Response to NHS Chief Executive’s Open Call for Evidence and Ideas

Respondent ID: 294

Organisation name: Southampton University Hospitals Trust

Type of response: Online
**Respondent ID:**

294

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**Organisation name:**

southampton university hospitals trust

**Please choose the description below that best fits your organisation’s main role:**

NHS other

**What can the NHS and NHS Commissioning Board learn from national and international best practice to accelerate the pace and scale of adoption of innovations throughout the NHS?**

**Specific Actions**

- For innovations to establish and spread there needs to be support to pilot and develop the evidence base and develop a robust business case which can be used to support the implementation at a local level as well as being used to inform commissioning decisions and implementation at a regional and national level.

- Nationally Level – identify areas where technology could deliver in terms of efficiency savings and productivity and then scope out suitable technology solutions. Assess, pilot and develop business cases for these technologies which can then be made freely available to Trusts to use to implement.

- Identify clinical needs – at local, regional and national level and then work with appropriate partners to deliver solutions (innovations do not need to come from within the NHS – knowledge transfer in action) eg. Design Bugs Out, Showcase Hospitals for HCAI.

- Provide a one stop shop for information regarding innovations, technologies etc. Many innovators / Trusts re-invent the wheel as accessing / finding information on what has already been developed / tried is not easy.

- Commissioning tariffs may act as barriers to the adoption of technology solutions as delivering a care pathway in a different manner may impact upon the income to a particular Trust – needs to be a dialogue with Commissioner’s to help address these issues.

Critical to most innovation adoption and dissemination at a local level is:
Innovation champion – individual / team looking to actively pursue the adoption of the innovation.

Project / change management resource – required to maintain momentum and ensure implementation at a local level

Flexibility – no one solution fits all – need a mix of innovations and approaches to suit local settings.

**What specific actions do you think national NHS bodies, such as the NHS National Commissioning Board, need to take to encourage and stimulate the successful and rapid adoption and spread of innovations throughout the NHS?**

**Do you have any further comments about accelerating the adoption and spread of innovation in healthcare?**

**Learning & Examples of Best Practice**

e-edge

E-edge is the culmination of ten years of clinical trials software development within the Central South Coast Cancer Research Network, run from the Cancer Research UK Clinical Centre at the University of Southampton, in collaboration with Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust. The e-edge program, developed by James Batchelor and David Miller, has always pursued a highly collaborative developmental approach, with a strong focus on the needs of end users; actively encouraging users to interact directly with us in the ongoing development of e-edge, to ensure that the systems we provide continue to improve and to provide “better tools for better research”™

Several factors have stimulated user-demand; new challenges facing R&D in the UK, the more detailed reporting needed to secure continued research funding and a broader lack of systems that are fit for purpose. By offering a solution to all these problems, e-edge has a potentially vital role to play in delivering the government’s vision for healthcare research by providing a high-quality research intelligence system.

Developed to meet a local need; the system then became adopted in additional research networks and Trusts in the first instance through word of mouth and more latterly through attendance at appropriate forum such as the R&D Managers forum. The system is under consideration for development as the NIHR Co-ordinating Centre Central portfolio management System and as such would be used nationally across the NHS.

**Smartphone app**

The MicroGuide app, developed by critical care expert Dr Sanjay Gupta, pharmacist Dr Kieran Hand and microbiologist Dr Adriana Basarab at Southampton General Hospital, provides concise information on common infections and which antibiotics are needed to tackle them to help clinicians treat patients with infections.

It is the first medical app in the UK to offer personalised decision-making support at the bedside “something not possible through paper documents currently available on hospital wards.”
In contrast to other healthcare apps currently available, this is not only an educational learning tool but also an interactive aid to decisions being made by doctors and pharmacists on the wards that directly affect the treatment pathway of their patients.

The MicroGuide was developed in response to appeals from junior doctors at Southampton University Hospitals NHS Trust for guidelines in a smartphone format, and is currently available for download on the iPhone, iPad and Android as a native app, which means it sits on the mobile device and does not require internet connection for use.

On registration the app is immediately available to a national audience; although tailored to the specific guidelines at Southampton it provides a model for innovations through the web / smartphone based applications.

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<th><strong>We would like to be able to follow up interesting comments and case studies. Can we contact you for this purpose?</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Do you want to be kept in touch with the next steps in this process?</strong></th>
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<th><strong>Do you want to be included in a wider community of interest?</strong></th>
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<th><strong>What specific actions do you think local NHS bodies, such as providers and Clinical Commissioning Groups, need to take to encourage and stimulate the successful and rapid adoption and spread of innovations throughout the NHS?</strong></th>
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