Introducing the
NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement
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**Document Purpose**  
For Information

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Introducing the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement

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PCT CEs, NHS Trust CEs, SHA CEs, Care Trust CEs, Foundation Trust CEs, Medical Directors, Directors of PH, Directors of Nursing, PCT PEC Chairs, NHS Trust Board Chairs, Special HA CEs, Directors of HR, Directors of Finance, Allied Health Professional, GPs, Communications Leads, Emergency Care Leads

**Circulation List**  
NDPBs, Voluntary Organisations, Education Providers, Innovation Industry, Private Sector Healthcare, Innovation and Improvement organisations worldwide

**Description**  
This is an eight page document which will introduce the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement to external audiences, customers and stakeholders. The leaflet will be distributed at the NHS Confederation Conference and then posted out to key stakeholders

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The Way Forward, March 2005: The NHS Institute for Learning, Skills and Innovation

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N/A

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**For Recipient’s Use**
Introducing the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement

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Foreword

The NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement is a new and exciting venture which will provide an ambitious focus for new ideas, technologies and practices to improve services to patients, users and the public. From the outset, we will be receptive to the needs of the NHS, working as part of the wider NHS system to draw on the best skills and expertise to clarify solutions to the priority issues.

In my role as Chair, my aim is to help guide an organisation that will be flexible, dynamic and responsive to its collaborators, customers and wider stakeholders. The organisation will be part of the NHS as a Special Health Authority, governed by a Board of non-executive and executive directors who will bring together the knowledge and experience needed to turn this exciting concept into a practical reality.

Sir Ian Carruthers OBE, Chief Executive of Dorset and Somerset SHA, has led a dedicated Transition Team who have guided the development process for the NHS Institute until now. On behalf of the incoming Board and staff we would like to thank Sir Ian and his team and look forward to the challenge and privilege of playing our part in developing an organisation that has the opportunity to affect both the lives of patients and healthcare staff.

Dame Yve Buckland
Chair, NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement
Introduction

The NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement, formerly known by the working title of the NHS Institute for Learning, Skills and Innovation, will be established as a Special Health Authority from July 2005. Based on the campus of the University of Warwick, the mission of the NHS Institute will be to support the NHS and its workforce in accelerating the delivery of world-class health and healthcare for patients and public by encouraging innovation and developing capability at the frontline.

With up to £80 million available to fund the NHS Institute and related activity, the organisation will work closely with patients, clinicians, NHS organisations, the independent sector, the public, academia and industry in the UK and world-wide to identify and communicate best practice. It will support the rapid adoption and spread of new ideas by providing guidance on practical change and ways to facilitate local, safe and swift implementation. It will focus on developing capability for service transformation, technology and product innovation, leadership development and learning in the NHS.

The NHS Institute’s added value will come from products that frontline teams and Boards cannot get from other sources and which can be adapted quickly for use in the workplace. The NHS Institute will use its limited national resource to trigger change, positioning itself within the wider NHS system and creating the right relationships with NHS organisations and staff.

With the creation of the NHS Institute, the NHS Modernisation Agency, NHSU and the NHS Leadership Centre are being dissolved.

“We are determined to develop best practice in the NHS and adopt rapidly new ideas and ways of working... No-one should be left behind as the NHS embraces more innovations for patients.”

Jane Kennedy, Minister of State for Quality and Patient Safety
Setting Priorities

The NHS Institute will focus expertise in service transformation, technology and product innovation, leadership development and learning on a small number of big priorities at any one time. These priorities will be set by the Department of Health in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders.

There will be around five teams working on priority programmes, focused on the toughest challenges facing the NHS. Priorities might include delivery of the 18-week maximum waiting target or personalising care for people with long-term conditions, the testing of new procurement models, and ensuring further value from the NHS annual £4 billion training programme for the widest possible range of staff.

These teams will follow a rigorous innovation and improvement methodology, in line with world-class best practice, to deliver high impact solutions for the NHS in unbeatable cycle times.

Work on each priority programme will continue for an agreed time to deliver a set of agreed outputs and will then end. This will enable resources to be freed to focus on the next set of priorities and will prevent the NHS Institute accumulating tasks and losing focus.

"Constant innovation and learning at the frontline are the keys which will unlock real improvement in the quality of care we provide for our patients. As a single, national centre of excellence, the NHS Institute will be a vital support for nurses, midwives and indeed all clinical professionals."

Professor Christine Beasley, Chief Nursing Officer
Technology and Product Innovation
The NHS Institute will incorporate the National Innovation Centre recommended in the Healthcare Industries’ Taskforce Report. It will be part of the NHS Institute and based on the campus of the University of Warwick, operating as a network to benefit from the expertise and enthusiasm for innovation that exists across the UK. It will provide an effective entry point for industry and the NHS to explore and adopt innovative concepts and process new ideas, including signposting to other NHS organisations and the development of specific products.

Service Transformation
The NHS Institute will work to drive, lead and commission the development and research needed to build an evidence base of new and best practice in service transformation. It will develop methodologies that produce the greatest impact and encourage the rapid spread and adoption of improvement approaches and changes.

Learning
The NHS Institute will promote a culture of life-long learning for all NHS staff by working with NHS organisations and communities to develop effective learning systems to accelerate organisational and individual growth and change. It will connect with leaders of learning in healthcare and other industries globally to identify the best methods and translate these for NHS learning. It will also work closely with the National Director for Widening Participation in Learning.

Leadership
The NHS Institute will also develop capability in leadership. As part of this it will manage a portfolio of leadership development programmes. Activities will include:

- NHS Graduate Schemes (General Management, Finance and Human Resources)
- Gateway to Leadership
- Board Level Development Resources
- Breaking Through (for NHS managers from a black or minority ethnic background)
- Leadership Qualities Framework
- International Relationships