



GRP Health

# Building a Sustainable UK Diagnostic Sector II: the Regional Dimension – West Midlands Leading the Way?



Hosted by the University of Warwick,  
and West Midlands Health Technology Cluster

## About the event

Our first meeting held in September 2021 considered how we can best exploit the commercial, scientific and health opportunities in diagnostics driven by the new knowledge, investment and innovation demonstrated by the UK diagnostics sector in response to Covid 19. This follow-on conference will consider the regional opportunities afforded by these developments and consider how we can best leverage our cross-sector strengths to build a world-leading diagnostics enterprise in the West Midlands.

As before, this event will bring together key stakeholders from across the NHS, academia, industry and regulatory bodies to explore how we can enhance cross-sector collaboration to turbo-charge local growth by building the infrastructure necessary for the development and implementation of innovative diagnostics. With a focus on our distinctive expertise in diagnostics, data and devices, we will consider how best to exploit these assets to create a sustainable and internationally-recognised activity in the West Midlands.

For more information visit:

[warwick.ac.uk/research/priorities/health/events/bsukdsii/](http://warwick.ac.uk/research/priorities/health/events/bsukdsii/)



# Programme

09.30-10.00	<b>Registration</b>	
10.00-10.10	<b>Welcome and Introduction, Professor Lawrence Young and Professor Michael Chappell, University of Warwick</b>	
10.10-10.20	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Caroline Meyer, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), University of Warwick</b> Opening comments
10.20-10.40	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Karen Taylor, Deloitte Centre for Health Solutions</b> <b>The Future of Diagnostics</b> The future of diagnostics is one in which the diagnostics industry collaborates with academia and healthcare to harness the potential of diagnostics and realise fully the opportunities for enhancing overall standards of care and achieving optimal outcomes across the health continuum. Karen will discuss Deloitte's new report <i>The future of diagnostics: Technology driven personalised and preventative healthcare in Europe</i> ( <a href="#">Future of Diagnostics</a> ), which explores the evolving role of diagnostics in shaping new clinical pathways, and how the adoption of disruptive diagnostic technologies can help healthcare systems transition from volume-based to value-based care.
10.40-10.50	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Neil Anderson, NHS Midlands Pathology Clinical Lead / Director UHCW Institute of Precision Diagnostics</b> NHS Pathology role in the Future of Diagnostics
10.50-11.10	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Panel discussion</b>
11.10-11.25	<b>Foyer</b> <b>Break</b>	
11.25-11.55	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Justin Varney, Director of Public Health - Birmingham City Council</b> <b>A Public Health Perspective on Diagnostic Innovation</b> Dr Justin Varney, Director of Public Health, Birmingham City Council, will share some reflections from a public health perspective on the potential for diagnostic innovation to tackle inequalities and improve outcomes in the context of a global city and the realities of a challenged system.
11.55-12.15	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Alex Richter, Director of the Clinical Immunology Service, University of Birmingham. Consultant Clinical Immunologist University Hospitals Birmingham</b> <b>What is the best test? Lessons from Covid</b> A test must not only have a purpose and perform reliably with high accuracy but also be cheap and accessible. The COVID pandemic has highlighted the complexities of testing for decision makers, health care systems and the general public. Rapid innovation and distribution of testing has highlighted the strengths but also weaknesses of current testing models. How can we develop a positive legacy from this time of exceptional innovation.
12.15-12.35	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>David Snead, Pathology Consultant UHCW</b> PathLAKE - Transforming cellular pathology with artificial intelligence

12.35-12.55	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Mark Elliott, Associate Professor WMG</b> <b>UKRI Future Blood Testing Network</b> At the Future Blood Testing Network Plus, we are aiming to build a multi-disciplinary community to develop digital health technologies for remote, rapid, affordable and inclusive monitoring and personalised analytics.
12.55-1.15	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Nick Barnes, Principal Founder, Director and CEO, Celentyx Ltd</b> <b>The evolution of Celentyx Ltd; a spin-out pharma company from the University of Birmingham Medical School</b> Celentyx Ltd ( <a href="http://www.celentyx.com">www.celentyx.com</a> ) was founded in 2007 with venture capital investment and has evolved into a research and development pharmaceutical company focusing on treatments for diseases involving the immune system including neuroinflammation and immuno-oncology approaches to treat cancer. The company now delivers multi-£m revenue for the UK economy. Professor Barnes will discuss the rollercoaster experiences over the last 15 years.
<b>1.15-2.15</b>	<b>Foyer</b>	<b>Lunch and networking</b>
2.15-2.35	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Yiannis Maos, Founder &amp; CEO - Birmingham Tech &amp; Paddie Murphy, West Midlands Health Technology Cluster</b> <b>The power of collaboration</b> How collaboration and connectivity empowered the West Midlands tech ecosystem and helped us become the fastest growing tech sector in the UK. The secrets behind the success.
2.35-2.55	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Richard Sullivan, Global Oncology Group - Institute of Cancer Policy / Conflict &amp; Health Research Group</b> <b>Critical role of diagnostics for global health</b> Richard Sullivan is Professor of Cancer and Global Health at King's College London and Guy's Comprehensive Cancer Centre. He is director of the Institute of Cancer Policy and Director of the Centre for Conflict & Health Research at King's. He is an NCD advisor to World Health Organisation and World Bank. His global cancer research programs cover cancer systems strengthening, financing, political economy, global cancer surgery particularly virtual reality-enhanced surgical simulation training; as well as studies into social welfare and cancer care in conflict.
2.55-3.15	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Dimitris Grammatopoulos, Professor of Molecular Medicine, Warwick Medical School, Consultant Clinical Biochemist UHCW</b> <b>The UK diagnostics landscape post-covid: challenges and opportunities</b> The COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the critical role of diagnostics in underpinning modern healthcare systems suitable to meet increased demand and deliver the healthcare agenda. UK diagnostics are at a crossroads as chronic lack of funding coupled with increased demand for almost all aspects of diagnostics are impacting on some key goals of the national healthcare vision. This talk will describe some of these challenges and identify opportunities and possible routes to deliver a fit for purpose diagnostics agenda.
3.15-3.30	Lecture Theatre OC0.03	<b>Closing comments</b>