Bright Ideas in Health Awards

Category: Innovative Device Award

This category is open to organisations in the North East and North Cumbria

The Innovative Device Award recognises NHS-led innovation in the development of new medical devices, equipment or diagnostic tools that improve patient care and healthcare delivery.

This includes medical devices, diagnostic technologies, assistive technologies, digital hardware solutions and innovations developed through clinical engineering or multidisciplinary collaboration.

This category celebrates the creativity and ingenuity of individuals and teams who have developed practical solutions to real healthcare challenges.

Successful entries will demonstrate how a novel device or technology has been conceived, developed and implemented to address a clearly identified healthcare challenge.

Judges will look for clear evidence of innovation, measurable benefits for patients and healthcare services, and the potential for wider adoption across the NHS and beyond.

Eligibility:

Open to NHS organisations, NHS staff, clinical teams and NHS-led collaborations with academic, research or industry partners.

The category questions for the **Innovative Device Award** are:

The need

1. Describe the unmet need, challenge or problem your device addresses.
2. Who benefits from this innovation (patients, staff, services or healthcare systems)?

The innovation

3. Describe your device, technology or solution and how it works.
4. What makes your innovation different from, or better than, existing approaches, products or technologies?
5. What stage of development has the innovation reached?
    - Concept
    - Prototype
    - Pilot
    - Evaluation
    - Implemented in practice
    - Adopted at scale

Evidence and impact

6. What evidence is available to demonstrate the effectiveness of the innovation?
7. What measurable benefits have been achieved or are expected for patients, staff or healthcare services?
8. Please provide any evaluation findings, data, feedback, publications or case studies that support your application.

Development and collaboration

9. Who has been involved in developing the innovation and what role have they played?
10. What challenges have been encountered during development or implementation and how have they been addressed?
11. Are you aware of any similar products, technologies or research in this area? How does your innovation compare?

Adoption and sustainability

12. Has the innovation been implemented within a healthcare setting? If so, please describe where and the results achieved.
13. How could this innovation be adopted, scaled or spread more widely across health and care systems?
14. What are the next steps for the innovation's development and future implementation?

Specific judging focus:

- Novelty of the device or technology
- Clear NHS-led development
- Patient and service benefit
- Evidence of testing or implementation
- Potential for adoption and spread

Entries will be assessed on the following:
Innovation: originality of the idea
Value: impact of the initiative on patient care and/or service effectiveness
Patient focus: evidence that patient/service user need was central to the work
Collaboration: evidence of the involvement of other professionals, services and/or patients in the project
Clinical effectiveness: data demonstrating how this initiative drives clinical enhancements
Leadership: evidence of entrants championing their innovation in their organisation or more widely
Adaptability: ideas that could be adapted for use elsewhere in entrants' organisations or other organisations
Sustainability: initiatives that can be embedded within organisations to operate without the input of the people who developed them

The deadline for entries is 27 November 2026

For further information and to enter please visit: https://brightideasinhealth.org.uk/

If you have any queries, please contact sarah.black@healthinnovationnenc.org.uk