

Surgical MedTech Cooperative

NEWSLETTER

July 2023

Edition 20

Welcome to the latest issue our quarterly newsletters. We are one of 11 national MICs funded by the National Institute for Health Research. Based in Leeds, we are a national network of clinicians, scientists, industry, patients and public working together to advance the care of patients with Colorectal, Vascular, Neurosurgery & HPB diseases. For more information on what we do, please contact surgicalmic@leeds.ac.uk

Brain Tumour Research Novel Therapeutics Accelerator (BTR- NTA)

The Brain Tumour Research Novel Therapeutics Accelerator (BTR-NTA) is an accelerator programme that provides independent and holistic guidance to help researchers position their therapeutic or technology along a realistic pathway to clinical trials.

Applications for the first cycle of the Brain Tumour Research Novel Therapeutics Accelerator are now open. They would particularly welcome applications from industry partners developing technologies or devices for local therapeutic delivery. Find out more [here](#).....

Tessa Jowell
BRAIN CANCER MISSION

Immersive Technologies in Neurosciences

How can immersive technology help improve the way we deliver treatment and care?

While immersive technologies are not new, they are not routinely used in clinical practice. Therefore, Ryan Mathew, Associate Professor and Honorary Consultant Neurosurgeon, is leading projects to explore how immersive technologies typically used in gaming, such as Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR) and Mixed Reality (MR), can be used to enhance patient engagement and rehabilitation.



Empowering patients through improved information

Working with technology partners BrainLab, Ryan and his team are using mixed reality to help better inform patients of their treatment and diagnosis before surgery. BrainLab creates an anatomical digital model of the patient's brain, which is then displayed through Magic Leap goggles. The surgeon can then guide the patient through their own brain, pointing out any tumours or anomalies, walking them through their treatment before surgery. Find out more [here](#).....

CAS-ONE IR

Professor Tze Wah has been working with CASination trialling their technology Cas-ONE IR a navigation system for percutaneous intervention treatment. This technology has now been adopted into the treatment pathway as it provides more accurate and faster needle placement as well as allowing difficult lesions to be targeted. Find out more about the technology [here](#).....

CAS-One IR™ Stereotactic Navigation System for Percutaneous Interventions



Super Connect for Good Competition

Applications for the 4th edition of the **Super Connect for Good Competition** powered by Impact Ventures and Hays are now open

In 2023, they are welcoming applications **tech startups (pre-seed & seed)** and **scaleups (Series A & B)** from across the **UK, Ireland, Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Asia** in the following innovation verticals:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| AI for Good | EdTech |
| HealthTech | MedTech |
| FinTech for Good | ClimateTech |
| General TechforGood | |
| Tech for Diversity & Inclusion | |

They will also have a dedicated Impact Challenge to support the Water Crisis and an Impact Challenge to Support Mental Health and Well-being with a hackathon to be announced

Watch our Briefing Video [here](#)

Learn More & Apply by 7th Aug 2023 [here](#)



Marginalised Community Engagement Network (M-CEN)

M-CEN is now up and running and ready to be accessed for all community engagement needs. Already working with a variety of different public and commercial bodies, the network is now available for a multitude of applications. The primary function of the network is for two-way community engagement on a partnership basis, which aids dissemination and collection of information. BAME Voices (BV) are working closely with the NIHR to constantly expand the network, both in quantity and diversity. To find out more email kursh@bamevoices.org.uk



NHS Clinical Entrepreneur programme – application dates and webinars announced

BRC staff are invited to apply for the NHS Clinical Entrepreneur Programme, with the next round of applications opening from Monday 2 October 2023 until Sunday 29 October 2023.

For those wishing to apply, CEP Prep webinars are being held throughout July to September to help prepare applications for submission in October. For a full list of the CEP prep sessions and recordings of the webinars visit the NHS CEP website.

What is the Clinical Entrepreneur Programme?

Launched in 2016, the NHS Clinical Entrepreneur Programme is the biggest entrepreneurial workforce development programme of its kind and has supported more than 1,000 innovators to develop their ideas.

The programme aims to:

- Allow entrepreneurs and creative thinkers to pursue their innovation without having to leave the health service.
- Support the healthcare workforce to develop and scale their most innovative ideas for the benefit of patients, staff and the wider NHS.
- Develop the skills, knowledge and experience needed to successfully apply innovative solutions to the challenges facing the NHS.
- Provide a wider benefit to economic growth through inward investment in the health, social care and life science sectors.

The CEP is free, lasts one year and is delivered as a series of educational events which can be attended either in person or virtually.

Last year, NIHR Manchester BRC Operational Director Lisa Miles, was awarded a place on the programme. Lisa has, with three other parent-carers, established the company Wilbo's Blends Ltd which provides organic, 100% real food, shelf-stable blended meals suitable for tube-feeding.

How to apply

Applications will open on Monday 2 October 2023; a link to the application portal will be available on the CEP website here. All BRC staff with an innovative idea, at any stage of development, are encouraged to apply for this exceptional opportunity.

For further information, contact the CEP team at cep@aru.ac.uk or visit the website www.nhscep.com

Surgical MIC Toolkit

Our ability to support your technology is largely dependent on your stage on the translational pathway. Our objectives are to shorten the translational pathway for those solutions where it is possible, and to provide a real time example of the steps and questions that are important for medical technology development and the factors that are important for the NHS.

This toolkit should help you understand how the Surgical MIC can work with you and the outputs you can expect at each stage of your translational journey. [Read more.....](#)



Public & Research Involvement Forum

Our Public Research Involvement Forums take the form of virtual coffee/tea sessions and the aim is to create a space for members of the public interested in medical and clinical research to come together and have a chat. Each Forum is hosted by a member of the public that is currently involved in medical technology research, and they loosely steer the conversation in a broad theme.

Watch this space for more dates for future events.

Missed any of our public and research involvement forum webinars, watch them [here.....](#)



Webinars Available on our YouTube Channel

We have held our first three webinars as part of our ongoing commitment to being inclusive, ensuring we reach as wide an audience as possible. You can watch these webinars at any time on our YouTube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj741Qkhg_a90WxT0p4MG3WA



Upcoming Events

Wounds Research Industry Master Class

Call for expression of interest

NIHR LGG Trials Sandpit & Workpit, 6th September 2023

Clinical Trials Training for Investigators, Liverpool, 18th-22nd September 2023

European Society for Vascular Surgery Annual Meeting, Belfast 26-29th September 2023

Surgical Clinical Trials Showcase Day, Liverpool, 20th October 2023

SEHTA 2023 International MedTech Expo & Conference, London 3rd November 2023

West Yorkshire Innovation Festival, 13th-17th November

Save the Date

IDEAL 2024 Conference, Leeds March 2024 (TBC)

MedTech Innovation Expo, Birmingham, 5-6th June 2024



NIHR | Surgical MedTech
Co-operative

Save the date

SurgTech 2023

Innovation Across the Surgical Pathway

Friday 24th November 2023
08:30 – 16:30

Royal Armouries Museum
Armouries Drive, Leeds LS10 1LT

Funding Collaborations

[NIHR Joint Industry call with i4i, EME and HTA – The development and evaluation of predictive algorithms using Artificial Intelligence \(AI\)](#)

[Surgical MedTech Co-operative Funding Competition 2021/22](#)

[Notice of Special Interest \(NOSI\): BRAIN Initiative: Translation of Groundbreaking Technologies from Early-stage Development through Early Clinical Study via Blueprint MedTech](#)

Closes 21 June 2024

[Programme Development Grant - Developing Innovative, Inclusive and Diverse Public Partnerships funding Call Opens 23rd August 2023](#)

[NIHR i4i FAST \(Funding At the Speed of Translation\) Awards Pilot Scheme – Rolling deadline](#)

[Innovator Awards](#)

[Pancreatic Cancer Scotland – Pump Priming Research Grants](#)

[Efficacy and mechanism evaluation programme – fast-track scheme](#)

[Healthcare Technologies: Call for Investigator-led Research Projects](#)

[British Heart Foundation New Horizons Grants](#)

[Ad-Venture Grant Funding for SMEs](#)

[Macmillan research grants scheme](#)

[Cardiovascular Catalyst Awards](#)

[Joint funding with the British Israel Research Academic Exchange](#)

[Cardiovascular Small Meetings & Events Funds](#)

Talk to us if you would like academic or clinical input, patient and public involvement or some support with project coordination and management. Please allow sufficient time for this.

Core team

Clinical Director: Professor David Jayne

Deputy Director: Mr Aaron Quyn

Vascular Theme Led: Professor Julian Scott

Hepatobiliary Theme Lead: Professor Giles Toogood

Scientific Director/ Nanotechnology Theme Lead: Professor Steve Evans

Robotics Lead: Professor Pietro Valdastrì

Engineering Lead: Dr Peter Culmer

Programme Manager: Vee Mapunde

Project Manager: Roxane Dumitrache

Project Manager: Sheila Boyes