



Summary minutes: Fourth meeting of the National Commission into the Regulation of AI in Healthcare (28th January 2026)

Background:

The National Commission into the Regulation of AI in Healthcare was announced on 26th September 2025 as an independent, non-statutory advisory group hosted by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, (MHRA). Its purpose is to advise on creating a new regulatory framework for AI products in healthcare, supporting the ambition for Great Britain to be the fastest and safest place to regulate AI and software as a medical device.

The Commission will meet monthly until May 2026 and is tasked with publishing recommendations by summer 2026.

Summary of the discussion

- The meeting opened with a welcome from the chair, who thanked all commissioners for attending. The chair confirmed that all four of the National Commission's working groups had recently met to discuss device and pre-market approvals and thanked all working group members for their rich and varied discussion.
- The commissioners then discussed stimulus papers and working group feedback on device and pre-market approvals. They included proposals for registries for devices and the idea of master files for foundation models. Commissioners welcomed the papers and agreed that traditional approaches do not suit iterative, context-dependent models and supported exploring more dynamic, lifecycle-based regulatory approaches. There was consensus that shifting some evidential burden to post-market phases, whilst strengthening continuous oversight, could better balance safety and innovation.
- The deputy chair provided a number of updates to commissioners, including more detail on engagement to promote the value of listening to views of patients and the public. This included updates on a 'in person' commissioner event which is planned for March, an 'ask me anything' patient and public event, and the National Commission's call for evidence which closed on Monday 2nd February.
- Commissioners then received an update on the National Commission's research and engagement programme. They heard about plans for policy roundtables, ongoing evidence reviews which are being undertaken with partners (including deliberative research and listening to the views of underserved communities), and discussed the results from polling of public attitudes towards the use of AI in healthcare.
- The chair closed the meeting by inviting the MHRA's CEO to provide his reflections on the National Commission's work. They confirmed that ministers



welcome the National Commission's work and will provide the support needed to implement the National Commission's recommendations.

- The chair thanked the commissioners for their input. They confirmed that the recommendations identified in the meeting will be taken forward into policy development and will inform the National Commission's final recommendations.



Attendance:

Professor Alastair Denniston (Chair), Professor of Regulatory Science and Innovation, University of Birmingham; Honorary Consultant Ophthalmologist, University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust; Executive Director, Centre of Excellence for Regulatory Science in AI & Digital HealthTech (CERSI-AI)

Professor Henrietta Hughes (Deputy Chair and Chair of Health Systems Working Group), Patient Safety Commissioner

Professor Neil Lawrence (Chair of Technology Working Group), DeepMind Professor of Machine Learning, University of Cambridge; Chief Scientist, Trent AI

Professor Cathie Sudlow (Chair of Devolved Authorities Working Group), Head of School of Population Health Sciences, University of Edinburgh and Director of UKRI Adolescent Health Study

Dr Brian Anderson, Chief Executive Officer, Coalition for Health AI (CHAI)

Dame Jennifer Dixon, Chief Executive, The Health Foundation

Adj. Prof. Raymond Chua, Chief Executive Officer, Health Sciences Authority; Deputy Director-General of Health (Health Regulation), Ministry of Health (Singapore)

Dr Paul Goldsmith, Non-Executive Director MHRA; Chair, MHRA's Regulatory and Safety Committee; visiting Professor, Institute of Global Health Innovation, Imperial College London; Consultant Neurologist, Clinical Senate

Dr. Ricardo Baptista Leite, CEO, HealthAI - The Global Agency for Responsible AI in Health

Dr Vish Ratnasuriya MBE, General Practitioner; Chair, Our Health Partnership; Co-Founder, Primary Care Accelerator; Honorary Associate Professor, University of Birmingham

Dr Gabriella Spinelli, Director, RADIANT-CERSI Centre for Regulatory Science & Innovation in Digital Health & Healthcare AI, Brunel University London

Dr Barry Stein, Chief Clinical Innovation Officer; Chief Medical Informatics Officer; Founder, Center for AI Innovation in Healthcare; Attending Vascular and Interventional Radiologist, Hartford HealthCare, Connecticut, USA

Mr Richard Stubbs, Chief Executive, Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber

Professor Richard Susskind CBE KC, President of the Society for Computers and Law, Special Envoy for Justice and AI to the Secretary General of the Commonwealth