

Client: University of Warwick
Source: Assistive Technologies (MAIN)
Date: 01 October 2010
Page: 3
Reach: 9834
Size: 205cm2
Value: 436.65



Programme to boost health with innovative technologies

By Dominic Musgrave

THE University of Warwick has joined forces with NHS West Midlands to create the new Institute of Digital Healthcare.

The five-year programme based in the new International Digital Laboratory is aimed at improving people's health and wellbeing through the use of innovative technologies.

The Institute is led by two co-directors, professor of eHealth innovation Jeremy Wyatt and professor of healthcare technology Christopher James.

Jeremy said the Institute is tackling a number of issues, including the use of monitoring and communication devices to support people in their own homes, and improving the communication within and between health and social care teams.

He added: "After many pilot studies, we are now in a position to design and carry out large scale rigorous trials to answer key generic questions about how health systems should use these technologies to improve the quality, efficiency and safety of

their services for people with long term conditions.

"We will be working with the local NHS, small businesses and others to generate the evidence needed to help policy makers, clinicians and patients decide how to invest in and make best use of these new digital healthcare technologies.

"This unique partnership provides us with insight to design, develop, deploy and evaluate a wide range of healthcare technologies to address a range of healthcare scenarios."

As part of the Institute's launch, there are a series of international conferences planned over the next few years. The first, *Advances in Digital Healthcare: Telehealth and Mobile Health*, will take place on October 7.

The aim is to review research activities and achievement in telehealth and mobile health in the West Midlands and beyond.

The conference will include invited speakers presenting on key aspects of digital healthcare as well as a variety of oral presentations and posters.