



INTRODUCING THE 2020 NHS INNOVATION ACCELERATOR FELLOWS

The NHS Innovation Accelerator (NIA) is delighted to welcome 11 new Fellows and innovations in 2020.

These dedicated individuals were selected through a rigorous, multi-stage assessment process to join the existing group of Fellows, bringing the total number of individuals supported by the NIA in 2020-21 to 33. The NIA also has 27 Alumni who continue to contribute learnings and insights to the accelerator.

The NIA is an award-winning NHS England initiative. It supports delivery of the NHS Long Term Plan priorities by accelerating the uptake of high impact innovations for patient, population and NHS staff benefit, and providing practical insights on spread to inform national strategy.

Launched in 2015, the NIA is chaired by Professor Stephen Powis, National Medical Director of NHS England and NHS Improvement, and delivered in partnership with the 15 Academic Health Science Networks (AHSNs), hosted at UCLPartners.

NIA innovations save the health and social care system £38m per annum

according to conservative figures from independent evaluations by York Health Economic Consortium



Ahmed Shahrabani - Locum's Nest

Ahmed is a qualified doctor previously working at the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford. He graduated from the University of Sheffield in 2014 before accepting his first medical post at St. Helier Hospital, London where he met his colleague and co-founder, Nick. Nick and Ahmed stood back from front-line medicine in 2016 and took the bold move to start Locum's Nest. Carrying across the deeply rooted values of transparency, honesty and a focus on patient care, they embarked on a mission to solve the NHS staffing crisis by empowering clinicians and NHS staff alike. Over £60m has been saved in the NHS during the platform's first 3 years of partnership; the ambition of saving £1bn by 2022 is well underway.

ahmed@locumsnest.co.uk | locumsnest.co.uk | [@LocumsNest](https://twitter.com/LocumsNest)



Andy Minnion MBE - RIX Wiki

Andy is the founder and Director of RIX Research & Media Centre at the University of East London, where he is Professor of Media Advocacy. His research explores the use of web and digital media for the benefit of people with disabilities; and he lectures, trains and advises internationally on digital solutions to inclusion, citizen advocacy and human rights. Under his leadership, the RIX Centre has pioneered the implementation of person-centred applications of digital tools since 2004 in partnership with disabled people and their families and professionals from education, health and care; using co-production to help to transform the way we support our most vulnerable citizens.

Andy was awarded an MBE for 'Services to the Education of People with Special Needs' in the Queen's Birthday Honours of 2012 and won the International Service Award from the USA Association of University Centres on Disability (AUCD) in November 2015.

minnion@uel.ac.uk | rixresearchandmedia.org | [@rix_centre](https://twitter.com/rix_centre)



Ashish Kalraiya - MediShout

Ash is an Orthopaedic Surgeon training at Imperial College London. While he has worked in the NHS for a decade, his passion for trauma and "fixing broken bones" has also taken him to work in South Africa and Malawi, where he operated as a World Orthopaedic Concern Fellow. He is an advocate of surgical education and has created international teaching programmes for trauma.

Ash founded MediShout after witnessing hospital infrastructure and logistical problems preventing best patient care, for example, when he had to cancel operations due to a broken theatre light bulb or had an anaesthetised patient waiting while he was fixing a faulty printer. MediShout solves this healthcare problem by providing the world's first digital platform to integrate all logistical departments; giving clinicians an app to instantly report any issue while using artificial intelligence (AI) to predict future problems e.g. broken equipment, faulty IT.

info@MediShout.co.uk | MediShout.co.uk | [@MediShout](https://twitter.com/MediShout)



Bieke Van Gorp - FibriCheck

Bieke is Chief Business Development Officer and co-founder of FibriCheck, an innovative smartphone and smartwatch application that detects cardiac arrhythmias in order to prevent unnecessary strokes. Bieke's mission with FibriCheck is to contribute to transformations in the health care sector by introducing the use of smartphones or wearables as medical devices to open up healthcare services to more individuals, regardless of their proximity to health care providers, and by shifting the focus of healthcare towards prevention, helping people to live a long and healthy life.

Bieke holds a Master in Business Administration from KU Leuven – part of which she completed in Bangalore, India – and a Master in Finance from Leuven School of Business and Economics. At FibriCheck she uses her extensive financial and strategic expertise to manage the steps required for successful market entry and the roll-out of different business models.

bieke.vangorp@fibricheck.com | fibricheck.com | [@fibricheck](https://www.twitter.com/fibricheck)



Caroline Gadd - Management and Supervision Tool (MaST)

Caroline has spent 20 years working in healthcare in a variety of NHS, social care and healthcare industry roles. She set up Otsuka Health Solutions* as a new digital health venture specialising in the use of analytics to deliver insights which improve mental health care.

Caroline is passionate in her belief that co-producing solutions with the people who provide and use services goes far beyond information giving, engagement and consultation. MaST is specifically designed with and for Community Mental Health Teams. Caroline feels privileged to be working with committed and inspirational mental health professionals in the NHS and is looking forward to collaborating with many more teams and individuals through the NIA programme.

*Otsuka Health Solutions is part of Otsuka Europe

cgadd@otsuka-europe.com | otsukahealthsolutions.com | [@gaddcaroline](https://www.twitter.com/gaddcaroline)



Joachim Werr - Health Navigator

A restless entrepreneur and investor, Joachim (MD, PhD) is the founder and CEO of Health Navigator. Having started the company in Sweden, he moved his innovation to the UK where it was first deployed as a randomised control trial in collaboration with the Nuffield Trust and NHS Vale of York CCG. Joachim's career to date has encompassed medicine, academia and business. He worked as an emergency medicine doctor, then moved on to McKinsey&Co international consultancy, then started a successful business in Sweden. Joachim has dedicated almost a decade to researching and implementing solutions that identify and help patients at risk of high levels of unplanned admissions. He holds a PhD from Stockholm's Karolinska Medical Institute.

joachim.werr@health-navigator.co.uk | health-navigator.co.uk | [@healthnavigator02](https://www.twitter.com/healthnavigator02)

Supporting faster take-up of high impact, evidence-based innovations for patient and NHS benefit

Why is the NHS Innovation Accelerator important?

- ▶ Solution identification: Go-to place for the NHS to find evidenced, endorsed solutions addressing critical challenges and priorities for NHS patients and staff
- ▶ Supporting national spread: NIA innovations are already being used in the NHS or elsewhere, have a robust evidence base, and have been rigorously selected
- ▶ Real-world knowledge sharing: Capturing insight, learning and expertise on how to spread new solutions across the NHS in England
- ▶ Unlocking barriers nationally: Using real-world examples to highlight barriers to innovation spread and inform national policy change





Lee Omar - Safe Steps

Lee is the founder and Chief Innovation Officer at Safe Steps. Before founding Safe Steps, he was the CEO of a design-led technology company that co-created technology using expertise in AI, data science, Internet of Things, smart cities, electrical engineering and app development. He previously worked in the human rights sector empowering refugees to build new lives. In his spare time, he is studying part-time for a PhD in the design of digital health applications that leverage AI.

Lee advises governments, including the UK Prime Minister and President of India, on digital health and artificial intelligence, he is a founding member of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Artificial Intelligence and is a Technology Reporter for the BBC.

lee@safesteps.tech | safesteps.tech | [@SafeStepsTech](https://twitter.com/SafeStepsTech)



Mark Lomax - Patient Experience Platform (PEP)

Mark initially worked in the NHS as a doctor after completing his undergraduate training at Barts Medical School in 1999. After several years of working as a junior doctor across a range of medical specialities he founded his first business, the award-winning MediHome. During this time, he created a new market (hospital at home) and disrupted existing services to deliver a scalable, high quality service that patients greatly appreciated, improved outcomes and saved the NHS £1m per month at the point of a successful exit.

Mark has strategic and operational capability from start-up, fast growth to exit including raising capital, shareholder/investor relations and major contract negotiations. He is passionate about transforming and improving healthcare. He joined PEP in 2019 as CEO.

mark.lomax@pephealth.ai | pephealth.ai | [@drmarklomax](https://twitter.com/drmarklomax)



Mark Moran MBE - The WaterDrop

An accomplished endurance athlete, Mark was 'broken' and underwent successful spinal surgery in 2006. The difficulties he had in drinking without help following this surgery led to a total change of career as he could not believe there were no simple solutions to the issue of reaching, lifting or holding drinks in hospital. He left a senior role at the Ford Motor Company to try and solve the problem.

Since 2007 Mark has been devoted to creating solutions to the huge difficulties many people in hospital and the community have in independently accessing fluids. His company, Hydrate for Health Ltd, has won many awards for its innovations, including The Queen's Award for Enterprise: Innovation. In 2016 Mark was awarded an MBE for 'Services to Innovation and Enterprise' as a result of his work in helping solve the issue of dehydration in healthcare.

mark.moran@hydrateforhealth.co.uk | thewaterdrop.co.uk | [@TheWaterDrop3](https://twitter.com/TheWaterDrop3)



Paul Upton - MyPreOp®

Paul is the CEO and co-founder of Ultramed Ltd. Having qualified in 1984 he was appointed as a Consultant Anaesthetist in 1995. He served on the NICE working group in 2003 that was developing the pre-operative testing guidance. After 4 years as Medical Director in his Trust he turned his attentions to IT and went part-time to start developing MyPreOp. He retired early from the NHS in 2016 to put all his time and energy into Ultramed Ltd.

Paul is now leading on the development of a Personal Health Record, MyPHR®, with a pipeline of forthcoming products. Empowering patients by putting them at the heart of their care and owning their data is key to MyPHR. Paul is relishing his new career and the contrasting experiences of the private sector after long service in the public sector.

paul.upton@ultramed.co | ultramed.co | @Ultramed_LTD



Tony Doyle - QbTest

Tony is the Managing Director of Qbtech Ltd, creator of the QbTest. Before establishing Qbtech, he worked in the pharmaceutical sector in strategy development and marketing within the UK and Europe. Tony holds a Bachelor of Science (hons) in Biology and his interest in mental health began through his work on medicines used for depression and schizophrenia. His focus with Qbtech on ADHD marries his experience in the health sector with a personal interest in technology.

tony.doyle@qbtech.com | qbtech.com | @QbtechADHD

Sign up to the NIA's INSIGHTS newsletter for the latest articles, blogs and case studies: nhsaccelerator.com/insights-newsletter



Contact the NIA

nia@uclpartners.com | nhsaccelerator.com | @NHSAccelerator

