

Launch of simple guide to Scotland's Health Research and Innovation Ecosystem

The directory, called Scottish Health Research and Innovation Ecosystem launched today at the annual Life Science Scotland conference in Glasgow by Dave Tudor, Co-Chair of the Life Sciences Scotland Industry Leadership Group (LSS).

It will help companies to engage directly with NHS Scotland to develop collaborative working projects.

A greatly simplified search process allows companies to find the correct contacts quickly and easily, promoting collaboration, accelerating projects and helping advance new approaches to patient care.

Scotland's Health Research and Innovation Ecosystem is an easily searchable database of NHS, clinical, academic and trade organisations, with short descriptions of what they do and contact details.

It will also allow companies to search under the headings: invent, develop, test and sell, connecting start-ups with the correct contacts. A second tier search of clinical and technical areas identifies organisations and facilities needed to progress new products and plans.

Julia Brown, Senior Director, High Value Manufacturing and Health, Scottish Enterprise said: "Collaboration between industry and NHS Scotland is key to the life sciences sector and Scotland achieving its potential. Scottish Enterprise is proud to have supported the creation of this new resource to help companies identify and access NHS and health research

organisations to develop collaborative working projects and processes, from concept development through to commercialisation.”

The [Life Sciences Scotland](#) Strategy vision is to make Scotland the location of choice for Life Sciences businesses, researchers, healthcare professionals and investors while increasing Life Sciences contribution to Scotland’s economic growth.

Scotland has a proven track record over centuries of pioneering invention and medical innovation and is well positioned to revolutionise the Life Sciences landscape of the future.

There is massive potential and opportunity for Scotland’s commercial, academic and clinical expertise to drive such growth, and the directory is a welcome boost to this.

Making these connections, and matching Scotland’s clinical and academic expertise with healthcare industry product development is critical to increasing the level of high-quality health research conducted in Scotland.

The directory is an opportunity to showcase Scotland’s infrastructure and state of the art facilities as well as clinical and academic expertise and the efficient, supportive and attractive research environment.

Dr Charles Weller, General Manager, NHS Research Scotland – Central Management Team (NRS –CMT) said: “NHS Research Scotland (NRS) simplifies access to Scotland’s world-class research infrastructure, supporting the placement, setup and delivery of clinical research studies and innovative research collaborations from all sectors and therapy areas. Research and innovation are vital drivers of improved patient care and economic growth; and this tool complements our existing collaborative efforts with the life sciences community to develop new and improved treatments for patients.”

Stephen Kelly, Science Manager, NHS Research Scotland – Central Management Team (NRS-CMT) said: “The Scottish Health Research and Innovation Ecosystem tool makes it easier for academia, industry and public sector researchers and innovators to access Scotland’s world class infrastructure and expertise; facilitating the development of innovative diagnostics, therapeutics and devices that will enhance patient care across Scotland and beyond.”

Scotland’s Health Research and Innovation Ecosystem was developed by LSS working in partnership with the NHS Research Scotland (NRS), Scottish Enterprise and other partners.