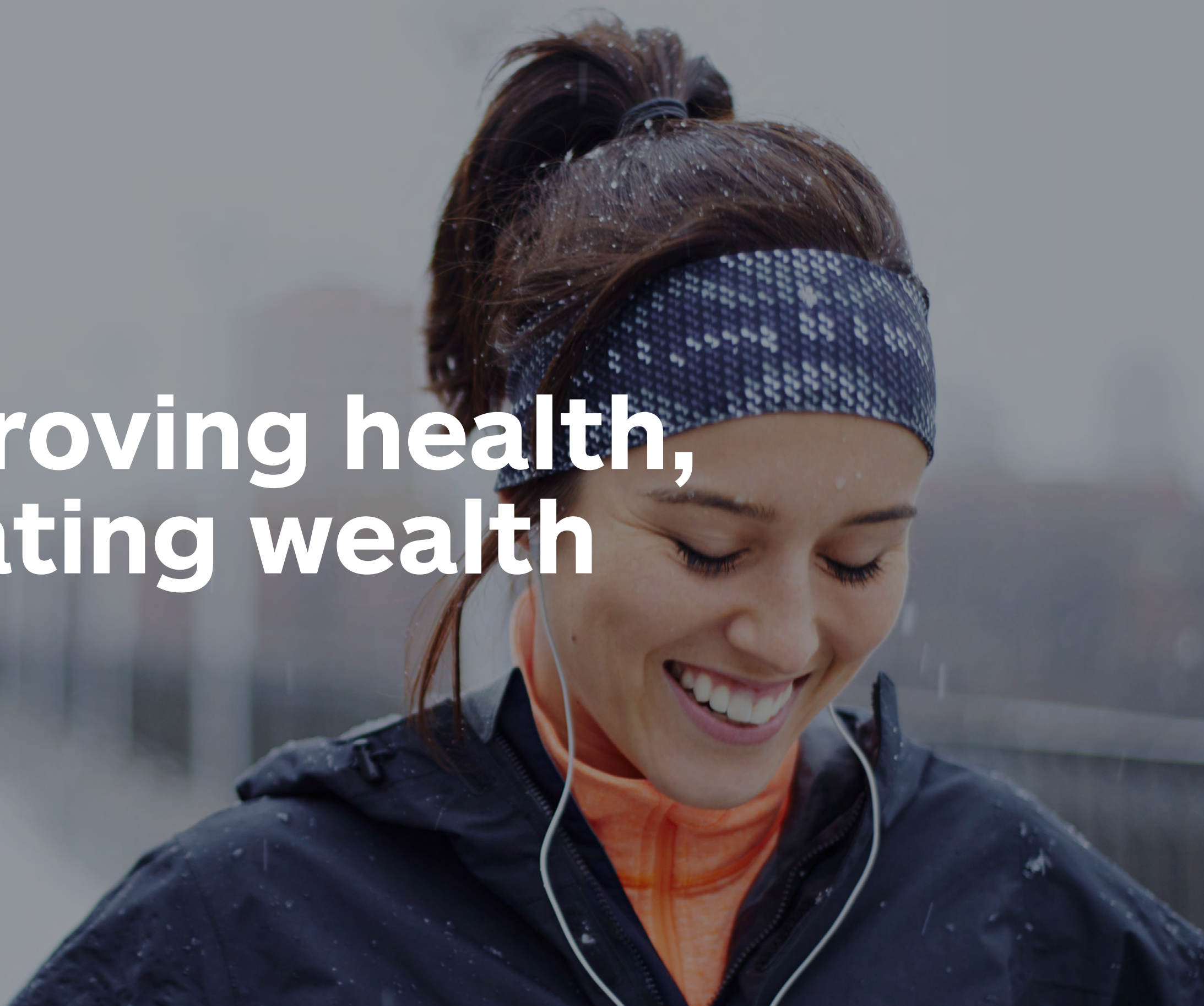
[Read more](#)



Read the [full report here](#)



Improving health, creating wealth



3. Improving health, creating wealth through a thriving life sciences industry

As a Network, we are commissioned by the Office for Life Sciences to provide support to innovators. We curate a national pipeline of over **3100 innovations, new high promise technologies, ideas and medicines**, to find and prioritise the most promising solutions to areas of unmet NHS need.

We support the innovators to prepare their solutions for real world implementation, ensure new solutions are 'adoption ready' for a real-world settings and deliver partnerships with innovators and health and care systems to test the innovation in the real world, prove value and prepare innovation for large scale adoption.

Our innovator support offer includes:

- Help to navigate the NHS
- Signposting to resources
- Market access studies and research
- Developing a value proposition
- Evaluating real-world impact
- Health economic reports / business cases
- Implementation support and advice for adopting organisations
- Grant funding opportunities
- Product development



Curating a national innovation pipeline

In 2024/25, we used our national pipeline to find, test and implement new ideas and technologies that would support the three shifts; treatment to prevention, hospital to community and analogue to digital, and government priorities to get people back to work and tackle health inequalities.

Here are just some examples of the most promising innovations we are supporting that align with these priorities.

“ You can access CARE for MDD from the comfort of your own home environments, using your own smartphone, tablet or PC and at times that suits you. This obviates the need to worry about travel time, mobility issues, or potential social stigma. ”

Patient, 2024.



50%
increase in
thrombectomy
rates and
quicker start to
treatment

Brainomix

Brainomix uses AI image analysis to increase clinicians' confidence to make safe, fast decisions which increase prospects of recovery. Diagnosis is up to an hour quicker and many more eligible patients are getting time-critical thrombectomies following stroke.

Holly Health

A personalised digital health-coaching service. Holly Health caters to a wide range of health conditions, including anxiety, depression, hypertension, heart disease, reduced mobility, weight management, type 2 diabetes, and women's health issues like menopause. With features such as nudges, reminders, habit tracking mood tracking, and in-the-moment support through chat flows, articles, and videos, Holly Health provides users with the tools they need to succeed, reducing the number of GP appointment some patients required.

Remcare

End-to-end digital platform for early patient triage, pre-operative assessment and remote monitoring of adult and paediatric patients on elective waiting lists.

Transforms the perioperative clinical pathways offering tailored care for patients depending on risk profile, needs and demands rather than length of wait.

**Up to
40%**
increase
in patients
throughput

PinPoint

PinPoint are building a new generation of tools for cancer detection - an AI upgrade to blood testing that predicts a patient's risk of cancer when they first present with symptoms. The PinPoint Test promises a more cost effective, focused and impactful urgent cancer referrals system. It is designed to optimise NHS '2 week wait' urgent referral pathways. It ruled out up to 20% of symptomatic patients at the start of the urgent suspected cancer referral pathway, reclaiming capacity for those at higher risk to move more quickly through to investigation.

Rejoyn: CARE for MDD

Evidence-based digital therapeutic, non-pharmaceutical alternative to treating clinical depression. It targets the neural networks implicated in depression and is delivered as a smartphone application. It is intended to be used alongside standard of care and be supported by a Healthcare Professional and could widen the current treatment offer.

PRO-MAPP

Decision support to optimise the clinic triage pathway for high volume, low complexity orthopaedic cases. It allows a more personalised approach to the needs of patients on the hip and knee surgical waiting list. Reduces surgery cancellation rates and preoperative appointment cancellations, leading to better resource utilisation and cost savings. All patients surveyed were either satisfied or very satisfied with their visit.

70%
of patients
assessed suitable
for a telephone
consultation



Treatment to
prevention



Hospital to
community



Analogue
to digital



Economic
inactivity



Health
inequity

One to few, to many



To support innovation adoption nationally, we first demonstrate the value of innovations at local, regional and sub-national scale. Here are just some of the innovations being tested, implemented and scaled across parts of England through Network collaboration in 2024/25.

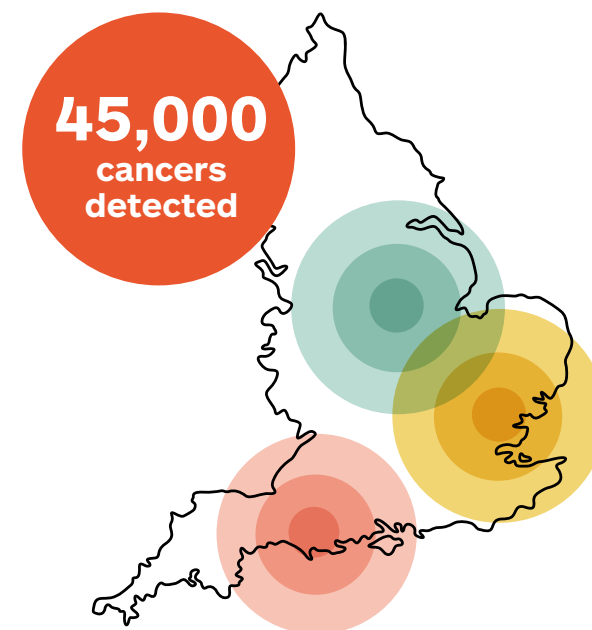
Improving cancer detection with AI

C the Signs is an integrated clinical decision-support system that assesses a person's risk of developing cancer, assisting healthcare professionals to spot cancer at an earlier stage - improving survival and helping people live longer, healthier lives. The Class 1 Medical device has an algorithm that analyses a patient's electronic medical record and patient-reported data, checking for combinations of signs, symptoms, risk factors, clinical markers and other information to support GPs to make suspected cancer referrals and even suggest an appropriate diagnostic pathway. Implementation of the device, supported by three health innovation networks, has led to a **12.3% increase in cancer detection rates** across population of **420k** in East of England, a **15% reduction** in emergency presentation rates in South Yorkshire and supported **49,702 cancer referrals** as part of a pilot in Dorset. Health economic modelling predicts in an ICB with a pop. **1 million** patients using C the Signs would gain **£1.56m savings** from earlier cancer diagnosis and an additional **£128,000 savings** from avoiding unnecessary referrals.

C the Signs is currently available to a population of **10m** across over **1400 GP surgeries**, but has raised **£8m** investment from US investor Khosla to scale further across the UK and internationally.

“With strong engagement from primary care and invaluable support from Health Innovation East, we've been able to significantly expand our reach across the region...Today, we're supporting over 2 million patients in the East of England and reaching 10 million patients nationally—empowering GP practices to make real strides in early cancer diagnosis and improving patient outcomes.”

Dr Bea Bakshi, CEO & Co-Founder, C the Signs.



Digital self-management for MSK conditions

getUBetter is a self-management digital support tool suitable for **80% of patients** with MSK or pelvic health conditions. It has been proven to reduce the need for prescriptions, follow-up appointments, referrals, and physiotherapy waiting lists. Evaluation of its implementation demonstrated **20% fewer physiotherapy referrals, 13% fewer GP appointments, 40% fewer physio appointments, 50% fewer prescriptions, 66% less urgent and emergency care attendance**. In addition, 50% of patients on a physio waiting list no longer needed an appointment. An independent economic evaluation has demonstrated a potential cost saving of up to **£1.96m** per year per integrated care system using getUBetter with back pain alone, and for every £1 spent, getUBetter saves £4.20 (NHS MSK Digital Playbook case study).

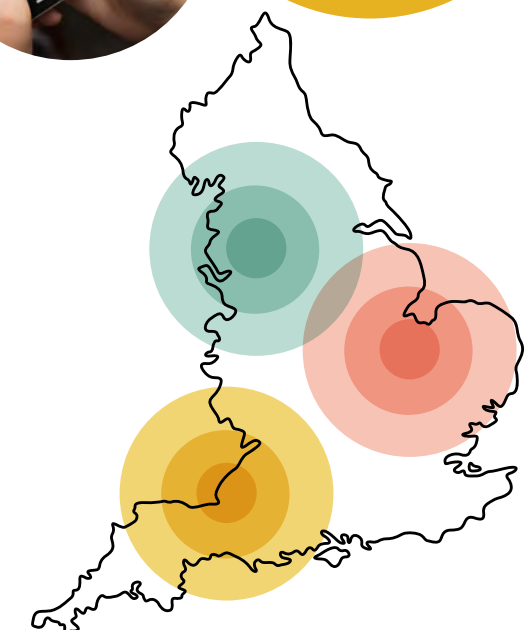
The company has received wide ranging support from **six health innovation networks** including evaluation support, early stage development, regional engagement, funding, and adoption support. They are also an NHS Innovation Accelerator fellow and DigitalHealth.London Accelerator alumni. Available across **40%** of the country, across **17 integrated care systems (ICSSs)**, to a total eligible population of over **20m people**.

“Health Innovation West of England provided us with a good introduction to business and operating in the NHS and provided insight to improve strategy.”

Dr Carey McClellan,
Founder and CEO
of getUBetter



A potential saving of up to
£1.96m
per year per
integrated care
system



Supporting innovators, in partnership

We are proud to work with our IRLSS partner programmes to support the discovery, development and scaling of innovators across the NHS.

NHS Innovation Service



We are a partner in the NHS Innovation Service, led by the Accelerated Access Collaborative. The online service enables the speedier review and assessment of innovations, supporting innovators to get quicker access to help from 11 support organisations with the experience, knowledge and expertise in developing and supporting wide-spread adoption of healthcare innovations in the UK. Everyone who registers with the NHS Innovation Service completes an innovation record, which captures information about an innovation, and the record goes through the Needs Assessment Service – a team of innovation experts from the Health Innovation Network who assess the submission and give bespoke recommendations for support. Since launching in 2022, more than **1,300 innovations**, from **45 countries**, have been supported via the service, including **172 products** given a route to market by NHS Supply Chain.

In 2024/25

507 Needs Assessments were completed

Clinical Entrepreneurs Programme



In 2025, the NHS Clinical Entrepreneur Programme (CEP) continued to drive innovation, supporting over **1,500 entrepreneurs** and launching its ninth cohort. It also marked the second year of the Patient Entrepreneur Programme and the launch of the Dementia Innovators Programme in partnership with Alzheimer's Society - its first collaboration with a health charity. Over the past eight years, the CEP has created **592 start-ups**, raised **£1.1 billion** in funding, and built over **200 partnerships***. Through education, mentorship, and collaboration, the programme is developing a future-ready NHS workforce and delivering real-world impact across the UK and Ireland.

“*The Clinical Entrepreneur Programme is a cornerstone of NHS workforce development - equipping staff with the skills, confidence and networks to lead innovation. This year, we welcomed over 223 new entrepreneurs into our growing community, whose work has already reached millions of patients and professionals, created hundreds of start-ups, and helped shape a more resilient, future-ready NHS.*”

Professor Tony Young OBE, National Clinical Lead for Innovation, NHS England, Professor of Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Anglia Ruskin University.

In 2024/25

£1.1bn funding raised
3,523 Occurrences of organisations adoption
Clinical Entrepreneur innovations

Small Business Research Initiative



SBRI Healthcare helps the NHS address unmet health and care needs by providing funding and support to early-stage innovations for technology development and business feasibility testing, and to more mature products for real world implementation studies. In the financial year 2024 - 2025, the SBRI Healthcare Programme awarded **£13.8 million** of funding to **52 innovations** across six NHS England focus areas: Women's health, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), Child health, Urgent and Emergency Care, Stroke, and work related digital health solutions for individuals with poor mental health. Through funding and support, the programme:

- Improves patient care
- Increases NHS efficiencies
- Enables the NHS to access new innovations that solve identified health and care unmet needs
- Brings economic value and wealth creation opportunities to the UK economy.

“*SBRI Healthcare has been transformative for our business at PocDoc. It has turbo-charged every aspect of our progress within the UK healthcare system and been the bedrock of PocDoc's growth over the last 12 months. The team at SBRI Healthcare have been incredible to work with and being part of the programme has been an absolute pleasure.*”

Steve Roest, CEO & Founder, PocDoc.

In 2024/25

£188m private funding leveraged
5.2m patients involved through sales and trials

Office for Life Sciences



The NHS Innovation Accelerator (NIA), delivered by UCLPartners on behalf of NHS England's Accelerated Access Collaborative, in partnership with the Health Innovation Network, continued to scale impactful healthcare solutions nationally in 2024/25.

This year saw record-breaking growth, our innovations reached over 5.6 million patients, entered 207 new NHS organisations, and collectively generated £23+ million in UK revenue and **£3+ million** in investment. Fellows also created **81 new jobs** and won 34 awards, underscoring their impact on the health system and beyond.

In March 2025, we welcomed our largest-ever intake of Fellows, **28 health and social care innovators**, bringing the total number of Fellows to 53 this year. These individuals are now being supported to spread and scale solutions tackling some of the NHS's most pressing challenges, from workforce to prevention.

Recruitment reached new heights this year too, with a 37% rise in applications and a **200% increase** in shortlisted interviewees, reflecting the growing demand for and visibility of the NIA. We were also proud to be named a Leading Start-up Hub in Europe by the Financial Times, Statista and Sifted, a significant milestone for our UK-grown accelerator.

In 2024/25

Innovations reached over **5.6m** patients, generated over **£23m** in UK revenue and over **£3m** in investment



Read more
NHS Innovation Accelerator (NIA)

A rise of
37%
in job
applications

“The reach and scale of this year's cohort show the strength of our NHS partnerships and what's possible when innovation meets real system need. We're focused on deepening that impact and supporting Fellows to embed their solutions at scale.”

Jack Porter, Co-Director of NHS Innovation Accelerator.



Total of
53
Fellows
in 2025

“This year's Fellows bring incredible energy and impact. It's been a privilege so far to support their growth through our events, sessions and community.”

Mindy Simon, Co-Director of NHS Innovation Accelerator.



4

Partnering for success

1. Introduction

2. Local change,
national impact

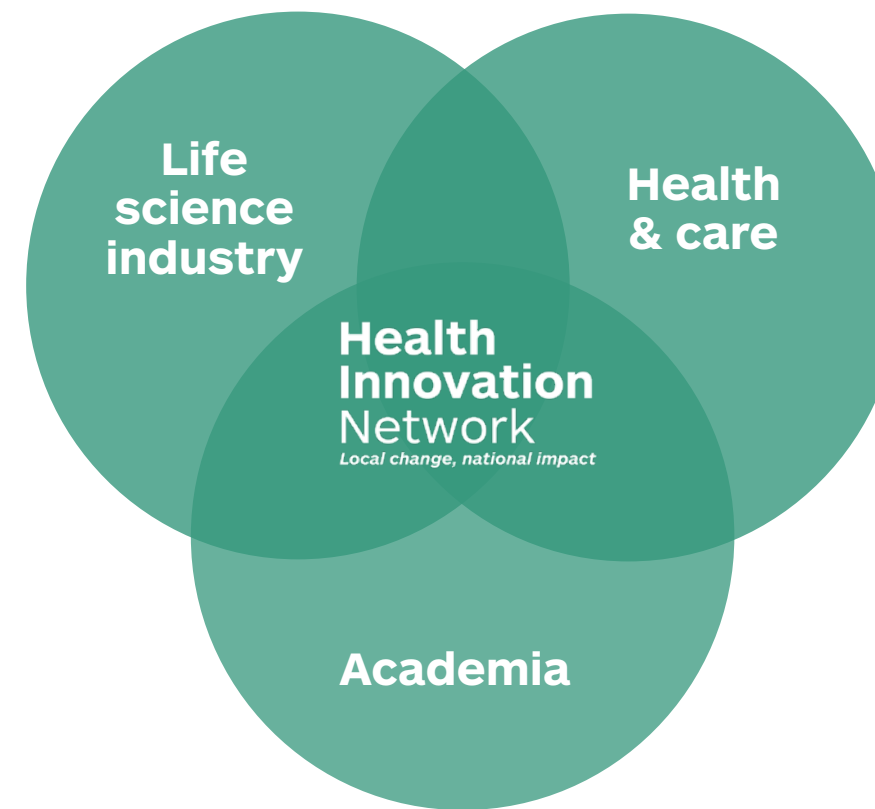
3. Improving health,
creating wealth

**4. Partnering
for success**

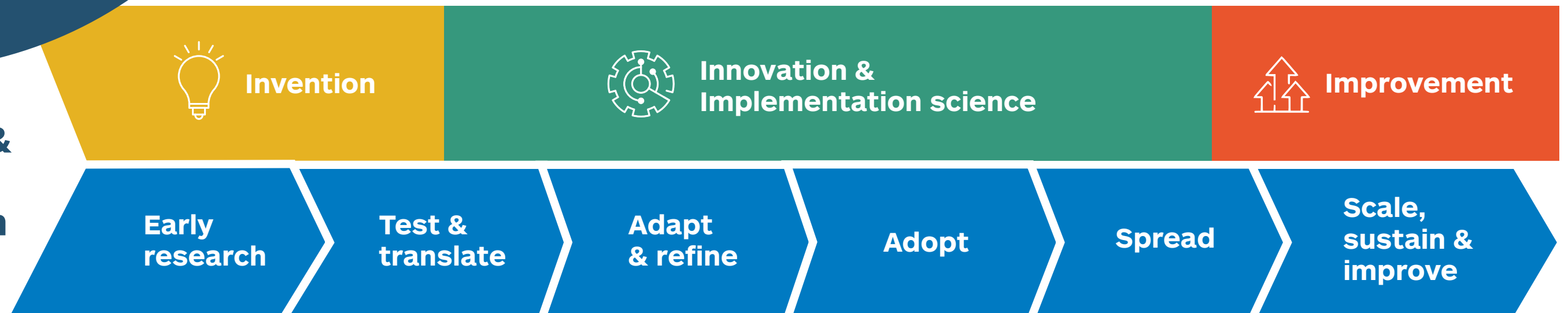
5. Your local
network

4. Partnering for success

While we work specifically in the innovation and implementation space, all our work is delivered in partnership, maximising the impact of innovation at national, regional and local levels across the research and innovation ecosystem.



Research & innovation ecosystem



NHS
Innovation Service

SBRI
HEALTHCARE

BIVDA

Health Innovation Network
NHS
England
NHS Innovation Accelerator

C CANCER RESEARCH UK

Roche

ABHI
HealthTech for Life

abpi
Bringing medicines to life

NOVARTIS

NHS
England
Office for Life Sciences

Accelerated Access Collaborative

NICE National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

NHS Confederation

NIHR National Institute for Health Research

IQVIA

AstraZeneca

The Health Foundation

British Heart Foundation



NICE National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

In 2024/25 we continued to work with **NICE** to inform a key workstream in the Innovation Ecosystem Programme (IEP), co-developing a series of enabling hypotheses which form part of the IEP's recommendations. We also worked across the Innovative Devices Access Pathway (IDAP) and Early Value Assessment programmes, and continued to support the implementation of NICE-recommended technologies through the MedTech Funding Mandate, sharing insights gathered to inform current and future guidance development.

We worked closely with the **ABPI** and **ABHI** to better highlight our support offer to industry, including through webinars and bespoke briefings for their memberships and visa versa.

We worked with the **Health Foundation** to explore how non-clinical AI can be used and spread responsibly in the NHS. This work included a desktop review of existing non-clinical AI solutions currently available to the NHS, identification of places they are actively deployed within NHS settings and creation of a selection of case studies to extract key insights and lessons learned from these early implementations.

NIHR | National Institute for Health and Care Research

Locally, health innovation networks work closely with Research Delivery Networks, Applied Research Collaboratives and Healthcare Research Centres, often through joint posts, to improve the translation of research into clinical practice, advising and signposting innovators to the best support agencies through the NHS Innovation Service. Nationally, we are co-developing a series of case studies to support better signposting of the relationship between research and innovation.



the patients association

NHS
England

Academy of
Medical Royal
Colleges

TheKing'sFund

We developed a series of reports on how innovation can support creating a more equitable future for health care, including instalments on **policy and partnership**, supported by the **King's Fund** and **NHS England**, and **patient and public involvement and engagement**, in partnership with **the Patient's Association**.



We also worked with the **Academy of Royal Medical Colleges** to deliver workshop for frontline staff on delivering more, with less, through innovation. The findings of this **report** are being used to engage national stakeholders in frontline views towards innovation.





Your local network

Health Innovation Network

Local change, national impact

5. Your local network

There are 15 health innovation networks (formerly Academic Health Science Networks) across England. Each health innovation network is fully-embedded in their local health and research ecosystem.

This drives economic prosperity and growth in all parts of the country, and ensures that everyone benefits from innovation.

Explore each individual network’s impact report, and get in touch with your local network to find out how they can support you.



Your local network

Health Innovation East

Health Innovation East 

Adopting proven innovations at scale is essential for the NHS to meet current challenges and to deliver the health service of the future.

In 2024/25 we intensified our efforts to support the NHS in achieving its three major 'shifts' – moving care from hospital to the community, treatment to prevention and analogue to digital. To realise this vision, we have supported the implementation of innovations that enhance system efficiency and tackle priority health needs - improving health outcomes, enabling cost savings and generating investment in the East of England.

Notable successes this year include our leadership on the Transforming Wound Care Programme which demonstrated a high cost-benefit ratio of £27.60 per £1 invested and significantly improved lower limb healing rates. We continued our cardiovascular disease work, with 97,000 more patients receiving lipid-lowering therapy across our region. We also marked the launch of the East of England Secure Data Environment which offers approved researchers, working on approved projects, secure access to anonymised NHS healthcare data for research purposes.

Over the next year we will continue supporting evidence-based innovations that address our health system's most pressing needs.



Piers Ricketts
CEO, Health Innovation East

“The leading health and life sciences sector in the East enables us to support and scale proven innovations that transform the way healthcare is delivered.”

An extra
129,215
hypertensive patients
treated to target
levels in the East

14 of 16
NHS sites worked
with us to pilot
and implement
Martha's Rule
in the East



**Read more
in our Impact
Report**

Health Innovation East Midlands

Health
Innovation
East Midlands 

We aligned our work with the government's three shifts, continuing to provide high quality innovation support – our aim is to help our NHS and care partners drive transformative change, enabling efficiencies and enhancing productivity.

We introduced our Innovation Fund, supporting healthcare organisations to address barriers and implement innovations, focusing on NHS challenges such as waiting lists, primary care and cardiovascular disease prevention.

We maintained a varied portfolio comprising over 100 innovation projects, including transforming wound care, medicines safety, maternal and neonatal care, mental health, and optimising detection and treatment of cardiovascular disease.

We played a key role in helping companies and entrepreneurs develop, commercialise, and scale their great ideas, supporting 397 innovations from early-stage technologies through to those ready to implement across the NHS.

We also provided innovators with access to support programmes including our Innovation Academy and Grow Digital Health Programme; these proved so successful that both have expanded beyond the East Midlands.



Nicole McGlennon
Managing Director,
Health Innovation East Midlands

“We supported dozens of healthcare organisations; building understanding of our region's healthcare needs and evolving our work to address challenges and help transform care across our diverse populations.”

£53.7m
value to the health
system, achieved
against funding
of £4.93M

More than
250,000
patients positively
impacted through
our work



**Read more
in our Impact
Report**

Imperial College Health Partners Health Innovation



In 2024/25, we've worked with partners to deliver a mission-led approach to innovation, focusing on Cardiovascular Disease, enabling more days at home, and children and young people's mental health.

We've onboarded nine Implementation Sites to test cutting-edge innovations that align with these Missions, generating evidence in real-world settings to support spread and scale.

We've ensured that national programmes and innovator support are grounded in the needs and priorities of our system - by translating national policy into local delivery, we're ensuring that finite resources are deployed where they can achieve greatest impact. We've also maintained a strong focus on patient safety, particularly through hosting the NWL Patient Safety Collaborative, and embedding a focus on health equity across all our work.

We've continued to build the system's capability to create the best conditions for innovation to have impact by focusing on four key enablers: evaluation, qualitative and quantitative insights, connecting and supporting innovators, and upskilling clinical leaders.

We're grateful to our members and partners across the NHS, Local Authorities, academia, industry, and the voluntary sector, who continue to work with us to unlock the potential of innovation to improve health outcomes.



Dr Dominique Allwood, CEO
Imperial College Health Partners

“ We've taken deliberate steps to ensure our work is aligned with both national priorities and local realities, working collaboratively with the system to deliver a mission-led approach to innovation. ”

123
practices across 19 PCNs and 6 boroughs supported as part of The National Lipid Programme Workforce Support Solution

242
patients and members of the public engaged across our work, including two Lived Experience Partners



Read more
in our Impact Report

Health Innovation Kent Surrey Sussex



This year, Health Innovation Kent Surrey Sussex (KSS) has delivered 58 innovative programmes targeting critical areas within the health and care system, including cardiovascular disease, patient safety and polypharmacy.

Health equity has underpinned all aspects of our work, and our resources were viewed over 8,600 times. We have supported systems to use digital, data, and AI technologies to boost productivity, address rising demand, and improve patient outcomes.

Recognising the vital connection between health and wealth, we have supported innovations that generate employment opportunities and stimulate economic growth in our region. Throughout 2024-25, we have provided advice and guidance to 414 diverse high-growth innovators aligned with local needs.

Our progress has been made possible through the invaluable support of our commissioners and partners. Over the past year, we have continually strengthened relationships with health and care professionals, academia, researchers, innovators, industry stakeholders, patients, and caregivers, and have deepened collaboration with our three local Integrated Care Systems (ICSs)



Professor Hatim Abdulhussein
CEO, Health Innovation
Kent Surrey Sussex

“ We stand ready to support the delivery of the upcoming NHS Ten Year Plan by continuing to accelerate the spread of innovation and connect people to transformative ideas. ”

75
stakeholders engaged and 13 innovators showcased through Primary Care Innovation Panels

Successful SBRI awards supported **£1.2m** across 3 projects



Read more
in our Annual Review

Health Innovation Manchester



This has been a pivotal year as we move closer to realising our vision of becoming world-leading in improving the lives of local people, transforming care, and boosting the economy through innovation.

This comes against a backdrop of immense pressure on health systems, both globally and locally. Challenges such as poor population health and inequalities continue to fuel demand for services. But they are the problems that innovation can help to address.

We have launched an ambitious mission to harness innovation to tackle cardiovascular-renal-metabolic (CVRM) disease, a significant disease burden causing considerable economic impact. We are forming alliances with healthcare and industry to address these with a particular focus on underserved communities.

The Health Innovation Accelerator (HIA) exemplifies this approach, leveraging circa £30m of public/private funding to accelerate risk stratification and diagnostics for communities at high risk of developing the diseases, as well as unlocking the potential of genomics to enable precision medicine.



Prof Ben Bridgewater,
Chief Executive,
Health Innovation Manchester

“ We have continued to improve the lives of local people, transform care and boost the GM economy through innovation. We are excited about the momentum we’re seeing as we build opportunities to make greater impact at scale through industry partnerships driving disease prevention with equity. ”

30m
secured in public/
private funding,
29 high value jobs
created, and 50+
jobs sustained

Over
24,000
healthcare professionals
access over 380,000
patient records each
month to support better
informed direct care.



**Read more
in our Impact
Report**

Health Innovation North East and North Cumbria



Health Innovation North East and North Cumbria (HI NENC) has continued to work collaboratively with partners across the region to accelerate innovations that improve population health outcomes, support our economy and reduce health inequalities. As the health and social care landscape is rapidly evolving to address the needs of our communities, including improving patient safety and ensuring equitable access to healthcare, innovation stands as a pivotal force driving progress and improvement.

To enable HI NENC to address key challenges, we work closely with system partners to harness and develop creative ideas and solutions originating from both the NHS and industry sectors. Over the last year, we have supported many innovators with the development and adoption of life changing innovations through our Innovation Pathway.

We will continue to strengthen our position within the region’s health ecosystem and play a leading role in ensuring value adding life and wellbeing innovations are adopted and spread with the ultimate goal of improving the health and wealth of our region.



Dr Nicola Hutchinson,
Chief Executive Officer
HI NENC

“ HI NENC continues to focus on finding, testing and implementing the best new solutions to tackle NHS challenges, drive economic growth and support the reduction of health inequalities, in the North East and North Cumbria. ”

Over
500
healthy heart checks
delivered to people
from underserved
communities in
Middlesbrough as
part of the InHIP
programme

£1m
in funding secured
to support 18 quality
improvement and
service redesign
projects.



**Read more
in our Impact
Report**

Health Innovation North West Coast



Our health service has experienced a period of turbulence in recent months which has left the exact outlines of the future NHS landscape unclear.

But we can say with confidence that innovation will be key to the future of care for the more than four million people who live in our region. Prof Sir Stephen Powis, National Medical Director at NHS England, said as much when he delivered the keynote speech at our North West Coast Research and Innovation Awards. The awards are themselves tangible evidence that the spirit of innovation is thriving in our region.

We can point to numerous examples of how we've driven the adoption and spread of transformative innovations in the past year. They illustrate how we act as a bridge between our community of innovators and the health and care organisations who stand to benefit from their work. That in turn has a positive impact on local economies.

The 15 health innovation networks are well placed to support the Government's ambition to deliver three shifts in healthcare – from analogue to digital, from treatment to prevention, and from hospital to community. I'm confident we'll make considerable progress in that direction in the coming year.



Dr Phil Jennings,
Chief Executive, Health Innovation
North West Coast

“We act as a bridge between innovators and the organisations who stand to benefit from their work. That in turn has a positive impact on local economies.”

1,250
people referred
to a specialist
service for familial
hypercholester-
olaemia

Nearly
700
people have been
put on a pathway
to improve their
respiratory health



**Read more
in our Annual
Review**

Health Innovation Oxford and Thames Valley



Now more than ever the adoption and scaling of innovation and new ways of working are not optional – they're essential. We are at the forefront of making that happen.

Much of our work this last year has focused on supporting the development, implementation and evaluation of diagnostic and digital technologies that enable pathway transformation.

We supported identification and early development of innovation in areas of unmet need – for example, improving the accuracy of echocardiography to identify coronary artery disease.

We undertook real world evaluations of early adoption of promising innovations – for example, evaluating the potential of a digital health platform to help patients manage prostate cancer symptoms.

And we accelerated the deployment of proven innovations – for example, using AI imaging and pathway optimisation to increase access to stroke treatment.



Professor Gary Ford
CEO, Health Innovation Oxford
and Thames Valley

“Our population is growing and ageing. Demand on the NHS is increasing. We can only face these challenges by harnessing innovation. HINs are at the heart of this transformation.”

10,578
patients benefited
from our work

337
healthcare
innovators
supported



**Read more
in our Impact
Report**

Health Innovation Network South London



Hospital to community: The latest cohort of our cardiometabolic fellowship resulted in 1,282 patients' notes reviewed and 848 patient consultations. The number of care homes using London's Universal Care Plan has doubled after we co-designed new resources to accelerate adoption.

Analogue to digital: We helped the NHS leverage opportunities for digitalisation by producing market reviews (including mental health and cancer pathways, elective recovery and non-clinical AI) leading to trials for procurement in our ICBs. Our DigitalHealth.London programme engaged with more than 415 companies across our six projects.

Sickness to prevention: We contributed to 446 physical health checks being given to people with serious mental illness (SMI) and an eight-month waiting list reduction at one of our hospitals following the work of three specialist CVD pharmacists.

Demonstrating impact of innovations continued with evaluations published into piloting national approaches to childhood hearing testing in special schools, transformation of London's 111 service, and a health economics tool for virtual wards.



Dr Rishi Das-Gupta,
CEO Health Innovation Network
South London

“Through innovations we see the impact of AI and machine learning on improving efficiency, reducing administrative burden and releasing more time for patient care.”

£1m
funding shared
by 10 companies
from the national
Accelerating
FemTech
programme

**16 jobs created,
30 pilots/contracts
started and £430k
in follow up funding
secured by
companies on the
national Mindset
programme**



**Read more
in our Annual
Review**

Health Innovation South West



Everything we do is shaped by the people who live and work in the South West, a rural and coastal region with distinctive health challenges.

Much of what we do in response to these challenges is focused on three big shifts across health and care - moving care closer to home and into communities; focusing more on prevention, so people can stay well and independent for longer; and making better use of digital tools and technologies.

We've helped to spread an innovative neonatal pathway (NOAH) that's reducing hospital stays for newborns and real-world tested a digital tool (Careloop) to help predict relapse in people with severe mental illness. We've also supported the rollout of rapid diagnostic tools for use in the community and urgent care, while working with our partners to establish the South West Secure Data Environment - an innovative approach to conducting health and care research that's faster, safer and more secure.

As part of the Peninsula Research & Innovation Partnership we are continuing to shape a better future for health and care in our region. The pressures facing health and care services are huge but we're making real progress.



Jon Sdidall
CEO, Health Innovation
South West

“Over the last year we have worked with over 200 partners and innovators across the South West who bring incredible expertise, insight and energy to our shared mission in addressing these regional health challenges and supporting economic growth.”

**Approximately
600,000**
estimated patients
and service users have
benefitted from our
work in the last
five years

**An average of
2.7 hospital days
saved per baby and
a £66.5K annual NHS
cost saving with
innovative neonatal
pathway NOAH**



**Read more
in our Annual
Review**

UCLPartners Health Innovation

Over the last year, we have made great strides in digital innovation, prevention strategies and community-based care.

We have united NHS leaders to **drive AI adoption** in our health systems, **prevented heart attacks and strokes** in our population, and driven a **radical rethink of how the NHS buys its energy supply**. Our work aligns with national priorities to shift healthcare from analogue to digital, sickness to prevention, and hospital to community.

We are health innovation specialists working to create a healthcare system fit for the future. By identifying and scaling the most promising ideas, we tackle major health challenges such as cardiovascular disease, young people's mental health, and climate change, across North Central and North East London.

Now based in Hale House, at the centre of London's emerging health tech district, we are anchoring a £11.7 million initiative to build a world-class innovation cluster. Surrounded by leading hospitals, research institutions, and life sciences pioneers, we're fostering a thriving ecosystem. By supporting top health tech innovators and forging powerful partnerships, we're helping to grow and scale solutions that improve health outcomes in London and beyond.



Dr Chris Laing
CEO, UCLPartners

“ We believe that health innovation is not only critical to the sustainability of healthcare systems but to the health of our people, reducing inequalities, economic growth and wider societal benefit. ”



326
innovators have worked with us and raised **£12.1m**

65%
of unnecessary appointments have been avoided for patients with long-term conditions



Read more in our Impact Report

Health Innovation Wessex

In 2024–25, we continued to build our partnerships with healthcare providers, academia and industry to embed co-produced solutions to health challenges.

We have supported the development of nearly 300 innovations and provided almost 6500 hours of expert help to innovators, creating/safeguarding 63 jobs and contributing to regional and national economic growth.

Strong relationships with our two integrated care systems and 14 member organisations delivered innovation with impact into our communities. We have delivered 12 innovations into clinical settings, and have supported 1,800 professionals to enhance their skills and knowledge through events and training. Nationally, we contributed significantly to the NHS England Innovation Ecosystem Programme (IEP), informing policy through widespread engagement.

This year, an exciting collaboration with the Central and South Genomic Medicine Service Alliance is already advancing genomics education and research, benefiting the health and care of patients. Improving health equity remains a priority; we have supported innovation in screening and diagnosis, and new pathways of care for women and girls. Innovation remains central to transforming health and care services across the region.



Nicola Bent
Chief Executive,
Health Innovation Wessex

“ This year we have continued to meet local healthcare system priorities, shaped national policy, delivered high-quality evaluations and supported the development of almost 300 innovations. ”



6,425
hours of support provided to develop **294 innovations**

12
innovations introduced into new clinical settings



Read more in our Impact Report

Health Innovation West Midlands



This year has marked a pivotal chapter for HIWM, as we accelerated the adoption of impactful solutions that improve patient outcomes and drive economic growth.

We welcomed new appointments to our 15-member Management Board, bringing fresh expertise to support our mission of delivering evidence-based innovations that enhance NHS productivity and reduce waiting times.

We were proud to be involved in the Health Innovation Network parliamentary reception, sponsored by West Bromwich MP Sarah Coombes, highlighting how our collective efforts as health innovation networks are saving over 100,000 NHS staff hours annually. We've strengthened partnerships with policymakers, clinicians, and innovators to ensure equitable access to innovation across the region.

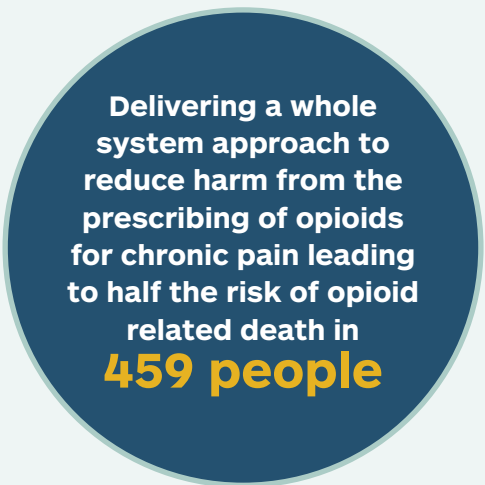
We've also deepened our role as a connector, linking the NHS with academia and industry through initiatives like the Birmingham Health Innovation Campus and the Precision Health Technologies Accelerator.

In 2024, the West Midlands was recognised as one of Europe's top three regions for innovation at the European Capital of Innovation Awards, an honour that reflects the strength of our collaborative ecosystem. As we welcome Jonathan Pearson as our new Chair, we remain committed to shaping a healthier, more innovative future for our communities.



Tim Jones, CEO,
Health Innovation West Midlands

“By connecting NHS organisations with our world-class universities and thriving industry base, we're helping to position the West Midlands as a national leader in health innovation.”



Health Innovation West of England



This year, Health Innovation West of England has benefited the lives of over 14,300 people in our local communities.

We've worked with more than 16,000 health and care colleagues and supported 273 companies with their innovations. These numbers reflect our commitment to accelerating the government's strategic shifts for the NHS.

Our digital health initiatives, including the rollout of the HOME remote blood pressure monitoring service and the Living Well with COPD pilot, are empowering more people to stay well at home.

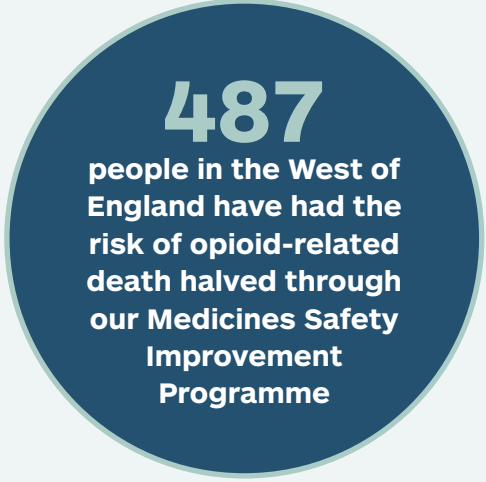
Our pioneering PERIPrem care bundle continues to make a profound difference, caring for over 3,400 premature babies in the South West to date and contributing to the region achieving the country's lowest mortality rate for babies born at less than 32 weeks.

Crucially, we're tackling health inequalities head-on. Our Black Maternity Matters is directly confronting maternal health disparities, while through our leadership of the Health Innovation Network's national Polypharmacy Programme, we are reducing medication-related harm and encouraging better patient conversations, particularly in seldom-heard communities.



Natasha Swinscoe,
CEO, Health Innovation West of England

“We look forward to continuing this vital work, ensuring all communities in the West of England benefit faster from proven innovations in health and care.”



Health Innovation Yorkshire and Humber



We're driving real change in our region, improving patient care, reducing health inequalities and creating meaningful partnerships through our unique Innovation Hub model. Embedding staff with our healthcare systems allows us to adapt our approaches to meet the needs of our NHS partners.

Our Health for Growth campaign, delivered in partnership with NHS Confederation and Yorkshire Universities, promotes the vital role of health in driving economic growth across our region. In our latest YHealth for Growth white paper we found strong evidence that locally-led interventions deliver better outcomes and so we called for central government to continue devolving meaningful health investment and decision-making powers to the region's mayors. With the whole population of Yorkshire and the Humber now under the leadership of locally elected mayors, the potential for progress is significant.

Propel@YH is our flagship accelerator programme helping health innovators to grow their businesses. Now in its sixth year, the programme secured additional funding to expand this year's cohort to 19 companies. They raised £11.4m of investment during their time on the programme and created 22 jobs. We've also been chosen to host the West Yorkshire Mayor's healthtech accelerator which will see Propel@YH grow to support 240 businesses over the next four years.



Richard Stubbs
Chair, Health Innovation Network /
Chief Executive, Health Innovation
Yorkshire & Humber

“There is a health tech revolution taking place in Yorkshire that is creating new jobs and improving patient care. Economic development through a powered-up life sciences sector is a key ambition for all parts of our region. We're really proud to be playing our part in driving transformation and opportunity as we gear up to tackle the ambitions of the NHS 10 Year Health plan.”



**Read more
in our Impact
Report**

Contact us

For more information about our work, visit thehealthinnovationnetwork.co.uk

You can also follow us on social media:



@HealthInnovNet



The Health Innovation Network



@TheHealthInnovationNetwork

Or find **your local health innovation network.**

