

# AHSN Social Network Study

The purpose of this survey is to map the knowledge sharing networks around Academic Health Science Networks (AHSNs). You have been invited to complete this survey because one or more of your peers has identified you as someone who is driving the circulation, sharing and exchange of new innovative knowledge linked to the \_\_\_\_\_ AHSN.

We define '*innovative knowledge*' as: knowledge about new ideas or perspectives, new research, products or services for health improvement or wealth creation, or a new application of existing knowledge, products or services.

Your participation is incredibly valuable to the continuation of this study. It should take you about 15-20 minutes to complete the survey.

## CONFIDENTIALITY & CONSENT

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary and you may withdraw from the study at any time. Your information will be treated in accordance with the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 and only accessed by the academic team for research purposes. This survey asks you to name important knowledge contacts. At no point will we publish any results or reports that identify your name or the names of your contacts. All data and outputs will be anonymised.

You consent by participating in this study. By participating in this study and providing your consent, you confirm that you have read and understood the information provided in the Study Information Sheet attached to an email accompanying your invitation email. If you have any questions about the study or wish to withdraw, before proceeding please contact Daniela D'Andreta, Research Fellow at Warwick Business School: Daniela.D'andreta@wbs.ac.uk.

## Please answer the following questions about yourself:

Note: Questions marked with '\*' are compulsory.

1.\*

## SCREENING QUESTION

*This survey is only relevant to individuals whose work is related to health care innovation (i.e. population health improvement and/or wealth creation) in the \_\_\_ AHSN region.*

Question:

Is your work related to health care innovation in the \_\_\_\_\_ AHSN region?

Yes - please continue No - please exit the survey. Thank you for your time.

2.\*

Who do you work for in your main job role? (Please name the company, initiative or organisation)

3.\*

What level of seniority do you hold in your main job role? (Please select one option only)

Very senior leader (CEO, Director, senior clinician, Board level member) Middle manager / clinical manager Non-manager

4.\*

In which sector do you work? (You may select more than one option if necessary, for example, if you work in a networked or other collaborative organisation)

**Yes No**

SME / local business

Large commercial corporation or organisation

Academia

NHS

Local government

Central government

Not-for-profit

None of the above

5.\*

How many years in total has your work been related to the field of healthcare, health policy or healthcare innovation?

6.

If you are or have been an NHS employee, how many years in total have you or did you work in the NHS?

7.

If currently employed in the NHS, please name your main primary employing Trust (*this helps us to provide accruals to your Trust*).

8.

What are your areas of professional expertise? (*Please select all that apply*).

### **My expertise**

Healthcare: Clinical or medical practice

Healthcare: Management

Healthcare: Public health & health policy

Healthcare: Commissioning

Research: Clinical / medical / health sciences

Research: Pharmaceutical

Research: Biotechnology

Research: Social sciences

Research: Other

Business: General management, policy or strategy

Business: Digital / informatics / social media / user-experience

Business: Other

9.\*

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement below?

I frequently participate in networking events and/or activities linked to health, wealth and/or innovation.

Strongly agree   Agree   Neutral   Disagree   Strongly disagree

10.\*

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement below?

I am strongly engaged with research about social networks and/or knowledge mobilisation.

Strongly agree/Agree/Neutral/Disagree/Strongly disagree

11.\*

Is your work affiliated with any of the AHSNs? *(Please select all that apply)*

**Yes    No**

Eastern

East Midlands

Greater Manchester

North East and North Cumbria

North West Coast

Imperial College Health Partner

Oxford

South London (HIN)

South West Peninsula

Kent, Surrey and Sussex

UCL Partners

Wessex

West Midlands

West of England

Yorkshire and Humber

None of the above

## KNOWLEDGE CONTACTS

We wish to identify the people who have been key in driving the circulation, sharing and exchange of new "*innovative knowledge*" relevant to AHSNs. We define '*innovative knowledge*' as: knowledge about new ideas or perspectives, new research, products or services for health improvement or wealth creation, or a new application of existing knowledge, products or services.

**QUESTION: Based on your own personal interactions and experiences over last six months, which of your contacts have been most active in driving the circulation, sharing and exchange of innovative knowledge relevant to AHSNs?**

These individuals may be from inside or outside of your own AHSN region, from any sector (NHS, industry, academia etc) and can be in junior or senior positions.

Please type each person's full name one at a time in the right-hand box below, and click to add. Please name a maximum of FIVE people. In the next section you will be asked a series of questions about each person.

1.\* Who does this person work for in their main job? *(Please name the company, organisation or initiative in full).*

2.\* What level of seniority does this person hold in their main job role? (Please select one option only)

Very senior leader (CEO, Director, senior clinician, Board level member)

Middle manager / Clinical manager

Non manager

3.\*

In which sector does this person work in their main job? *(You may select more than one option).*

**Yes**

Private sector: SME / local business

Private sector: Large commercial corporation or organisation

Public sector: NHS

Public sector: Academia

Public sector: Local government

Public sector: Central government

Third sector: Not-for-profit / voluntary

Other

4.\* In the last 6 months, has this person provided to you any type of innovative knowledge from the list below? *(Please select all that apply)*

**Yes**

New ideas or perspectives for creating wealth

New ideas or perspectives for improving population health

New research findings for creating wealth

New research findings for improving population health

New products or services for creating wealth

New products or services for improving health

New application of existing idea, service or product

None of the above

5.\*

To help us understand further the nature of this *innovative knowledge*, please provide 3-5 keywords that best describe it. Please do not include the words ‘innovation’ or knowledge’. Two examples are provided below.

Example 1:

Regional economy, Technology, Pharmaceutical, Science

Example 2:

Diabetes, Primary care, Networks, PPI.

Now please provide 3-5 keywords to describe the innovative knowledge you accessed from this person:

6.\*

Was this knowledge entirely new to you or did you have some prior-related knowledge? (*please select one answer*)

It was entirely new

I had some prior knowledge

7.\*

How did you implement or apply this knowledge? (*You may select more than one answer*)

**Yes**

I used it to develop my own thinking

I used it to develop new networks and contacts

I passed this knowledge on to NHS contacts

I passed this knowledge on to non-NHS contacts

I put this knowledge into concrete action (i.e. developing an initiative, research, product or service on the basis of this knowledge).

I was not able to implement or apply this knowledge

Other

8.

If other, please describe:

9.\*

In addition to providing innovative knowledge, has this person also provided you with any of the resources below? *(Please select all that apply)*

**Yes No**

Access to new professional contacts working in health or social care

Access to new professional contacts working in business or industry

Political influence or leverage (i.e. backing funding bids)

Trustworthy advice, guidance, information or support

10.\*

Over the past 6 months, have you regularly discussed important matters relating to your professional work with this person?

Yes No

11.\*

How long have you known this person? *(please select one option)*

Less than 6 months

6 - 12 months

1 - 5 years

5 - 10 years



Over 10 years

I do not know this individual personally

12.\*

In your opinion, how would you characterize this person's relative standing to you in terms of their influence on others within the field of health care innovation? (Please select one option)

Equal standing to me Senior standing Junior standing

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statement below?

13.\*

I understand this person's skills and knowledge. This does not necessarily mean that I have these skills or that I am knowledgeable in these domains, but that I understand what skills this person has and what domains they are knowledgeable in.

Strongly disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly agree

14.\*

To your knowledge, what are this person's areas of professional expertise?  
(Please select all that apply)

**Their expertise**

Healthcare: Clinical or medical practice

Healthcare: Management

Healthcare: Public health & health policy

Healthcare: Commissioning

Research: Clinical / medical / health sciences

Research: Pharmaceutical

Research: Biotechnology

Research: Social sciences

Research: Other

Business: Management, policy or strategy

Business: Digital / informatics / social media / user-  
Experience

Business: Other

None of the above

15.\*

Do you consider this person to be: *(please select all that apply)*

**Yes No**

A leader their field?

An expert their field?

A well-connected person?

Influential in their field?

16.\*

Is this person's work affiliated with any of the AHSNs? *(You may select more than one option).*

**Yes No**

South London (HIN)

Eastern

East Midlands

Greater Manchester

North East and North Cumbria

North West Coast

Imperial College Health Partner

Oxford

South West Peninsula

Kent, Surrey and Sussex

UCL Partners

Wessex

West Midlands

West of England

Yorkshire and Humber

None of the above

We would like to invite this person to take part in this study. We will do this anonymously (the person will not know that you have named them). We would be grateful if you could provide their email address so that we may continue our research by mapping how further network chains unfold.

17.\* Please provide this person's email address below.

### **AHSN Social Network Study**

**Congratulations you have finished !!**

**Thank you. We are very grateful for your participation and will provide feedback of our results to the email address you have provided.**

If you require any further information, please contact Daniela D'Andreta, Research Fellow at Warwick Business School: [REDACTED]