



HEALTHTECH 2025:

THE VISION AHEAD

Parliament & HealthTech Conference

14 OCTOBER 2021 | POST-EVENT REPORT



INTUITIVE



Health Tech
ALLIANCE

KEYNOTE SPEECH

Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt MP

Chair of the Health and Social
Care Committee



Jeremy Hunt launched our final Parliament & HealthTech conference of the year with an insightful speech into a range of healthcare developments and challenges. Beginning with a timely overview of the Health and Social Care Committee's recent report on the Government's handling of the pandemic, Hunt highlighted that Covid certainly elevated the role science and innovation plays in healthcare. Citing the vaccination development as an important example, Hunt encouraged innovators to nurture and use the strong links between technology, medicine and the academic community within the UK, for innovative purposes.

Following on to make predictions for the service in the next ten years, unsurprisingly, Hunt's discussion centred on tackling the NHS backlog. Now predicted to include 5.7 million people, Hunt identified that technology, science and innovation will be crucial to this task, yet emphasised the importance of maintaining patient safety and support when adopting medical devices. Alongside tackling the backlog, Hunt discussed the huge leaps technology could make to the NHS' overall efficiency and productivity, referencing the sharing of electronic records as a first step. He continued to state that an increased use of technology would stimulate a cultural change within the service, putting "patients in the driving seat" and empowering them to have greater control over important health decisions.

Hunt's take on the opportunities and challenges surrounding HealthTech regulation in the post-Brexit environment was particularly insightful. Whilst stating that membership of the EU was never a stumbling block for innovation, he highlighted that pro-innovation regulations could be developed, alongside changes to GDPR. This perspective was especially valuable given recent debates over GP data sharing. Additionally, Hunt voiced his concern on the impact of Brexit on the NHS workforce, recommending that an overhaul of workforce planning is needed.

PANEL DISCUSSION

COVID-19: THE IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY

With rising waiting lists and a growing backlog, it is undeniable that the significance of technology and innovation has been spotlighted. The role HealthTech, science and innovation has played within the service's handling of the pandemic, has never been more visible. From technology enabling home monitoring, to a greater share of data, it is clear that for the health crisis to be effectively tackled, continuing innovation and rollout of technology is essential. A shift to an early diagnosis system was one of many ideas described as "building blocks for future health reform", aiming to tackle the crisis.

ACCELERATING INNOVATION PATHWAYS

The pandemic has positively sped up the need for technological change. However, concerns were voiced as this process seemed to be slowing down. For the backlog to be handled effectively, HealthTech innovation and clear pathways for innovators must continue. This can be achieved by a greater use of population health data. Aiming to make these pathways more effective and efficient, panellists agreed that this increased data usage would streamline and signpost the needs of the healthcare system for HealthTech innovators.

As there is currently not a set path for innovation, the decision making process is often slow and disruptive. Therefore, it is equally as important for innovators to consider the system's validation process, alongside engaging with partners and the existing health service systems for these pathways to remain clear.



Dame Barbara Hakin
Chair, **Health Tech Alliance &**
Former Deputy Chief Executive,
NHS England



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Helen Buckingham
Director of Strategy and Operations,
Nuffield Trust
& Chair, **National Voices**



Bruce Caldwell
Country Business Leader, Integrated
Diagnostic Solutions
BD

PANEL DISCUSSION

NATIONAL VS LOCAL: WHERE TO INNOVATE?

When discussing innovation and technology, there was some divergence of opinion over where innovators should focus their resources. Some acknowledged that programmes initiated at a local level do have the potential to spread nationally, particularly if acceptable funding is unlocked. However, this rarely occurs as funding and resources are increasingly scarce. Panellists agreed that a national focus for innovators is more likely to have a successful outcome. This is due to a greater access to funding and resources, and a national leadership culture which is more likely to nurture innovation within the service. It was identified that for a national approach to work, it will be important for innovators to understand local issues, adopting a more adaptable implementation approach to the service. For this to be achieved, it is essential that local systems simultaneously set out their vision for the future, whilst securing additional funding to champion innovation.

INNOVATION OUTSIDE THE NHS

The NHS does play an extremely valuable role in innovation and technology. However, the service can go further, using resources, initiatives and learning from across other learning industries. It is particularly important for the service to monitor innovation in alternative spaces, alongside understanding its background and context. The rollout of mass home testing within the UK is an example of this collaboration, learning from the retail industry, combined with an international eye on the United States approach to care testing. This method was cost effective, as other sectors took on the research and development costs.



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HEALTH TECH ALLIANCE



OUR OBJECTIVES

The Health Tech Alliance is a coalition of health technology companies and stakeholders from across the NHS and wider health system. Our three ambitions are to:

- **Accelerate innovation:** Address the current market access and reimbursement obstacles that limit the take up of innovation
- **Drive collaboration:** Work with the NHS and other key health and care stakeholders to find tangible solutions to the current healthcare challenges.
- **Improve outcomes:** Drive up the adoption of health technologies, devices and diagnostics that are proven to benefit patient outcomes and deliver cost savings to the NHS.



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OUR MEMBERS




BD

BD is a global medical technology company that is advancing the world of health by improving medical discovery, diagnostics and the delivery of care. BD leads in patient and health care worker safety and the technologies that enable medical research and clinical laboratories.

The company provides innovative solutions that help advance medical research and genomics, enhance the diagnosis of infectious disease and cancer, improve medication management, promote infection prevention, equip surgical and interventional procedures and support the management of diabetes.

BD has more than 65,000 associates across 50 countries who work in close collaboration with customers and partners to help enhance outcomes, lower health care delivery costs, increase efficiencies, improve health care safety and expand access to health.

ADVANCING THE WORLD OF HEALTH

VISION FOR HEALTHTECH UK DIAGNOSTICS INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

[Click here to read BD's full diagnostics strategy.](#)

The areas of reform set out provide the basis for a lasting strategy to embed and expand diagnostic tools across the health system, enabling the shift towards true population health and the next leap forward in patient safety – a smarter, safer NHS.

EDWARDS LIFESCIENCES

With more than 50 years of experience, we have grown into a global company, with a presence in approximately 100 countries and approximately 8,500 employees around the world. Each one of them is dedicated to furthering Edwards' original vision to help clinicians, patients and their families work together as a united community fighting cardiovascular disease and critical illnesses.

“EDWARDS LIFESCIENCES IS THE GLOBAL LEADER IN PATIENT-FOCUSED MEDICAL INNOVATIONS FOR STRUCTURAL HEART DISEASE, AS WELL AS CRITICAL CARE AND SURGICAL MONITORING.”

VISION FOR HEALTHTECH

Click here to discover how the Acumen Hypotension Prediction Index (HPI) software, a first-of-its-kind technology using AI, provides with information regarding the likelihood of a patient trending toward a hypotensive event.

Acumen IQ sensor

Minimally-invasive predictive decision support



INTUITIVE

Intuitive is the pioneer of robotic-assisted surgery and a global technology leader in minimally invasive care, headquartered in the UK at the Oxford Science Park.

Intuitive brings more than two decades of leadership in robotic-assisted surgical technology and solutions to its offerings, and develops, manufactures, and markets the da Vinci surgical system and the Ion endoluminal system.

The company's da Vinci surgical system was the first robotic-assisted minimally invasive surgical system to be cleared in the United States and is available in more than 60 countries.

“
 WE BELIEVE THAT MINIMALLY
 INVASIVE CARE IS LIFE-ENHANCING
 CARE. THROUGH INGENUITY AND
 INTELLIGENT TECHNOLOGY, WE
 EXPAND THE POTENTIAL OF
 PHYSICIANS TO HEAL WITHOUT
 CONSTRAINTS
 ”

VISION FOR HEALTHTECH

Click here to read more about how Intuitive is providing innovative solutions to the NHS to continue to tackle the surgical backlog and expand access so that more patients can benefit from minimally invasive da Vinci robotic-assisted surgery.

8.5
million+

Procedures completed using da Vinci systems worldwide through 2020

25.4
seconds

How often a surgeon starts a procedure using a da Vinci system