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Northern Health Science Alliance



ANNUAL  
REVIEW  
2017





# THE NORTHERN HEALTH SCIENCE ALLIANCE IS THE NORTH OF ENGLAND'S HEALTH PARTNERSHIP



## OUR VISION

To end Northern inequality through health research and innovation

## OUR MISSION

Establishing the North of England as an internationally recognised health research system

## OUR WORK

**To grow** visibility of the North's health economy nationally and internationally

**To increase** health research conducted in the North by the private and public sector

**To act** as a conveying body for pan-Northern research collaboration

**To link** Northern IP with investors

## OUR MEMBERS

**8** top research Universities in the North

**8** top research-intensive NHS teaching Trusts

**4** Academic Health Science Networks (AHSNs)



THE HEALTH SCIENCE SECTOR IS ONE OF FOUR 'PRIME CAPABILITIES' FOR AN INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND, 2016 NIER

# FOREWORD

Professor Ian Greer

Chair of the Northern Health Science Alliance

The North of England excels in health innovation – this fact has been recognised in the Life Sciences Industrial Strategy, by the Northern Powerhouse team at BEIS, by research conducted by IPPR North, in the Northern Independent Economic review and by former chancellor George Osborne's Northern Powerhouse Partnership Group.

One of the reasons the region has been recognised for this excellence is due to the work of the Northern Health Science Alliance (NHSA) and the joining together of its key players in health research to maximise the clinical excellence of the region.

This has been a very successful year for the NHSA and I hope that the successes of this health partnership will be seen in the health and wealth of the North, and the UK as a whole, for decades.

This review outlines key successes we've achieved for our membership of NHS teaching Trusts, Universities and AHSNs this year but is the tip of a very deep iceberg that will have an effect on the lives of many for years.

I would like to thank all of those who have supported us over the past months in helping to bring the NHSA's vision to life.



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HEALTH SCIENCE IS £17.5 BILLION OF THE NORTH'S £304BN OUTPUT AND IS FORECAST TO GROW BY 44.6% BY 2030



# KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



The North of England is a region of unrealised potential. This makes it a hugely exciting place to work. A significant part of the Nhsa's work is opening people's eyes to just how exciting that potential is. There are great cities, beautiful countryside, huge ports and a pool of innovative clinicians, researchers, academics and industry with the talent to deliver paradigm-changing shifts in the health and wealth of the region.

At the heart of what we do is helping our members to realise the full scale of the North's health innovation economy through providing ways for the North, and for industry, to collaborate with the region's dynamic clinical research ecosystem.

In this way we hope to increase the health and the wealth of the North, benefiting academia, clinicians, industry partners but most importantly the citizens of the North.

Dr Hakim Yadi OBE  
Chief Executive

- ✿ We've given an international business voice to the North
- ✿ We've helped industry to connect with the North's healthcare system, driving investment
- ✿ We've increased the amount of research funding coming into the North
- ✿ We've helped Government to understand the North's offering in health research
- ✿ We've helped share best practice by setting up expert pan-Northern groups, saving costs and lives
- ✿ We've helped Northern hospitals and universities to stay at the cutting edge of research
- ✿ We've driven Government awareness of health inequality in the North - and offered solutions
- ✿ We've driven positive media coverage of the North's health care offering
- ✿ We've helping create jobs in the North which would otherwise go elsewhere
- ✿ We've given the North a voice in the heart of Government
- ✿ We're driving projects, such as Connected Health Cities, that help improve and save lives



**i**  
THROUGH OUR WORK WE'VE SHOWN THE HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCE ECONOMY IN THE NORTH IS WORTH OVER £17 BILLION TO THE UK ECONOMY



# A VOICE FOR THE NORTH'S HEALTH SCIENCES

- ✿ We have taken the North's Health Clinical Research strength global, with representation in the USA, Japan, Australia, Singapore, Dubai and across Europe
- ✿ This year has seen the NHTA take its seat at the policy table. In November the UK Government brought together a steering group to establish and structure a new life sciences industrial strategy – we're part of that group
- ✿ We've worked with the Northern Powerhouse Partnership to shape their health innovation offering and are continuing to support them moving forward
- ✿ We've worked with politicians of all parties to demonstrate the value of the North's health innovation sector
- ✿ There were 92,654,822 opportunities to see, hear or read about the NHTA in the media – a 1,713% increase on the previous year
- ✿ National coverage was achieved on the Northern Health Science Alliance and North health innovation in the Financial Times, The Times, Huffington Post, The New Statesman, ITV, the BBC, Daily Mail, Daily Express and many others
- ✿ We attended international bioscience conferences, Northern Powerhouse and political party conferences to raise the profile of the NHTA
- ✿ We've grown the profile of health innovation in the North exponentially
- ✿ Coverage continued in the big regional newspapers including Yorkshire Post, Newcastle Journal, Manchester Evening News, Northern Echo and in the health science sector press including DigitalHealth Age, EPN, Bio Portfolio, Hospital Matters, International Pharmaceutical Industry and Lab Bulletin
- ✿ Our social media profile also increased massively. Views on Twitter went up 256%, followers went up 144%. LinkedIn views went up 10,644% and followers 170%
- ✿ We've worked with the Department for International Trade and the Office for Life Sciences on international missions to Japan and the US and directly with inbound companies to identify collaborations and sites for investment
- ✿ We've worked with the Northern Powerhouse team in UK Government to help form their life sciences offering
- ✿ We led a pan-Northern call to action for Government with the Northern Powerhouse Partnership with 36 signatories printed in The Times newspaper
- ✿ Our Day of Action on November 22 was attended by 200 top health sciences leaders from across the North, Government, civil service and industry. Two health ministers spoke in addition to the Chair of NHS England

*With access to the broad cross-section of population and solid relationships with a range of Universities the NHTA acts as a great point of contact for both governments and companies from overseas.*

Professor Steve Myint,  
NHTA board member, doctor, businessman and investor.





# WORKING WITH INDUSTRY

- ✿ The global life sciences industry is waking up to the business opportunities in the North of England thanks to the NHTSA's international outreach work
- ✿ We're working with major pharmaceutical and MedTech companies, such as Abbvie, Grunenthal, Phillips Healthcare, Takeda, Oxford Nanopore and Metabolon. These collaborations are looking to secure million-pound investments in the region
- ✿ The NHTSA has travelled to international global conferences - to give the North's health sciences representation where they've never been before
- ✿ The North's global stature in health sciences has never been so high
- ✿ With outreach in the US we've spoken to the Mayo Clinic and Massachusetts General Hospital, the largest teaching hospital of Harvard Medical School. We've set up links with Advamed the largest MedTech trade body in North America
- ✿ Our business outreach has opened up global conversations
- ✿ In Japan we ran a UK industry event with MedCity with attendees including; Shionogi, Fujifilm and Asahi-Kasei. We initiated relationships with the Japanese BioIndustry Association and the Japanese Health Sciences Foundation among many others



*It's been a pleasure working with the NHTSA team who have facilitated us accessing the expertise across multiple Universities and experts. We have received valuable advice that really helps us to be successful in UK.*

Jaime Essed,  
International Manager, TelePsy.



## BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

- ✿ UK's Oncimmune is working with the NHTSA to secure an SBRI grant for their lung cancer diagnostic unit with Leeds University and Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
- ✿ Canadian digital health company Mims is working with the NHTSA to see how their digital health platform can support clinical genomic centres across the North
- ✿ Photopharmics has asked the NHTSA to help the company to identify suitable Northern clinical research facilities to further their technology which stimulates nerve cells in the eye to treat Parkinson's disease
- ✿ Japanese business Matrixome is working with NHTSA to discover regenerative medicine groups to work with the company to develop its cell therapy technology

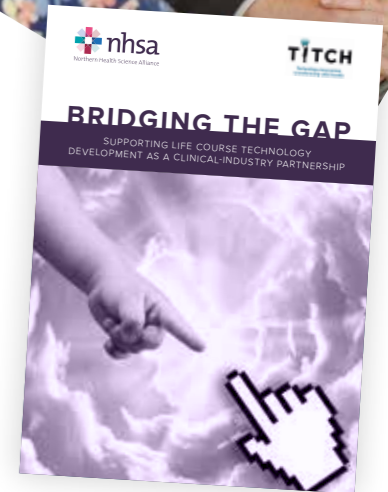




- ✿ Health research is integral to the North's current and future prosperity. The NHS's University members are all in the top 200 of global Universities and work closely together with its excellent teaching hospitals
- ✿ The region's Universities bring in research income worth £1 billion
- ✿ We bring the North's leading researchers together to complement and enrich research strengths for time and cost-effective collaboration
- ✿ This year we've supported successful research collaborations across pain, cancer, child health technology, biomedical research centres, ageing, and medtech cooperatives
- ✿ Thanks to extensive mapping work and an application into Government, the NHS has been awarded a Science Innovation Audit for the Northern Powerhouse in Health Research. Crossing the health science ecosystem in the entire North, recognising its excellence in health research and opening it up to future funding and more collaborations
- ✿ One of our huge research successes is the Health North: Connected Health Cities programme which is already making a difference by looking at health data intelligently to improve patient care
- ✿ The Northern Powerhouse in health research has built great momentum this year

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ✿ This year saw the NHS bring together the four successful Northern NIHR Biomedical Research Centres at the University of Manchester, University of Sheffield, University of Leeds and Newcastle University, to get to know about the work being carried out across the entire region. This is forging the way for collaborative working for the full five-year duration of the awards and beyond
- ✿ We supported successful Northern NIHR Med Tech and In Vitro Diagnostic Cooperatives (MICs) bids which we will continue to support, making sure they've continued access to NHS member expertise and facilities
- ✿ Our work with the Technology and Innovation Transforming Child Health (TITCH) network led to a 'Bridging the Gap' event in April bringing together industry and paediatric experts. A full report now sets out crucial recommendations to support child health technology development



**i**  
THE TOP EIGHT  
NORTHERN  
RESEARCH  
UNIVERSITIES BRING  
IN INCOME WORTH  
£1BILLION

## CASE STUDY ACTIVE AND HEALTHY AGEING

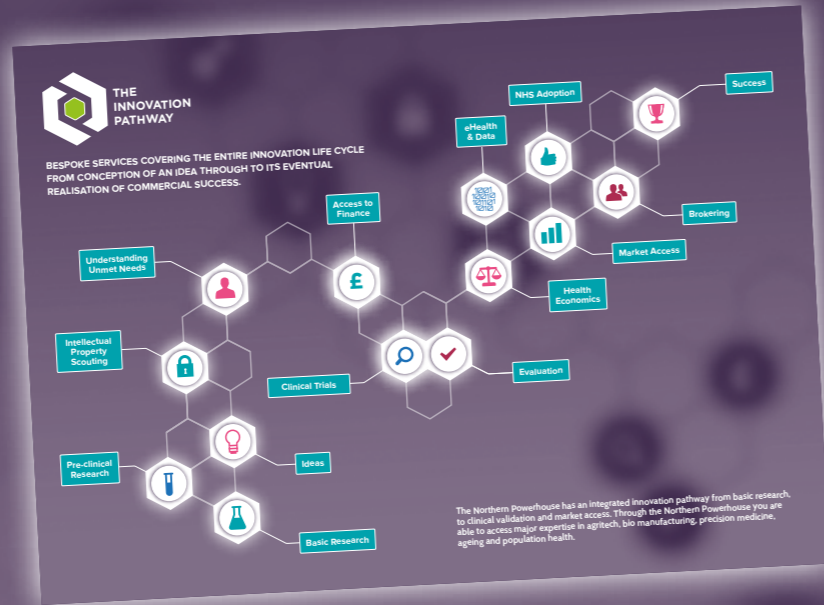
The NHS led a bid across the North to apply for European Commission Reference Site Status in Active and Healthy Ageing. Following the success of this, and awarding of 4\* status the NHS set up AHA North – a pan-Northern consortium bringing together the North's top clinical and academic experts in ageing to share knowledge and innovations for a joined-up approach to a national issue.





# WORKING WITH ACADEMIC HEALTH SCIENCE NETWORKS: A PATHWAY TO INNOVATION

- Our four Northern Academic Health Science Networks excel in introducing innovations into the National Health Service
- We work closely with them, on a pathway to innovation, to see the most impactful healthcare solutions put into practice quickly and effectively



## AHSNs NATIONALLY

- Over 6 million patients benefited from AHSN input
- Over £330m leveraged by AHSNs to improve health and support NHS, care and industry partners
- Over 200 innovations introduced through AHSN influence
- Over 500 jobs created
- Hundreds of commercial innovators engaged
- Over 11,000 locations developing innovations supported by AHSNs

The Northern Health Science Alliance and the Northern Academic Health Science Networks work closely together to raise awareness of the excellence and opportunity in health science research and innovation across the North of England. This mutually beneficial relationship has improved the visibility of both organisations work at local, national and international scale, leading to increased commercial and Government interest

Dr Liz Mear,  
NHS board member and CEO of Innovation Agency,  
AHSN for the North West Coast.



This year a key £20m NHS project, Health North: Connected Health Cities (CHC), was launched. It unites local health data and advanced technology to improve health services for patients in Northern England.

CHC is reducing demand on NHS services through more efficient use of existing data and reducing health inequalities between the North and South. It is transparent about how it plans to use data; securely and only for patient benefit.

## THIS YEAR'S KEY HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- North East and North Cumbria CHC project Great North Care Record gains agreement of 369 GP practices, or 96% in the North East, to share information, allowing secondary care providers to view the GP records of 3.6 million people
- All 88 GP surgeries in Bradford agree to share de-identified medical data used to improve treatments for frailty and childhood obesity. Two Trusts, Bradford Council and three CCGs are participating
- CHC CityMoves launched with Nokia Health, a mass participation programme across the North tracking step count with heart health
- CHC Yorkshire research on unplanned emergency care shows a quarter of walk-in patients at A&E units in Yorkshire demand treatment for minor ailments. There is also evidence that pressures in other parts of the NHS could be driving patients to casualty units
- A Northern Powerhouse Partnership call for £100m to be put into the CHC programme in its latest report supporting the Health Innovation strand of the Industrial Strategy

The NHS has demonstrated its capacity to advance the national agenda on health data by mapping out capability in the North of England, leading to the £20m Government investment into Health North: Connected Health Cities. This project is driving forward the UK's expertise in health data by looking at innovative ways of using depersonalised data to improve health processes, prediction and ultimately patient care.

Alan Payne,  
Vice President & CIO International, Aetna.



# WORK WITH THE NHSA

Working with the NHSA is simple. We provide one point of access to the health science system across the North of England.

For more information on working with the NHSA on its projects and collaborations email [info@theNHSA.co.uk](mailto:info@theNHSA.co.uk) or visit our website [www.theNHSA.co.uk](http://www.theNHSA.co.uk)

-  Next year we want to see the North delivering the Life Sciences Industrial Strategy
-  We're looking to bring Northern delegations to the big international life and health science conferences to showcase their excellence
-  We want to see yet more investment in the North's clinical research infrastructure with better outcomes for patients and hospitals
-  We want to see more funding into the ground-breaking work of Connected Health Cities
-  We want to move towards tackling the North/South health and wealth divide through driving investment, the creation of high-skilled jobs and better and more effective treatments for patients



**Hakim Yadi OBE**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Suzanne Ali-Hassan**  
Business Development Manager



**Hannah Davies**  
Communications Manager



**Shirley Hannan**  
Research Coordination and Funding Development Manager

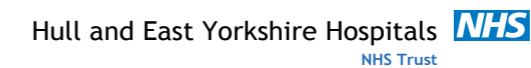
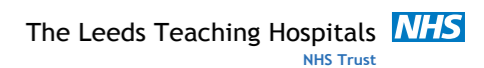


**Nicola Wilson**  
Chief of Staff

# THE ALLIANCE

The NHSA is a health partnership of the top eight Northern research-intensive Universities, NHS teaching Trusts and four Northern Academic Health Science Networks.

Through these we reach a population of £15m.



*When we decided to work inside the UK we realised the navigation of its health sciences could be difficult – which is why it's been a delight working with the NHSA team who have connected us to several clinicians and researchers. We are now about to start a clinical test thanks to the introductions made by the NHSA.*

Rui Chen,  
Chief Technical Officer, Meloq.

