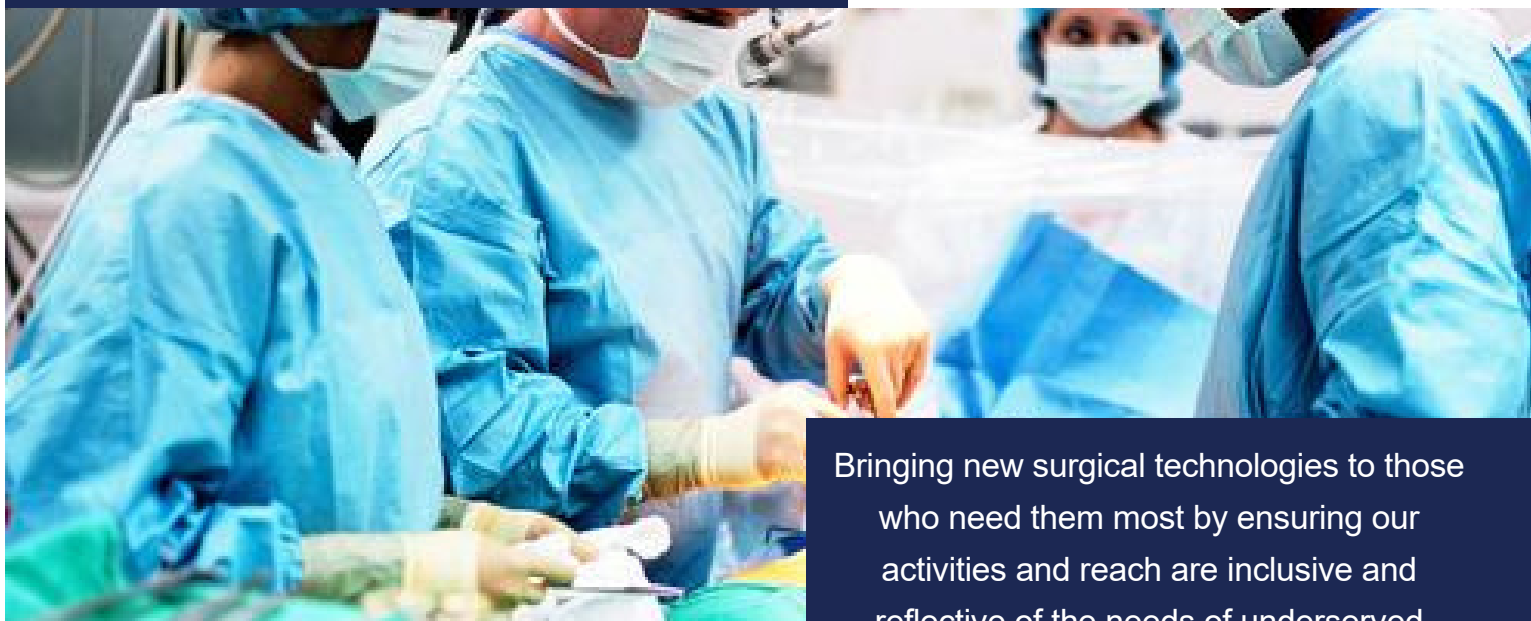


NEWSLETTER

Issue 7 June 2026



***Developing medical devices,
diagnostics and digital
technologies to improve surgical
care.***

Welcome to the HealthTech Research
Centre in Accelerated Surgical Care
newsletter.

Forming Collaborations

*The NIHR HealthTech Research Centre in
Accelerated Surgical Care is part of the NIHR and
hosted by Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust in
partnership with University of Leeds.*

Email: hrc-surgical@leeds.ac.uk
<http://hrc-surgical.nihr.ac.uk>

Bringing new surgical technologies to those
who need them most by ensuring our
activities and reach are inclusive and
reflective of the needs of underserved
groups.

Building capabilities in the generation of
evidence for HealthTech and improving
knowledge of market access requirements

Our Research Themes

- **Theme 1 - Early Diagnosis and Personalised Care**
- Theme 2 - Minimally Invasive Therapies and Extended Realities
- **Theme 3 - Assisted Healing and Rehabilitation**
- Timely clinical evaluation
- **Surgical Care Observatory**
- Sustainability & NHS net carbon zero

Follow us



A UK-first cancer treatment is giving new hope to patients with limited treatment options.



Congratulations to Professor Tze Min Wah and her multidisciplinary team treated the first patient in the UK to receive electrochemotherapy for a liver tumour using robotic needle guidance - a pioneering approach offering hope where there were previously no viable treatment options.

After being told that surgery, chemotherapy and radiotherapy were not suitable, the patient was offered this pioneering minimally invasive procedure. Early results show her tumour has reduced significantly.

This remarkable achievement demonstrates the power of research, innovation and collaboration, bringing together clinical teams, researchers, industry partners and patients to deliver new possibilities for cancer care.

As the only UK site currently delivering this treatment as part of the European RESPECT study, Leeds is helping to generate evidence that could shape future treatment options for patients across the UK and beyond.

The Sustainability & Simulation Theatre for Academia & Industry (SUSTAIN)



The SUSTAIN team took SUSTAIN out of the lab and into the pub!

Participated in this year's Pint of Science UK Festival, taking to the stage at The Attic, Leeds for "Sensing, Simulating and Storing the Future" — one of over 400 events taking place across the UK.

They introduced SUSTAIN to a public audience for the first time:

Due to launch this summer, SUSTAIN is a first-of-its-kind simulated surgical operating suite at Leeds, built to help the NHS cut carbon without cutting corners. From smarter instrument trays to asset tracking and behaviour change, SUSTAIN tests real innovations in a real-world environment — before they reach patients. Built in partnership with University of Leeds, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Department of Health and Social Care.

Your Voice in Health Research Summit



As part of the International Clinical Trials Day on 22 May and NIHR@20 celebrations, the Accelerated Surgical Care HealthTech Research Centre hosted a series of virtual events for members of the public, that culminated in an in-person event at the Cardigan Community Centre in Leeds.

Speakers :

Dr. Julia Charles shared insights into advocating for yourself, ways to improve your quality of life, and the importance of research.

Denise McLean - a patient who shared her lived experience and how she overcame it.

Dr. Mohammed Elbably - an Ophthalmologist surgeon who pitched his innovation called Sentrio AI Intraocular lens.

Dr. Vladyslava Muratova, Dermatologist who pitched her innovation called Sentrio UV Intelligence App.

The Power of Patient Advocacy & Research Participation (Panel Discussion) explored the importance of patients having a voice in their own health care, implications of research participation and much more!

Quiz & Giveaway

Included a 7 Day Free Pass to Active Leeds (Swimming, Gym and Fitness Class facilities)

One HealthTech Leeds



One HealthTech

We co-delivered the One HealthTech event as part of our International Clinical Trials Week activity.

Digital literacy is increasingly a gateway to health, wellbeing and opportunity. Accessing GP services, managing long-term conditions, applying for benefits, finding housing support, or engaging in education now relies on digital confidence as much as clinical provision. Building on widely recognised determinants of health, such as income, housing, education and social networks, digital inclusion is emerging as a critical determinant shaping how people experience health and care across West Yorkshire.

This event held on Thursday, 21st May 2026 brought together community leaders, healthcare professionals, innovators, and people with lived experience to explore how local communities are responding and what collective action looks like next.

It was a powerful reminder that digital transformation in health is not just about technology—it is about people, equity, and inclusion. The reflections shared urge us to listen, involve, and design with those most affected, ensuring that digital tools empower rather than exclude. The journey towards digital inclusion is ongoing, and it must be shaped by empathy, evidence, and a relentless commitment to accessibility.

This is also a PSA to digital technology innovators or anyone in that space to utilise NIHR and other supporting infrastructure, for patient and public involvement focus groups.

Read more [here](#)

HLTH Inc



We joined forces with West Yorkshire Combined Authority Health Innovation and Leeds Innovation Pop to host a stand at HLTH Inc Europe's no.1 healthcare innovation event Amsterdam, June 2027 joining healthcare leaders and innovators spanning the European healthcare landscape.

Events

The events calendar is now available on our [website](#), this will be populated with events that might be of interest.

You can subscribe to the calendar so that you are notified of events.

[York & North Yorkshire Health & Life Sciences Business Cluster](#)
[1 July](#)

[Understanding Innovation in NHS Supply Chain -various dates](#)

[Clinical Trial training for Investigators - 7-11 September](#)

[Introduction to process evaluation - 15 September](#)

[SurgTech 2026 8-9 October](#)

Registration Now Open
SurgTech 2026

8 & 9 October
Headingley Stadium, Leeds LS6 3BR
Scan QR Code to register



HealthTech Funding Opportunities

The following are funding streams that are suitable for collaborative applications with the HealthTech Research Centre in Accelerated Surgical Care.

We advise all potential applicants to discuss their potential applications well in advance of the application deadline.

- [NIHR Innovation Catalyst](#) – 14 July 2026

[EIC Transition](#) – 16 September 2026

[European Innovation Council: Pathfinder, Transition, and Accelerator 2026](#) – 28 October 2026

[PBIAA Secondments](#) – December 2026

Funding streams with no time limits

[The Horizon Europe Pump Priming Programme](#)

[Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II](#)

[Innovate UK Business Growth – RTO Voucher scheme](#)

[University of Huddersfield Health Innovation Partnership](#)

[UK Innovation & Science Seed Fund](#)

[Creative England Investments](#)

[The British Business Bank](#)

[Efficacy and mechanism evaluation programme – fast-track scheme](#) – no deadline

[Global Innovation Fund](#) – rolling deadline

[British Heart Foundation New Horizons Grants](#) – no deadline

[Cardiovascular Small Meetings & Events Funds](#)

[EIC Accelerator](#)

[Ignite Vouchers](#)

[Amplify Grants](#)

[BHF Healthcare Implementation Fund](#)