DIGITAL HEALTHCARE COUNCIL

Hi everyone,

Please see the member update below including anything you might have missed on our Slack channel.

Wishing everyone a nice weekend.

Best wishes,

Helena

Update on DHC activity

- **Health and Social Care Select Committee**
  - The DHC's director Catherine Davies has been appointed a specialist member of the Health and Social Care Committee's expert panel evaluating the government's progress in achieving its commitments made regarding the digitisation of the NHS.
  - We will soon be setting up a session for members to provide evidence about how they are partnering with the NHS so the Committee can see what's working well and what needs to work better to ensure patients and service users get the care they need.
  - Read more about the committee here.

- **The Guardian: How artificial intelligence will boost efficiency in healthcare**
  - This week the DHC along with members Visiba, Babylon and Ada featured in The Guardian newspaper in a piece about the promise of AI in healthcare.
  - You can read the full article here.

- **Welcome to our new members Feedback Medical**
  - We'd like to wish a very warm welcome to the DHC's newest members – Feedback Medical.
  - Feedback Medical produce innovative technology that enhances clinical communication, accessing and storing medical information. Their flagship product is Bleepa, which is changing the way that clinicians discuss patient cases, access information such as medical images and even where they can work from.
  - You can keep up to date with their news and updates via twitter and LinkedIn.

- **Meeting with NHSE Director of Primary Care Transformation**
  - This week the DHC met with NHSE's Director of Primary Care Transformation Minal Bakhai.
  - We discussed the current priorities for Minal's team, including a greater understanding of how digital primary care tools can meet and address the needs of patients and GPs.
  - The DHC will be meeting with Minal on an ongoing basis going forward to understand and shape the work her team are doing.

- **Meeting with the CQC**

- Next week the DHC is meeting with the CQC, part of our ongoing workstream to shape new regulatory approach.
- **Ask for members:** We are still looking for examples of positive or negative regulation. If you have any examples that you are happy to share (either anonymously or attributed) then do let us know by COP Tuesday 18th October.

- **Remote consultations**
  - We are working with the HSJ on a stock take of remote consultation uptake and quality. We are keen for members who offer remote consultations to get involved.
  - Findings from our analysis are attached to this email.
  - If you are interested in finding out more, please let us know.

- **ICS Mini Guide**
  - In case you missed last week's email, I have attached the ICS mini guide to this email.
  - The guide sets out every ICS in England, who its leaders are, the name of the digital and innovation leads and a link to its digital strategy. We've also ranked each ICS on its progress with digital transformation - e.g., if it has a clear, up to date digital strategy and a dedicated digital lead appointed.
  - Please let us know any feedback or any suggestions of similar things you'd like to see in the future.

Member updates

- **Preventx's medical director discusses how digital services can address inequities in sexual health**
  - Preventx's medical director, Dr Vanessa Apea featured in Digital Health this week with a piece about how digital technologies have the potential to reduce barriers in accessing sexual health services.
  - Read the full article here.

- **Teletracking's control room featured in national news**
  - DHC members Teletracking featured in the national news over the past few weeks which showed how their revolutionary tech is reducing waiting times and optimising patient flow in Kent.
  - Read the full story in ITV news here.

- **Ada win German AI prize**
  - Last week Ada health won the German AI prixe for best use of AI in an existing product.
  - Read more here.

- **Elder secure £20m funding boost**
  - This week it was reported that Elder have raised £20m in funding to expand their services and provide a solution to the ongoing social care crisis.
  - Read the full story here.

Contract opportunities

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- **Detained Settings - Mobile Diagnostic and Imaging Services**
    - North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) is a commissioning support service working for and on behalf of NHS England - North East and Yorkshire (Health & Justice) and NHS England - North West (the Contracting Authorities) who are undertaking a procurement to commission Detained Settings - Mobile Diagnostic and Imaging Services for the North East and Yorkshire and North West regions.
    - More information about the opportunity is available here.

- **Market Engagement - Virtual Ward Remote Monitoring - Wearable Devices for NHS Devon ICSD**
    - The Devon Integrated Care System (ICSD) are undertaking market engagement to further develop their virtual ward model and explore options for using remote monitoring, wearable technology at scale to support and enable the care of patients outside the traditional hospital ward.
    - More information about the opportunity is available here.

- **New NHS programme to investigate data sharing in digital mental health tools**
    - NHSE has launched a new tender process to find suppliers to investigate the treatment gap in mental health care
    - Read more about the opportunity here.

Other points of interest

- **Jeremy Hunt appointed as new Chancellor**
    - Jeremy Hunt has been appointed as Liz Truss's new chancellor.
    - Read more here.

- **Healthcare leaders update**
    - The latest healthcare leaders update is available here
    - The update includes:
    - New NHSE operating framework
    - Guidance on COVID-19 and flu vaccination programme
    - World-first national genetic testing service
    - National audit office report on the introduction of integrated care systems
    - Guidance for supporting complex change in ICSs
    - New digital inequalities research
    - NICE resource planning tools
    - Using innovation to optimise the NHS estate
    - And events including:
    - Understanding backlogs in mental health elective recovery
    - Getting ready for patients to access their future data

- **NHS Digital – Opportunities for suppliers**
    - NHS Digital are seeking suppliers to help support 2 areas of their work
    - **Opportunity 1 –** SNOMED CT Implementation – User Research survey
    - **Opportunity 2 -** NHSD Security Architecture – Network segmentation solutions

- o If you'd be interested in contributing to NHS digital guidance and best practice in these areas, you can find more information here.

- **Cabinet office clamps down on trust spending freedom**
  - o HSJ revealed that NHS trusts will have to receive Cabinet Office approval for any clinical and non-clinical spending over £10m.
  - o The new controls will be introduced by NHS England in London first and then rolled out to the other regions over the next two years.
  - o Read the full article here.

- **Patients declining two treatment dates could be struck from waiting lists**
  - o New internal guidance has proposed new rules that could see patients being removed from waiting lists if they decline 2 dates offered to them for treatment
  - o Read the full article here.

- **Supplier sues NHSE over 'defective' procurement process**
  - o A software and IT services supplier is suing the NHS for £6.6m damages because a "defective" procurement system led to it lodging paperwork in the wrong place, excluding its bid for a contract worth up to £144m.
  - o Read the full story here.

- **NHS to recruit over one thousand GP assistants**
  - o More than one thousand GP assistants will be recruited to practices from this month to offer more admin support with the roles already proven to reduce the time GPs spend on tasks such as writing letters by more than two-fifths.
  - o GP assistants will be trained to do blood pressure checks, heart rate and blood tests as well as arranging appointments, referrals and follow-up care for patients.
  - o Read the full story here.

- **NHS innovation accelerator opens applications for its 2023 intake**
  - o The programme is open to applicants from any background, including SMEs, clinical entrepreneurs and academia, with innovations of any type that solve a problem for the NHS.
  - o More information about the programme and how to apply is available here.
  - o The deadline to apply is 28th October 2022

- **NHS digital open API catalogue**
  - o NHS digital are expanding their application programming interface catalogue, which will now be able to include external APIs
  - o Read the blog post here.

- **MHRA and NICE receive funding to explore digital mental health tools**
  - o A £1.8million funding boost has been given to the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) and the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) to go towards exploring regulation of digital mental health tools.
  - o Read the full story here.

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- **NHS Accelerated Access Collaborative launch innovation for healthcare inequalities programme**
  - The Innovation for Healthcare Inequalities Programme aims to support systems to adopt evidenced based innovations to narrow local healthcare inequalities.
  - Read more about the opportunity [here.](#)

Upcoming events:

- **System transformation: enabling ICS leaders to deliver on the digital opportunity**
  - NHS confederation webinar with Matthew Taylor and Saffron Cordery providing a strategic overview for ICBs and exploring the digital opportunities and challenges facing ICS leaders.
  - 17th October 4-5pm
  - Register [here.](#)

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