


# 1.12.23 WORKSHOP RECAP: Co-Designing Solutions for Health Informatics Challenges

*At The Better Together For Digital Healthcare Conference 2023*

On the 1st of December 2023, HISI ran a workshop in the Convention Centre titled:

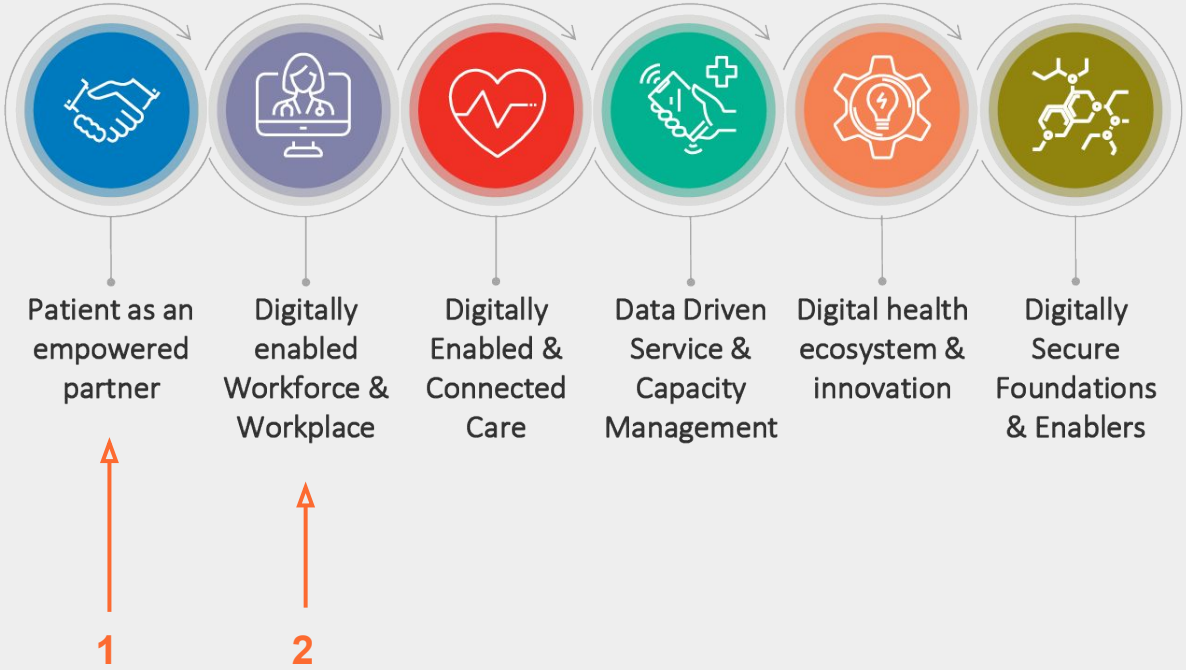
**Bridging The Gap: Co-Designing Solutions for Health Informatics Challenges** at The Better Together For Digital Healthcare Conference 2023.






HISI took two principles from the Digital Health Strategy as a basis for the Co-Design workshop.

The goal was to **identify main challenges in each strategic area** and figure out what helps us to define these challenges, what helps us to develop solutions and what helps us to deliver solutions successfully.



HISI workshop facilitators used an approach adopted by NHS Digital called **User-Centred Design**.

This model starts by asking *what the right problem is* to be solved and then continues by helping to *solve it the right way*.

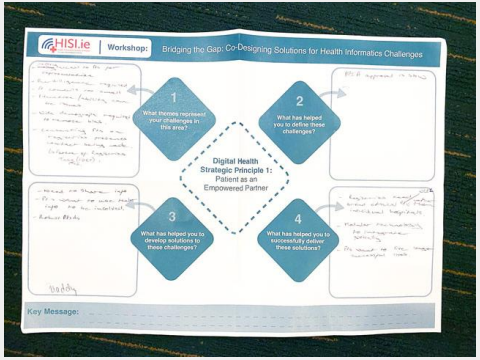
**The facilitators began the workshop by asking these questions…**

1 *What Are Our Challenges?*

2 *What Helps To Define Challenges?*

3 *Developing Solutions?*

4 *Successful Delivery?*






The two groups, facilitated by Clare Harney and Paddy Browne, split off and began discussions around each element of the strategy.

Groups included patient representatives, clinicians, students, industry partners, researchers
and IT professionals.

Finally, the groups came together and shared their key points

***GROUP ONE***
***Digitally Enabled Workforce and Workplace***

***GROUP TWO***
***Patient as an Empowered Partner***






## *GROUP ONE*

## *Digitally Enabled Workforce and Workplace*

The workshop discussions emphasised key challenges in fostering a digitally enabled workforce and workplace. Participants raised questions about **integrating real-life experiences effectively**, especially for individuals already in clinical roles. Ideas were explored, such as short-term assignments and leveraging **university partnerships** for practical academic collaborations. The discussion emphasised the need for building capacity in real-world digital transformation delivery.

Noteworthy insights included **the importance of incorporating informatics** and digital health into undergraduate learning. Participants emphasised the crucial role of **co-design methods as described in the HSE Change Guide**. Furthermore they see professionalising **health informatics** and establishing **accreditation pathways** as important.



## GROUP ONE

## Digitally Enabled Workforce and Workplace

**KEY POINTS**

- Integrating **real-life experiences** effectively, for individuals in clinical roles
- Leveraging **university partnerships** for practical academic collaborations.
- The importance of incorporating **informatics and digital health** into undergraduate learning
- Crucial role of **co-design change methods**
- **Professionalising health informatics** and accreditation pathways
- Significance of **real-world experience** in delivering digital transformation

## *GROUP TWO*

## *Patient as an Empowered Partner*

The workshop delved into the theme of empowering patients as partners in their healthcare journey. Participants highlighted the **challenges of consent** for data sharing. They recognising patients' willingness to share information, including anonymously, to contribute to medical advancements. Consent challenges, particularly in the context of **GDPR and data protection requirements**, were discussed.

**Simplifying data sharing processes** and improving consent mechanisms is necessary. Additionally, the workshop considered the challenge of **gathering data efficiently,** with respect to patient registries. **Standard approaches to streamline information collection** across **disease registries** needs exploration. The discussion emphasised **the need for technology platforms,** rather than **unique solutions** to facilitate accurate data capture, sharing, and consent management for patient registries.

**Diverse representation** from the outset of solution development, to include patients as key stakeholders, would improve successes. Diversity should cover demographics and conditions, to **ensure an inclusive and effective approach**.



## GROUP TWO
## Patient as an Empowered Partner



## *HISI's Key Takeaways*

Advocate for **professionalisation of health informatics**.

Explore ways of integrating real-life experiences into **digital training for individuals already in clinical roles** as well as **practical academic and industry collaborations**.

Reinforce the importance of **informatics and digital health in undergraduate learning**.

Ensure **principles of co-design** are used in digital improvement programmes, ref. Health Service Change Guide

Recognise patients' willingness to share information for medical advancements with a willingness to collect it – by **developing simplified consent mechanisms**.

Collaborate to develop **national data standards** to include **collecting, consent management** and **secondary use.**

Ensure appropriate patient involvement and **prioritise diverse representation from the beginning** of solution development.







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