

Faculty of Health and Care Newsletter – October 2026

There is widespread recognition of the need for a foundational programme of learning which provides a qualification to give people coming into digital roles a broad understanding of digital health. We are working with FEDIP to develop this, and as it is developed we continue to provide lots of opportunities to increase your digital health knowledge through CPD accredited webinars and events. It was great to hear ideas for topics for inclusion in an educational programme at a FEDIP workshop at the HETT conference on 30th September, which we will build on. We'd welcome your views on content and how best to deliver such a programme. If you are interested please contact jan.hoogewerf@bcs.uk

Don't miss two upcoming conferences (further details below):

- Mobilising Computable Biomedical Knowledge 2026 Global Online Conference on 13 to 14 October.
- The Primary Healthcare Specialist Group annual conference and education day on 12 and 13 November.

Jan Hoogewerf, Head of Health and Care

Will Smart, Chair, Faculty of Health and Care Board

BMJ Health and Care Informatics Journal

Special Collection – Women's Health and FemTech – call for articles

For too long, gaps in the way we collect analyse and use data have contributed to gaps in our understanding of women's health. This collection aims to bring together high quality research, insight and innovation, exploring how data and informatics can improve women's health and reduce inequalities. We are keen to hear from researchers and practitioners working in this field. Deadline for submissions is 26 February 2027. You can find out more here:

<https://informatics.bmj.com/pages/womens-health-data>

Have you thought about writing about and sharing your implementation experience?

Implementer reports are a specific type of Short Report that allow frontline practitioners to publish their experiences with health and care informatics projects. These reports are analogous to clinical case reports: case studies with valuable and transferable lessons. Reports that present a design, deployment or management challenge, or that highlight mechanisms of digital transformation, culture change or unexpected outcomes will be of particular educational value. Implementer reports should be structured as follows:

- Introduction (including background, operational aims and objectives),
- Methods (how the intervention was designed, implemented, evaluated),

- Results (what actually happened, qualitative or quantitative or both),
- Discussion (limitations, reflection on what was learned),
- Conclusions (what can be useful for other implementers, or what needs further research).

Word count: max 1,200 words

Abstract: 150 words, structured abstract with study Objectives, Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions.

References: max 10 references, only 1 table/figure is allowed. (additional tables/figures should be submitted as supplemental file).

Further information here: <https://informatics.bmj.com/>

Primary Healthcare Specialist Group - 45th Annual Conference, Education Day and AGM - Thursday 12 and Friday 13 November at the voco Oxford Thames Hotel.

Thursday 12th is our **FREE** Education Day, aimed at digital leads and those working in and with general practice who are interested in IT and health informatics. Network with other practices, meet new people and learn about how others in primary care are tackling IT and informatics issues.

Friday 13th November is our conference *From Patient to Population: It All Starts with the Consultation*. This year's conference explores the growing role of data, digital health, and artificial intelligence in shaping the future of primary care. Featured speakers and topics include:

- Big data and the future of healthcare, with Professor Ben Goldacre
- Learning from patient-generated health information
- Developing a digital formulary
- The "Silent Consultation" and the impact of AI-mediated GP encounters

You can find more information and register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/45th-annual-conference-education-day-agm-2026-tickets-1998958071402>

NHS AI Fellowship call for applications

This is a great opportunity to gain real world experience in deploying and evaluating AI in clinical workflows, attending masterclasses in AI Centres of Excellence and joining a national network of clinical AI leaders.

Applications are open for NHS AI Fellowships until 16 November 2026 at 23.45.

Fellowships are open to health and social care professionals and are subject to eligibility criteria. The commitment is 2 days per week for 12 months between Aug 2027 and Aug 2028. Further details here: <https://www.nhsfellowship.ai/apply/>

EFMI MIE 2027 – First Call for Papers

Paper submissions are now open for **EFMI MIE 2027**, taking place in **Tallinn, Estonia, 26–30 April 2027**, under the theme **“Empowering People with Trusted, Sustainable and Connected Health Data for Active and Healthy Longevity.”** Authors are invited to submit full papers, short communications, posters, workshops, panels, tutorials, and demonstrations. The submission deadline is **20 October 2026**. Accepted papers will be published by **IOS Press** in the *Studies in Health Technology and Informatics* series. Learn more and submit via the [MIE 2027 website](#).

Events:

Learning Health Systems Programme. This is a programme of 4 webinars. The first was held on 29 September and the second on 6 October, but if you missed them, a recording will be available shortly on the BCS YouTube channel.

Tuesday 13 October 5 to 6 pm, Webinar 3: Learning Health Systems in Primary Care & Mental Health. Discover how the concept of Learning Health Systems has been gaining traction in primary care and mental health in recent years.

<https://www.bcs.org/events-calendar/2026/october/webinar-3-learning-health-systems-in-primary-care-mental-health/>

13 to 14 October, Mobilising Computable Biomedical Knowledge 2026 Global Online Conference Applying biomedical knowledge drives healthcare improvement. Computable knowledge accelerates adoption in routine care systems. This is not just an AI “solution”. Guest speakers offering important global perspectives: Riccardo Bellazzi, Professor of Bioengineering and Biomedical Informatics, University of Pavia, Italy, Garrett Mehl, World Health Organization, Kathrin Cresswell, Professor of Digital Innovations in Health and Care, University of Edinburgh, Chris Paton, Associate Professor, Liggins Institute, University of Auckland, New Zealand and Kerryn Butler-Henderson, Professor in Digital Health, Head of School, School of Nursing, Paramedicine and Healthcare Sciences, Charles Sturt University, Australia. See the [conference page](#) for the full programme and how to register free of charge.

Tuesday 20 October 5pm to 6pm Webinar 4: Learning Health Systems: Shifting The Dial Internationally renowned speakers, Charles Friedman and Paige McDonald will cover features which enable Learning Health Systems to have a transformational effect on patient care and system performance. <https://www.bcs.org/events-calendar/2026/october/webinar-4-learning-health-systems-shifting-the-dial/>

29 to 31 October in Athens, Greece, EFMI Special Topic Conference (STC) 2026 The conference, themed “**AI in Clinical Decision-Making and Education**” Visit [EFMI STC 2026](#).

Primary Healthcare Specialist Group - 45th Annual Conference, Education Day and AGM - Thursday 12 and Friday 13 November at the voco Oxford Thames Hotel.

Thursday 12th is our **FREE** Education Day, aimed at digital leads and those working in and with general practice who are interested in IT and health informatics. Friday 13th November is our conference *From Patient to Population: It All Starts with the Consultation*. You can find more information and register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/45th-annual-conference-education-day-agm-2026-tickets-1998958071402>

If you have any events for inclusion in the newsletter, please contact elly.an@port.ac.uk