

## Faculty of Health and Care Newsletter – April 2026

I am sure you will by now have heard of NHS England's plan to introduce a progressive commitment to professional membership and registration for Digital, Data and Technology (DDaT) staff.

This is a big moment for our profession, and for the future of safe, digital first care. Because ultimately, this is about trust. The systems that power the NHS - from clinical applications to national infrastructure - must be designed, built and run by professionals held to the highest standards, just like any other critical discipline in healthcare.

We're proud to support the development of the digital profession with [The Federation for Informatics Professionals](#) (FEDIP), and partners AphA, CHIME, IHRM, SOCITM and CILIP. Together, we're building a digitally confident, professionally recognised workforce, worthy of the patients who rely on it every day.

You can find out in this newsletter more about how BCS are supporting the NHS England plan or join our webinar on 17<sup>th</sup> April.

Jan Hoogewerf, Head of Health and Care  
Will Smart, Chair, Faculty of Health and Care Board

### NHS England Announcement on Professionalism

NHS England has announced a new phased professional membership and registration programme for the Digital, Data and Technology (DDaT) workforce, developed with the [Federation for Informatics Professionals](#) and its professional membership bodies.

Starting with senior roles and expanding to all staff by 2031, the programme sets clear standards for DDaT professionals, aligning them with other established NHS fields. BCS membership fees will be reduced to £50 for Band 7 and below, making it accessible to most employees. Benefits include accreditation pathways, enhanced CPD support, access to professional communities, expert networks, discounted conferences, and broader development opportunities.

This initiative supports the Government's 10 Year Health Plan, aiming to build a skilled digital workforce capable of implementing data-driven services, AI tools, and integrated care. Consistent standards will improve workforce assurance, patient safety, and establish DDaT as an NHS profession. [Explore the full offer.](#)

FEDIP and BCS are holding a webinar on 17 April, breaking down what is happening and what this means and answering any questions you may have. You can register here: [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nhs-england-professionalism-announcement-what-it-means-for-you-tickets-1985821214710?aff=oddttdcreator&keep\\_tld=true](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nhs-england-professionalism-announcement-what-it-means-for-you-tickets-1985821214710?aff=oddttdcreator&keep_tld=true)

## **Call for Papers – MCBK-UK Conference (Mobilising Computable Biomedical Knowledge)**

We invite brief, focused abstracts describing current work to manage and mobilise computable knowledge in UK health and care. All submissions will be independently peer-reviewed and priority will be given to abstracts that best fit the mission of MCBK and these specific themes: Learning health systems, Synergy of expert systems and generative AI, Governance, policy and safety, Standards, interoperability and metadata, Technical infrastructure, Knowledge creation and curation, Real-world implementation and evaluation or Education. Accepted abstracts will be published in the open access journal *Learning Health Systems* with no charge (so please follow [this example](#), including referencing style).

Please use this form to provide an abstract of between 300-500 words (including references, maximum four): <https://form.jotform.com/260904411406044>

The submission deadline is **5.00pm on Wednesday, 30 April 2026**.

### **BMJ Health and Care Informatics Call for Reviewers**

[BMJ Health and Care Informatics](#) is looking for reviewers. Please join our effort to empower our BCS Faculty of Health and Care journal. To find out more watch the [webinar](#) and if you are interested go to the author hub of the BMJ HCI or email [elly.an@port.ac.uk](mailto:elly.an@port.ac.uk)

### **BCS Health and Care Specialist Group Members – please sign up to Faculty of Health and Care to continue to receive this newsletter**

We currently send out the newsletter to members of BCS health and care specialist groups, but if you are a member of more than one group you will receive multiple copies. To avoid this, we are going to discontinue the mailing to specialist groups and instead use the Faculty of Health and Care group for all newsletters. We will discontinue sending to specialist groups from **May**, so, if you would like to continue to receive the newsletter, please sign up to the Faculty of Health and Care. You can do so by going into MyBCS and clicking the join button on the Faculty of Health and Care page [here](#).

### **Events:**

#### **Friday 17 April 12.00 to 13.00, webinar, NHS England Professionalism**

**Announcement – what it means for you.** This webinar will give you clear, practical guidance on what the announcement means for you, your teams, and your organisation. Whether you're in a senior digital leadership role or developing your career in NHS digital services, this session will help you understand the pathway ahead. Register here: [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nhs-england-professionalism-announcement-what-it-means-for-you-tickets-1985821214710?aff=oddtcreator&keep\\_tld=true](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nhs-england-professionalism-announcement-what-it-means-for-you-tickets-1985821214710?aff=oddtcreator&keep_tld=true)

**Apr 17, 2026, 7:30 PM - Apr 18, 2026, 4:00 PM Primary Healthcare Specialist Group (PHCSG) CLICSIG Meeting: Pros and Cons of the Single Patient Record at The Tollgate Inn, Ham Grn, Trowbridge, England, GB, BA14 6PX** Attendance (usually no more than 20) allocated on a first come first served basis. It may be possible to join online (please enquire). The outputs of CLICSIGs are generally published through the PHCSG web pages on BCS. If you wish to attend the meeting, please complete the online form: <https://tinyurl.com/CLICSIGApr26>

**Thursday 23 April 12.00 to 13.00, webinar Health literacy and health information: roles and tools for information specialists across sectors** This webinar organised by FEDIP and CILIP discusses health literacy, as a form of information literacy and digital literacy. It includes the specific partnership work around health information and the NHS App in public libraries: Meeting link: [Join the meeting now](#) Meeting ID: 353 963 064 556 8 Passcode: Av2Dz9Nr

**Thursday 30th April 2026 - 12:00 - 13:00, webinar, The Role of a Clinical Terminologist** This session, we will address the role of the SNOMED CT clinical terminologist and why it needs wider recognition and professional support. Attendees will gain an understanding of the structure, capabilities, and benefits of a clinical terminology, and walk through some typical tasks involved in maintaining and using large healthcare ontologies. [Join Here](#) Meeting ID: 373 142 432 697 88 Passcode: kK6GV3LS

**Wednesday 20 May 12.00 to 13.00, webinar FEDIP Application Workshop.** This webinar takes you through the process of applying for FEDIP registration and provides advice and tips on applying. Register: [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nhs-england-professionalism-announcement-what-it-means-for-you-tickets-1985821214710?aff=oddttdtcreator&keep\\_tld=true](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nhs-england-professionalism-announcement-what-it-means-for-you-tickets-1985821214710?aff=oddttdtcreator&keep_tld=true)

**17 June 2026 Advancing Digital Transformation in Health and Care: Harnessing the Power of Computable Knowledge**, King's College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS. It will address current progress and issues in the development and deployment of computable knowledge in UK health and care. Find out more and register here: <https://www.bcs.org/events-calendar/2026/june/computable-knowledge-for-digital-transformation-in-he...>

**30 June 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Faculty of Health and Care Conference** at BCS London, 25 Cophthall Avenue, London EC2. The conference theme is 'Collaborate, Learn and Professionalise'. We will have two main streams: developing the digital profession, policy and safety and AI, regulation and good practice. We will have keynote speakers James Freed and Shana Vijayaran from NHS England and Helen Thomas from NHS Wales, talking about their plans for workforce development. You can see the programme and register here: <https://www.bcs.org/events-calendar/2026/june/hybrid->

[bcs-third-faculty-of-health-and-care-conference-2026/](#) If you are interested in sponsoring the conference, please contact [jan.hoogewerf@bcs.uk](mailto:jan.hoogewerf@bcs.uk)

If you have any events for inclusion in the newsletter, please contact [elly.an@port.ac.uk](mailto:elly.an@port.ac.uk)