

Connectathon

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Connectathon

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On the 15th of March we hosted a Connectathon. This event looked at how people experience technology in health and care - from the home to the health centre to the hospital. We imagined what kind of new experiences and services could be provided to help people, using new technologies. For example, what could happen if people have easy access to and ownership over their health & care data through a “personal data store” or “personal health record”? What if you could easily use health devices at home and you could allow healthcare professionals to view that information for your benefit? What would this look like, and in what situations would it be helpful?

It's been a busy 4 months since our Connectathon in March, so we wanted to write this blog as a general update about how the work has progressed since then.

If you didn't attend the event, the following highlight video will give you a feeling for what happened on the day - and what a Connectathon is!

Highlights video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jo2-YpgiVIg>

This event was all about how citizens can activate health & care services on their own terms - we want to show how citizen generated data can flow through our hypothesised interoperable architecture to clinical systems (and back again!) to open up new models of healthcare delivery. This ties in with the work we are doing in our Demonstration & Simulation Environment to actually build a version of this architecture with SME & public sector partners.

An amazingly diverse group of participants from across health, care, SME, corporate organisations and academia attended, and split into teams to focus on a variety of challenge areas - which we describe in more detail below.

Following the event, we realised that another large event wasn't right for progressing each group's work, so we offered several teams to have smaller workshop days instead. We couldn't offer every single team this option, so we selected four teams based on 1) innovation, 2) enthusiasm to proceed and 3) ability to influence change.

Hypertension

Most of the group from the hypertension workflow was already working with DHI in one way or another, so this group didn't have a separate workshop date. The insights that came out of this group's work have been used to guide our development of a hypothesised new model of hypertension service delivery, complete with an amazing prototype app. We sense-checked this with several of the individual members of the team. We have now got this running in our demonstration and simulation environment and furthermore we have used this output to pitch to several organisations for further development and collaboration.

Clinical Trials / Research Data Governance

We've been incredibly impressed with how productive the clinical trial group has been. We had a workshop day at the start of June with representatives from across the board including academia, an SME, a health board, a corporate organisation and DHI. The group has a clear action plan to create a paper documenting the current problems and how they should be solved, and a route to using this to influence positive change potentially at a national level.

Stroke / Cardiac Rehab

The workshop meeting for stroke/cardiac rehab unfortunately had to be cancelled at the last minute due to unavoidable circumstances for the attendees, but the insights gained from this workstream are directly influencing a key piece of work that we are doing in the demonstration and simulation environment. Similarly to the hypertension stream, we want to leverage these insights to sense check our work in this area, and it has already lead to some tangible assets in the demonstration & simulation environment.

Asthma

At the asthma team meeting, we discussed how DHI is working with Asthma UK to improve management of asthma through citizen centred service redesign enabled by improved connectivity. This work is being done alongside the development of trust architecture from Napier university and will dovetail into the simulation and demonstration environment.

The CSO and Asthma UK have [released a call for funding applications](#) which coincided with the release of the Asthma UK paper on perceptions of data usage.

Call To Action

If you would like to see how DHI has progressed the work from this Connectathon in our Demonstration and Simulation environment, or learn more about our approach to citizen activated services, please get in touch with us via email at dse@dhi-scotland.com. If you email us, we will offer you an invite to a demo from September onwards.

We are really proud that this event connected an amazingly diverse group of individuals and organisations passionate about digital health and care, and look forward to showing the outputs to the world in our demonstration & simulation environment.