

ABHI

MEMBER GROUPS

July 2024



CARDIOVASCULAR

Chair: Declan Dunphy, Cook Medical

Heart Valve

Chair: Nick Walker, Edwards

Vice Chair: Lia Cole, Medtronic

Stroke

Chair: TBC

Vascular

Chair: Denise Bryceland, Terumo

Vice Chair: Robert White, Boston Scientific

The Cardiovascular Group at ABHI brings together the various working groups that relate to the cardiovascular (CV) system. The group is intended to bring a high-level view of the impact of CV challenges to the NHS and more widely to the UK population in terms of welfare spending and the impact on the overall economy. It has three key working groups focused on; vascular technologies, the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of stroke and heart valve disease.

Achievements

With ABHI member support, the Vascular Society has run the first pilot of a device-specific registry for abdominal aortic aneurysm (AAA) procedures and is now looking to expand the device specific nature of the registry into other clinical areas.

Members coordinated a robust response to the AAA NICE Consultation, delivering broad stakeholder agreement and continued insight sharing.

Developed a Cardiovascular Health Check Report to help the group achieve its mission, vision and purpose.

Priorities

To work on the implementation of the recommendations outlined in the Cardiovascular Health Check Report.

To coordinate activity across the sub-sector member groups so a collective voice can tackle common challenges.

“Where in your business life can you work hand-in-hand with industry colleagues and medical societies with an open, transparent and collaborative approach for the better good of the patients? The only place I can think of is ABHI Cardiovascular.”

Declan Dunphy,
Manager, Commercial Business EMEA Vascular Division, Cook Medical & Chair, ABHI Cardiovascular



DIABETES

Co-Chairs: Shay Speakman-Brown, Dexcom & Jeevan Kumari, Ypsomed.

The voice of the Diabetes management industry. Working alongside people with diabetes, clinicians, health systems, and support groups/charities to make available the highest quality, sustainable, technology-based solutions to treat and manage diabetes.

Achievements

Joint ABHI and Diabetes Technology Network (DTN) position on Insulin Pumps.

Briefing from All Party Parliamentary Group for Diabetes to the ABHI Diabetes group.

Utilised the publication of the GIRFT diabetes report to identify key areas of focus for industry.

Priorities

Articulate the value of the diabetes technology community, providing people with diabetes with equity of access to the highest quality, sustainable, technology-based solutions to treat and manage their condition.

Build and strengthen relationships with identified stakeholders.

Respond as a group to appropriate consultations and policy positions to position the value of the diabetes tech community.

“My experience of the ABHI diabetes group has been very valuable. As a new SME player in the market, it has been great to come together with the other players in the sector to understand our common pain points and goals. The group is well structured and run and I am sure is going to get better and better as we mature.”

Alex Evans,
Country Manager, ViCentra



DIAGNOSTICS

Chair: Bruce Caldwell, BD
Vice Chair: Paul Skingley, BioMerieux UK Ltd & Charlotte James, Philips

The group brings together a broad range of stakeholders across Government, NHS, academia, research and industry to enable the vision of an early and holistic diagnosis healthcare model. It is the expert industry group, connecting-up different diagnosis sectors within the industry with external specialists and leaders. The group provides knowledge and leadership to progress the early diagnosis model and build high levels of diagnosis capacity and capability in the UK. ABHI Diagnostics also focuses on antimicrobial resistance (AMR). With infections getting harder to treat, tackling AMR requires a holistic approach, from education and awareness, through to the application of diagnostics tools to identify pathogens that inform the appropriate therapies, as well as management of complications such as sepsis.

Achievements

Priorities

Partnered with NHS England/Improvement to publish a vision for early diagnosis in the UK with ministerial support.	Ensure the value of diagnostic information is central to early disease detection.
Provided industry leadership to support rollout of NHS Test and Trace.	Lead the industry in developing and implementing strategies to boost diagnostic capabilities in the UK.
	Expand genomic, and other precise diagnostic, testing to inform personalised treatment strategies.
	Develop value and access routes for clinical deployment of AI/digital diagnostics.
	Grow ABHI's diagnostics community.

"Diagnostics has been catapulted into the public eye during the last 18 months, showing both the incredible impact we make on healthcare, but also the challenges and legacy of underinvestment that exist. This new-found public presence presents us with an unprecedented opportunity to build the value, investment and infrastructure for diagnostics in the UK. We hope that this group will form a strong singular voice across all areas of our industry to shape national strategy, policy and implementation, to help build a world leading diagnostics sector."

Pierre Hazlewood,
 Director of Marketing, Roche



DIGITAL HEALTH

Chair: Dr Roberto Liddi, Sensyne Health
Vice Chair: Anne Dreyer, Roche Diagnostics & Michael Shenouda, Open Medical

Building on unique opportunities in the NHS, academic institutions and third sector, the Digital Health Group works with national organisations to ensure the UK maximises opportunities for citizen health and economic wealth by investment in data-driven healthcare and creates a strong infrastructure and commercial environment to support development of the best HealthTech solutions.

Achievements

Priorities

Published White Paper on Digital Health Regulations to take an industry leadership position.

1. Market Access: Highlight issues within the financial system that hinder adoption of digital health technologies and make formal recommendations, for changes and additions to assessment and reimbursement mechanisms. [ABHI Paper: Health Digital Reimbursement](#)

Established a Task and Finish group under the Accelerated Access Collaborative to address specific Digital Health market access issues.

2. Data: Ensure industry recommendations are incorporated in data strategies, policies and processes, focusing on streamlined IG process and the implementation of SDE programme. [ABHI Paper: Health Data Access & Use](#)

Supported MPs to establish and provide ongoing secretariat support for an All Party Parliamentary group on Digital Health.

3. Regulation: Work with relevant organisations and wider regulatory activities to get industry recommendations on regulation across product and data built into legislation and working processes. [ABHI Paper: Digital Health Regulation](#)

Provided industry input into a wide range of policy initiatives including: NICE Digital Assessment programme & Multi Agency Advice Service, NHSX, Digital Technology Assessment Criteria, Scottish Life Science Group, HDR UK Innovation Portal and the Office for Life Sciences Health Data Policy.

4. AI & Ethics: Work with health system, academia and third parties to establish processes, standards and guidelines to support development and deployment of AI technologies.

5. Cyber Security: Share global best practice and develop 'safe harbour' forum to discuss threats and vulnerabilities.

Adoption Leverage '[Policy to Practice](#)' report to recommended changes required for the UK health and care system to rapidly and systematically adopt new technologies and the benefits to be gained for both NHS and UK economy.

"Since the groups inception I have been proud to work with members to develop an active programme of work and engagement with external stakeholders. We have clearly laid out positions on key topics which are disseminated through the broader platforms available via the ABHI interactions with ministers, senior officials and NHS leaders. Digital HealthTech is one of the fastest growing sectors in the medical device world, working at the intersection between regulation, software technology, ethics and information governance, and it is imperative for the industry that all of those angles are covered adequately."

Dr Roberto Liddi,
 Chief Regulatory, Quality & Information Governance Officer, Sensyne Health & Chair, ABHI Digital Health



HR LEADERS NETWORK

Chair: Jonathan Coles, Philips
Vice Chair: Emma Carter, Bayer Plc

The HR Leaders Network identifies and responds to factors that impact talent development across the HealthTech sector. It provides an opportunity for members to work together on industry-specific skills initiatives, share best practice, keep updated on employment legislation, and broaden the network of partners and stakeholders with whom to collaborate on mutual priorities. The group is also exploring how it can advance equality, diversity and inclusion in HealthTech.

Achievements

Provided guidance and support on HR and workforce related issues to manage the organisational impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including:

- › Key worker status
- › Furlough scheme
- › Flexible and homeworking
- › Return to the workplace
- › COVID testing and vaccination

Priorities

Continue to provide industry leadership on all relevant pandemic related workforce and organisational issues.

Assisted organisations to get ready for 1st January 2021 new immigration system.

Develop best practice to assist businesses adapt to post-COVID-19 organisational implications, including: future workplace, flexible working, benefits, use of technology, skills in a digital world and culture.

Provided training and education on implementation of IR35.

Share and amplify industry best practice to progress diversity and inclusion in the workforce.

Continued review of the use of apprenticeships in the industry and relevant standards available.

“ABHI’s HR Leaders Network has grown to become the premier industry specific community for HR professionals. It is a great opportunity to engage with peers in lead HR roles across the HealthTech industry, exchange ideas, share best practice and collaborate on industry challenges, for example on industry skills shortages and managing the impact of COVID on staff and the organisation.”

Jonathan Coles,
 Head of HR, UK & Ireland, Philips, & Chair, ABHI HR Leaders Network



LEGAL ISSUES

Chair: Linda Sneddon, WL Gore
Vice Chairs: TBC

The Legal Issues Group augments the work of other ABHI groups by providing advice and support on legal issues, especially in the UK market and regulatory areas. The group has recently incorporated the Credentialing and Access Group, therefore adding any legal implications to the UK’s credentialing network to the discussion.

Achievements

The group has held several external presentations on topics such as Class Actions and Lloyd v Google, and greatly benefits from the general participation of external law firm colleagues.

Priorities

To successfully integrate the Credentialing and Access Group into the Group.

The Chair of the Code of Ethical Business Practice complaints committee has been made a member of the group, in order to inform the members of infringements to the Code.

To consider the pending five-year review of the ABHI Code of Ethical Business Practice in light of potential Medech Europe updates and the challenges presented by social and corporate responsibility requirements.

The Chair and Vice Chair have been instrumental in the drafting of the white paper, related to ‘Placed Equipment’.

To monitor any legal developments presented by the developing UK regulatory requirements, that may affect the HealthTech sector, including those related to diagnostics and digital products.

To develop a strategy for education and encouragement for the regulatory group, thereby fostering an environment of participation by members.

“The Committee is aiming to provide practical answers to the ongoing challenges. Since the onset of the pandemic there has been significant engagement within the group that aims to provide clarity to all members as a whole.”

Linda Sneddon,
 Compliance MPD EMEA, Gore & Chair, ABHI Legal Issues



MUSCULOSKELETAL

Orthopaedics

Chair: Paul Gibbons, Corin Group PLC

Vice Chair: Karen Hughes, Stryker

Spine

Chair: Kate Windard, Nuvasive

Vice Chair: Kate Rivers, ZimVie

ABHI Musculoskeletal brings together orthopaedics encompassing joints, and spine. Together with stakeholders, including clinicians and patient support groups, we work to shape and improve the future of musculoskeletal care.

Achievements

Good relationship established with the executive of the British Orthopaedic Association and various patient organisations.

COVID-19 has presented some challenges, but the orthopaedics project has helped in this area of "shaping the environment". The group was reformed to focus on the effect of COVID-19.

A strong industry voice established when working with our stakeholders, including United Kingdom Spine Societies Board/BritSpine, National Joint Registry/Northgate and Orthopaedic Data Evaluation Panel /Beyond Compliance Steering group.

Priorities

To raise the profile and address the implication of arbitrary restrictions placed on patients needing musculoskeletal services.

To ensure the appropriate environment for the spinal and orthopaedics industries to work with the NHS in a safe and compliant method.

To strengthen the industry voice in our relationships with our stakeholders and patient groups.

"Engagement with the group has enabled collaboration to tackle the issues of the day as an industry, rather than just being a lone voice. It has provided education and insight from specialists who understand processes and systems better than me. Engagement with key stakeholders has been richer and quicker as a group than as an individual."

Jeff Stonage,
Health Economics and Reimbursement Director, Zimmer Biomet



OPHTHALMOLOGY

Chair: Emily Paynton, Alcon

Vice Chair: Sam Whiting, Johnson + Johnson

Ophthalmology is facing significant capacity challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and ophthalmologists need to plan restoration of cataract surgery, whilst dealing with the challenges of COVID-19 transmission prevention. The ABHI Ophthalmology Group is designed to support the sector.

Achievements

Convened meeting with the the Royal College of Ophthalmologists and industry.

Industry's objectives on educational and clinical training highlighted and clinical requirement requested.

Individual manufacturers educational offering presented to the Royal College of Ophthalmologists bilaterally.

Priorities

Ongoing engagement with the clinical community around ophthalmology service provision.

Identify the Royal College of Ophthalmologists requirements for support on the restart of ophthalmology.

Engagement with GIRFT regarding the GIRFT ophthalmology Report.

"This is a unique opportunity moving out of the pandemic with a world class vaccination programme, that the Ophthalmology group can effectively engage external key stakeholders to look at ways to collectively manage the challenge of the backlog of elective surgery. This will build trust to have a seamless partnership with the working group and create value for our external stakeholders."

Syed Rashid,
Director of Market Access & Sales Training, Johnson & Johnson Vision & Chair, Ophthalmology Group



PATIENT SAFETY

Chair: Greg Quinn, BD
Vice Chair: Stefanie Russell, Stryker

The group works to establish the HealthTech industry as a trusted partner for leading improvements in patient safety and healthcare worker safety.

We provide key insights to stakeholders and support the implementation of the NHS Patient Safety Strategy.

Working closely across the healthcare community, the group aims to ensure that innovation and technology, which improve the individual experience of care, are identified and accessible.

Achievements

Identified “never events” to address as an industry group.

Developed patient safety paper focussed on key areas of concern in patient safety.

Industry engaging with Key Stakeholders in the patient safety arena.

Priorities

Raising the profile of the current and future impact of HealthTech on key UK patient safety issues.

To foster collaborations between industry and relevant stakeholders.

To prioritise areas of the Patient Safety Strategy where industry can offer most traction.



PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Chair: Dan Jones, Stryker
Vice Chair: Carolyn Heaney, C2-Ai

The Public Affairs group is ABHI’s main forum for developing and communicating its public affairs strategy. It aims to raise the profile of the benefits and impacts of HealthTech across Parliament and Government, while providing members with the latest insights on legislative change.

Achievements

ABHI continued to increase HealthTech representation and input across formal government engagement platforms culminating in a Life Sciences Vision that acknowledges the crucial role of HealthTech.

Securing multiple references in the Life Sciences vision related to ABHI’s Chief Innovation Officer campaign, including having innovation and research as a core expectation across the NHS, alongside commitment to building metrics that can be used to monitor improvements.

Priorities

To ensure strong impact follows the increased representation of the HealthTech sector in all formal government engagements (Life Sciences Council, Health Technology Partnership, Global Opportunities Board, Life Sciences Implementation Board and the Innovation Research and Data Group).

Work to support the commitments within the Life Sciences Vision that ensures the delivery of innovation is both resourced and accountable across the NHS.

To inform ABHI’s position and activity on key issues in Parliament, particularly where there is a relevant legislative programme.

“The Public Affairs group gives me a single point of contact to keep updated on the legislative developments in the UK, during a time when there are many changes through the divergence in UK legislation from that of the EU.”

Nigel Talboys,
 Director, Global Government Affairs and Public Policy, Terumo & Chair, ABHI Public Affairs



REGULATORY

Medical Device Regulatory

Chair: Lynn Heaver, Johnson & Johnson Medical

Vice Chair: Cait Gatt, Boston Scientific

IVD Regulatory

Co-Chairs: Sue Spencer, Qserve Group UK & Erica Conway, MCRA (UK) Ltd

Vice Chair: Megha Iyer, Thermo Fisher

The Medical Device and IVD Regulatory Groups are ABHI's forums for developing and communicating policy on wider regulatory, environment and standards issues including those covered by UK CA marking, EU MDR and EU IVDR.

The groups work collaboratively with other ABHI member groups to ensure new UK and EU regulations provide safe and timely access to medical devices, IVDs and digital health products, whilst maintaining the balance between risk and benefits for patients.

The groups also bring together a sub group on the decontamination of HealthTech products, that will develop a programme of work supporting decontamination of medical devices and IVDs.

"Being part of the regulatory group is empowering. To be able to have like-minded discussions with peers across many companies only expands your own knowledge. And in our current environment of the MHRA consultation on the future of medical devices, now is the time we can all create change and innovation, to develop along with MHRA the best regulatory system to ensure access to devices for our patients in the UK. As George E. Woodberry said 'Defeat is not the worst of failures. Not to have tried is the true failure'."

Lynn Heaver,
Regulatory Affairs Lead UK/Ireland, Johnson & Johnson Medical & Chair, ABHI Medical Device Regulatory

Achievements

Medical Device Regulatory

- › Significant and comprehensive input into the UK CA Marking sub-group to influence future UK regulatory framework, including detailed response the MHRA consultation.
- › Ensured external presentations into all group meetings on a number of wide-ranging topics, including standards and MHRA process and procedures.
- › Included a number of international regulatory presentations in the group discussions, including from Swiss Medtech and MedTech Europe.

IVD Regulatory

- › Significant and comprehensive input into the UK CA Marking sub-group to influence future UK regulatory framework, including detailed response the MHRA consultation.
- › Led the industry voice on the Coronavirus Test Devices Approvals (CTDA) process.
- › Worked closely with MedTech Europe to ensure an extended transition period for IVDR.

Priorities

Medical Device Regulatory

- › To work with members of the IVD and digital interest groups to develop a regulatory oversight group, that will ensure messaging is consistent with wider ABHI policy.
- › Ensure that ABHI and its members are recognised as the senior partner in MHRA's efforts to progress CA Marking, particularly with respect to timely inputs into the respective consultations.
- › To develop a strategy for education and encouragement for the group, thereby fostering an environment of participation by members.

IVD Regulatory

- › Build a strong IVD regulatory group to establish authoritative leadership in the UK.
- › Drive the UK industry response to the emerging UK regulatory framework.
- › Influence and assess the impact of new IVD regulations and guidelines in the EU and internationally.



RESPIRATORY & ANAESTHETICS

Chair: Gus Sagoo, ResMed

Vice Chair: Nicki Dill, Barema

The Respiratory & Anaesthetics Group works to support the development of innovative pathways in respiratory care and progress the use of technology to improve outcomes in anaesthetics and critical care. We will collaborate with stakeholders to help deliver the objectives of the NHS Long Term Plan with particular focus on:

- › Policy formation: payment mechanisms, pathway development, clinical guidelines and standards.
- › Procurement, both capital and consumables.
- › The role of health technology in prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

Priorities

Sustainability.

Work with ABHI Sustainability group to provide input and activity related to specific anaesthesiology issues.

Payment Research.

Innovation and priorities for service transformation to tackle Long COVID.

Lung Health.

Engage with key stakeholders to ensure industry input is incorporated in the development of integrated respiratory care, rehabilitation and care at a local level.

Engagement.

Establish systematic engagement with the NHS across all nations, royal colleges and professional bodies, and relevant patient organisations.



ROBOTIC ASSISTED SURGERY

Chair: Chris Gray, CMR Surgical

Vice Chair: Daniel Jones, Stryker

The group will develop programmes and networks to further the adoption of surgical robotic systems and the development of Robotic Assisted Surgery as a technique. It will engage with the clinical community, policy makers and other relevant stakeholders who have a strong interest in the sector.

It will be the expert ABHI group, informing external audiences on the benefits of Robotic Assisted Surgery and will proactively engage with stakeholders to develop and implement national programmes that will shape the future adoption and growth of robotic assisted surgery across the UK.

Achievements

Successful group launch with commitment from key opinion leaders to partner with the group and progress robotic-assisted surgery in the UK.

Priorities

Engage with relevant stakeholders to define a national programme for England with policies around:

- Evidence generation, which will enable the efficient assessment of the clinical and economic value of RAS.
- Development of training and education for NHS staff.
- Commissioning and deployment of RAS.

Build relationships with organisations actively involved in shaping the future of robotic assisted surgery, ensuring the group is recognised as a trusted partner that engages and contributes to the development of new policies.

Highlight the understanding, value and benefit of RAS to Payors, policy makers and providers in order to ensure equity of access and increase patient access in this area.

Raise the profile of this industry sector, and robotic assisted surgery in general, through events and other public engagements.

"There are significant benefits to be had in using robotic assisted surgery methods, with less time for patients spent in hospital and quicker recovery times, which in turn supports a more efficient healthcare system. Of course, adoption of such technologies requires training, long-term investment and an appreciation of the value they bring. This is where the ABHI Group comes in, bringing together companies, the clinical community and all those involved in shaping the future of surgery, so that collectively, we can work together to improve outcomes for patients."

Nick Magree,

General Manager Europe - Robotics, Stryker UK & Chair, ABHI Robotic Assisted Surgery



SCOTLAND

Chair: Mark Cook, Medtronic

Vice Chair: Jonathan Williamson, Emblation

The group works with a broad range of stakeholders to raise the profile of the sector in Scotland, identify barriers to patients accessing appropriate technologies and provide tangible solutions. It also works to demonstrate the value of the breadth of solutions available to domestic and global health systems.

Priorities

Data:

Working to create a shared Health Data Space to enable a national, integrated approach to data that supports technological, clinical and system innovations, creating health and economic benefits for Scottish citizens and businesses.

Innovation landscape:

Working to encourage streamlining and creating stronger mechanisms for measuring adoption of technologies with positive guidance. In Scotland the adoption and spread of innovation remains somewhat disjointed between the work undertaken by the Scottish Health Technologies Group and the Health Boards.

Internationalisation:

Working to showcase and raise the profile of Scottish excellence in healthcare with the global HealthTech community, while continuing to build a growing domestic industry, both through export and inward investment.

“Scotland is a complex market in its own right and will differ from NHS England on principle alone and is structurally unique. By bringing an industry group to the Scottish table, as a partner in healthcare, both Scotland and the wider life sciences community will benefit”

Mark Cook,
Director, Government Affairs, Medtronic UKI & Chair,
ABHI Scotland



SAPT

Chair: Lena Cordie-Bancroft, BSI

The Sterilisation and Associated Processes Technologies (SAPT) Group works to proactively identify and address challenges and opportunities relating to decontamination, reprocessing, and related processes (cleaning, disinfection, packaging, sterilisation) through communication and collaboration with the ABHI Regulatory Groups, senior leadership teams, and relevant external stakeholders.

When appropriate, the group develops industry positions, recommendations for new processes, and best practices to the benefit of ABHI members, and the wider health technology and healthcare industries, to promote patient safety.

Priorities

Maintain Awareness of Regulatory Landscape

- › Monitor regulatory trends affecting decontamination and reprocessing to ensure ongoing, effective dialogue with key stakeholders, and to encourage internationally aligned, state of the art practices.
- › Influence regulatory change and discussion by acting as subject matter expert(s).

Contribute to Standards Content Related to Decontamination and Reprocessing

- › Provide a forum to discuss, interpret, and comment on key issues and communicate feedback to standards committees.

Promote and Influence Best Practices

- › Share industry knowledge, support science-based best practices, and provide clear guidance to industry by organising workshops, seminars and published guidelines on key issues relating to decontamination and reprocessing.

Collaborate with Internal and External Stakeholders

- › Work with other ABHI committees, external stakeholders and organisations to address common challenges and opportunities.

Support the UK as a Leader in HealthTech and Patient Safety

- › Proactively monitor, identify, discuss, and take action if needed, on emerging topics relevant to the objectives of the group.

“The Group is continuing to expand on the work done previously by the Sterilization and Microbiology Group, with a key aim of challenging established practices to promote and influence patient safety through positive change in the decontamination industry.”

Lena Cordie-Bancroft
Sector Lead, Healthcare, BSI & Chair, ABHI SAPT



SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS

Chair: Daniel Coole, Surgical Holdings
Vice Chair: Darby Booth, Warwick SASCo

The ABHI Surgical Instruments group represents manufacturers of surgical instruments and associated equipment. It is designed to raise awareness of the value provided by surgical products and the importance of continual quality improvement, with a focus on

patient safety and clinical performance. In working to develop and highlight best practice, the group provides a forum for its members to share insights and overcome the challenges impacting the sector.

Achievements

Production of the Surgical Instrument Strategy document which identified three key recommendations.

Convened a virtual round table with key stakeholders to discuss the Surgical Instrument Strategy document recommendations.

Working group formed to develop an online training course.

Priorities

To ensure this industry sector is seen as safe, accountable, professional and equitable.

To raise awareness of the value provided by surgical equipment, with a focus on patient safety and clinical performance.

To be inclusive of all relevant industry manufacturers e.g. single use and reusable instruments.

"Warwick SASCo has been members of the Surgical group for 10 years. The platform allows for vital two-way communications of industry knowledge. That ABHI has its 'finger on the pulse' of UK and international health sectors has a direct effect on my company's positioning and actions to remain a leading supplier of medical devices and healthcare products. Participation in the Surgical group allows for co-operation and engagement with other key UK companies involved in surgery, instrument management and decontamination. I recommend you join."

Darby Booth,
 Managing Director, Warwick SASCo Ltd & Vice Chair,
 ABHI Surgical

"A Group of dedicated reusable and disposable companies working together to provide the NHS and private sector with quality products, along with education and support. Together, striving to help hospitals and staff with their everyday work as a reliable source of information."

Andrew Davidson,
 Advisor, DTR Medical



SUSTAINABILITY

Chair: Michelle Sullivan, Boston Scientific
Vice Chairs: Daniel Coole, Surgical Holdings

The ABHI Sustainability Group recognises and agrees with the need to deliver healthcare in a more sustainable way. HealthTech presents significant opportunities to advance this goal and the industry is committed to supporting the NHS to deliver its net zero strategy. To do this, we will be a collaborative partner, delivering evidence-based and impact focused work that enhances the education of the industry, while working with all stakeholders to ensure that requirements placed on suppliers are proportionate.

We will aim to balance the patient, population and planetary needs to optimise outcomes for all.

Achievements

Establishing a series of four areas of industry alignment around the impact of Net Zero in NHS Procurement.

Established ABHI Sustainability as a forum for feedback to NHS England & NHS Improvement, for the proposed supplier asks and Evergreen Supplier Framework.

Priorities

Ensure that the industry voice is heard in all relevant discussions and work streams, be that with government, the NHS, internationally or other sustainability stakeholders in this space. This will be solidified with the Sustainability Conference in Q3.

Collaborating as an industry wherever appropriate, in terms of sharing best practice, insight and tangible work streams such as for waste management, with an ABHI industry policy paper to be published by Q3.

- Actively participate in and contribute to the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) Design for Life programme.

Gain executive level support for the sustainability agenda in member organisations, with a tangible output of work to be shared within organisations by Q2.

Continue to drive alignment in sustainability goals and targets placed on supplier organisations, at both national and international level, including writing a joint policy paper with AdvaMed by Q4.

Ensure the industry as a whole is educated on the broader sustainability agenda, as well as the targets and requirements expected of them, with an educational webinar taking place in each quarter this year.

The NHS has a bold ambition to be the world's first carbon net zero national health system by 2045. As a key part of that global supply chain, and its subsequent footprint, the HealthTech industry has an important role to play. The group will work to both promote sustainability within the HealthTech industry and for a holistic approach to be taken within regulation and procurement."

Annemarie Van Neck,
 Senior Vice President UK & Ireland, Coloplast



VALUE & ACCESS

Commercial Policy:

Chair: Graeme Cameron, Pennine Healthcare

Vice Chair: Michelle Sullivan, Boston Scientific & Matthew Bramley, Cook Medical

Market Access:

Chair: Kieran Murphy, ReCor Medical UK

Vice Chairs: Julian Dunnett, Intuitive Surgical Ltd & David Dawson, Becton Dickinson UK Ltd

The Value and Access group is the combined Commercial Policy group and Market Access Policy group. It brings together our work on the adoption and spread of innovation and the commercial uptake by the NHS, while allowing the specific needs of market access and procurement to be addressed. The objective of the group is to ensure that the NHS takes a value-based approach to the assessment, adoption and procurement of health technologies across the system.

“During these most challenging of times the support of the ABHI has never been more critical. The Value & Access group is a group of like-minded suppliers to the NHS who are passionate about ensuring that the correct quality and access to medical technology is provided for the benefit of all patients. Despite the coronavirus crisis we have never stopped in trying to push forward with this vision driven by constant dialogue with Supply Chain Coordination Limited to deliver operational equity, while delivering on the ultimate goal of ensuring that value-based procurement and healthcare become the bedrock of NHS procurement.”

Graeme Cameron,
CEO, Pennine Healthcare & Chair, ABHI Commercial

“Covering the way health technologies are assessed, commissioned and hospitals reimbursed, market access is critical to commercial success of ABHI members. The Market Access group works to ensure the NHS enables timely access to benefit patients and the wider health system. In an ever-changing landscape, it is critical that the health technology industry works effectively with Government and the NHS to realise these benefits and remove barriers which work against achieving the best patient outcomes within an efficient health system across the UK.”

Kieran Murphy,
Senior Director, Market Access, ReCor Medical UK & Chair,
ABHI Market Access

Achievements

Commercial

- › Delivered paper to Ministers on procurement landscape and 10 recommendations for the future requirements of NHS procurement.
- › Created key commercial messages and led engagement with NHS Supply Chain on critical issues.
- › Collated examples of innovations used to support the NHS during the COVID-19 crisis, which were shared with NICE, the Accelerated Access Collaborative and NHS Wales Value Based Procurement.

Priorities

Commercial

- › Through the Health Technology Partnership (HTP) Procurement & Innovation Group seek solutions to procurement issues identified in the paper sent to the HTP and discussed at the subsequent OLS/DHSC/NHS England meeting.
 - Convened by NHS England participate in a deep dive with NHS Supply Chain about issues with current tendering practice and the potential for the creation of a Safe Harbour.
- › Refresh and revitalise NHS Supply Chain engagement now new organisation in place, although still without a substantive Commercial Director – Operationally & Strategically.
 - Request details on the format and execution of NHS.
 - Request involvement in category Councils.
 - Engage in workstream as detail understood.
- › Engage and act of key elements of the NHS England Commercial Strategic Framework.
 - Request details on the format and execution of NHS.
 - Request involvement in category Councils.
 - Engage in workstream as detail understood.

Value & Access

- › Department of Health & Social Care MedTech Strategy Engagement - Innovation & Value Based Procurement.
 - Respond to issued next draft of value based question set.
 - Support soft launch.
 - Provide feedback on how the questions are implemented in tenders.

Achievements

Priorities

Market Access

- NICE
Appraisal & Guidance Programmes.
- › MultiTech evaluations, including Late Stage Assessments (LSA).
 - Respond to letter from NICE with ongoing concerns regarding LSA, including consultations on methods & process, scoping and assumed equivalence expert opinion.
 - Follow up as necessary.
 - › Interventional Procedure Guidance
 - Seek clarity on Terms of Reference for IPGs (bearing in mind newly implanted costs effectiveness assessments).
 - Formally request feedback on why the percentage of IPGs with special arrangements is so much higher than those with standard arrangement compared with historical ratios.
 - › Topic Selection
 - Following conclusion of NICE Listens work on prioritisation that will inform topic selection, review outcome of the prioritisation.
 - Initiate a formal discussion with NICE for how Topic Selection will support HealthTech resulting based on the Priorities.
 - Ensure Industry inclusion in all NICE committees.

NHS England & DHSC where relevant

- › Create and share (with minimum DHSC) ABHI's innovation adoption seamless pathway and funding mechanism proposal.

Specialised Commissioning transparency and process.

- Send letter to Specialised Commissioning.
- Review and devise action plan (including escalation to the Health Technology Partnership (HTP) as appropriate) based on response from NHS England.
- Agree further action – as necessary.
- Request engagement for expediting the development of a formal process for prioritising technologies to be reimbursed where IPG status is 'Special Arrangements'.

Innovation Ecosystem Programme

- Continued engagement using the Adoption landscape paper asks as the basis to surface concerns – through year

Market Access

- › Delivered ABHI Paper to NICE on critical aspects for inclusion in the Methods and Process Review.
- › Group members provided input to the NICE Methods and Process Review Task & Finish groups ensuring sector voice taken into account. The Case for Change consultation included points provided by members.
- › Provided critical feedback on the MedTech Funding Mandate Policy to instigate change in the requirement for in-year savings.



WOUND CARE

Chair: Jonathan Marl, 3M
Vice Chair: Kirsty Hunt, HARTMANN

To represent Wound Care manufacturers to external stakeholders, to raise the profile of tissue viability as a critical service and the role that technology and industry performs in delivering patient outcomes, experience and system efficiency.

Achievements

Utilised infographics to highlight the burden of wound care to a wide range of stakeholders including National Wound Care Strategy, NHS Supply Chain, clinical communities and NHS England.

Initiated discussions with NHS England and NHS Supply chain around whole-life system cost for wound care products.

Priorities

To guide clinical and procurement decision makers to consider and evaluate whole-life system cost for wound care products versus lowest acquisition cost.

To promote value of appropriate evidence in wound management; working with clinical stakeholders to create awareness of the sector challenges.

To support the inclusion of patient views and outcomes in decision making.

Drive for greater alignment from key government stakeholders, including National Wound Care Strategy, NHS Supply Chain and procurement organisations.

“The ABHI Wound Care group is very useful for our company to be a part of. Membership of ABHI overall, enables us to connect into the UK healthcare system at a high level, with the Group helping to make sense of the current healthcare environment.”

Trevor Andrew,
Commercial Strategy Manager, L&R Medical & Wound Care Group Vice Chair