



## HealthTech Forum 2026

### The Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, Putney

Tuesday 5 May

Draft programme

**09:45** Registration and refreshments

**10.00** **Welcome**  
Paul Allen, *CEO, RHN*

**10.05** **Introduction**  
Philip Clayson, *Trustee (Technology), RHN*

**Chair (AM)** Dr Sophie Duport, *Associate Director of Research, RHN*

**10.20** **Setting the scene**  
Toby Roberts, *Associate Director of Information and Technology, RHN*

**10.35** **AI for Infection Identification - Avoiding Rehab Disruption with RHN & Sanome**  
Benedikt von Thüngen, *CEO and Founder, Sanome* with  
Dr Sophie Duport, *Associate Director of Research, RHN*  
Toby Roberts, *CIO, RHN*

**10.55** **Melo in Motion: A Year of Impact and What's Next**  
James Burch, *Co-Founder, Decently*  
Dr Natali Farran, *Clinical Psychologist, RHN*

**11.20** Coffee break with demonstrations

**11.45** **PatientSource: The Road Ahead**  
Dr Philip Ashworth, *Chief Operating Officer, PatientSource*

**12.05** **In relation to a title of the presentation: AI-Driven Safeguarding: safer care, stronger outcomes**  
Sorin Neacsu, *Head of Safeguarding, RHN*

**12:25** Panel session and Q&A

**13:00** Lunch and exhibition demonstrations



- Chair (PM)** **Toby Roberts, Associate Director of Information and Technology, RHN**
- 14.15** **SmartSocks: an unobtrusive smart garment for monitoring distress, behaviour, and mobility in people with communication difficulties**  
Dr Zeke Steer, *CEO, Milbotix Ltd*
- 14.35** **Ambient Voice Technology at the RHN**  
Zac Baxter, *Clinical Fellow, RHN*
- 14:55** **Patient data - from information to impact: Turning fragmented information into better care**  
Jamie Hall, *Chief Revenue Officer, Mizaic*
- 15:15** **Panel session and Q&A**
- 15.50** **So where do we go from here?**  
Toby Roberts, *Associate Director of Information and Technology, RHN*
- 16.00** **Close**

## A bit about our speakers:

**Dr Philip Ashworth, PhD**  
Chief Operating Officer, PatientSource

Dr Philip Ashworth serves as the Chief Operating Officer at PatientSource, where he leverages over 19 years of experience in medical technology to enhance healthcare delivery. With a PhD from Cambridge University and a background in imaging, machine learning, and applied AI, Dr Ashworth expertly navigates the intersection of technology and patient care. His role is pivotal in implementing data-driven solutions that meet the rigorous demands of the healthcare industry, improving both patient outcomes and operational workflows. Dr Ashworth will be discussing the challenges of managing complex healthcare data and sharing some insights to how PatientSource's elastic data structure helps tackle these.

**James Burch**  
Co-Founder, Decently

James is co-founder of Decently, a north west based Health Tech company committed to improving lives through creating innovative, digital health products.

For the past 3 years Decently have been working closely with neuro rehab colleagues across NHS and Private providers to learn about the current challenges & limitations of collecting and analysing behavioural data from patients that are experiencing challenging to manage behaviours - this has culminated in the design and development of the behavioural insights platform Melo™ .



James has 20+yrs experience of implementing digital solutions across both Education and Health sectors and has seen many benefits delivered to end users and organisations however, he also has a good appreciation of the various challenges this new way of working presents across workforce, clinical, governance and technical standpoints.

## **Philip Clayson**

Trustee for IT, RHN

Philip is an award-winning CIO, CTO and transformation leader, a member of the UK CIO top 100, a Chartered Engineer, a Fellow of the IET, and an advisor to both the UK Government on cyber and data, and private equity-backed companies. Philip's experience spans Telecoms, Energy, Infrastructure, Broadcasting, TV, Streaming Media, Software Development, Consumer Devices, and Emergency Services/Blue Light, in both B2C and B2B context. He has led large-scale international technology transformations for FTSE companies in Telecoms, Energy and TV, and has had key leadership roles with Sky, SSE, TalkTalk and BT. Recently, with Sky, Philip led a £300m digital transformation initiative unlocking global expansion into approximately 100 countries. Before Sky, he led the technology divestment of SSE's B2C Energy business to Ovo. Philip is an amateur drummer, a qualified skipper, and a competitive ocean racing yacht sailor.

## **Dr Natali Farran**

Clinical Psychologist, RHN

Natali is a Clinical Psychologist at the Neuro-behavioural Service in RHN. She works on Wellesley, a highly specialist inpatient ward for adults with complex behaviours that challenge that have resulted from a brain injury. Natali is leading the integration of the behavioural insights platform Melo™ within RHN's Neuro-behavioural Service. She is passionate about Reducing Restrictive Practice and currently co-leads the Restraint Reduction Steering group at RHN. Natali completed her clinical doctorate at King's College London (KCL) and was later trained through the Institute for Applied Behaviour Analysis (IABA) in Positive Practices in Behaviour Support. Natali is a two-time merit based scholar for her postgraduate studies, and the Padmal de Silva Prize winner for integrating scholarly work with clinical practice. She is a research affiliate at KCL, and a human rights activist outside of her clinical and research work.

## **Jamie Hall**

Jamie Hall, Chief Revenue Officer, Mizaic

Jamie Hall is Chief Revenue Officer at Mizaic, with 20 years' experience in the UK healthcare sector, specialising in digital transformation across EDMS, EMR and EPR, alongside content management and digitisation services. He has shaped complex programmes across multiple NHS Trusts and integrated care systems, and is widely recognised for his expertise in building economic cases for EDMS. At Mizaic, Jamie has supported several successful patient record digitisation programmes, helping Trusts improve access to patient information and modernise records management. He now applies that expertise with a focus on how better use of patient information can support more effective care pathways, improve clinical workflows, and inform the referral process.

## **Sorin Neacsu**

Head of Safeguarding, RHN

A highly experienced and commercially astute safeguarding leader, Sorin Neacsu is currently Head of Safeguarding at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability. With a strong background across the NHS and complex care environments, they specialise in the early identification and management of safeguarding risks, alongside the development of robust systems that enhance patient safety and organisational accountability.



Holding an MA in Rehabilitation Science from St George's University of London, he combines clinical insight with strategic leadership, overseeing safeguarding frameworks, governance structures, and multi-agency collaboration. They are recognised for building effective partnerships with patients, families, and stakeholders to deliver safe, high-quality care.

An award-winning professional, they received the NHS Safeguarding Award from the Safeguarding Adults National Network in 2021, followed by the Leaders in Safeguarding Award, for implementing innovative safeguarding frameworks that protect individuals at the highest level of risk.

At the forefront of integrating safeguarding with innovation, Sorin Neacsu brings a unique perspective on how health systems, technology, and governance can work together to improve outcomes for vulnerable populations.

## **Toby Roberts**

Associate Director of Information and Technology, Royal Hospital for Neuro-Disability

Responsible for the IT at the specialist care hospital and research centre, the RHN, Toby has worked at the hospital for 11 years. When he first joined, his main task was to find more efficient way for IT to support the work carried out by the 700 dedicated staff members and hundreds of agency workers.

The hospital's digitisation strategy didn't exist, and its IT systems had long been neglected and underfunded, and so Toby was brought in as a remedial fix to help clean up some standard business hygiene issues and put the RHN back on the right track. Once he had succeeded with the basics, Toby was able to deep dive into an initiative that would see all patient records become electronic and the hospital go almost completely paperless in a matter of months.

## **Zeke Steer**

Founder and CEO, Milbotix

Zeke is the founder and CEO of Bristol-based health-tech company Milbotix. He worked as an engineer in the defence sector for over 10 years. Following his great-grandmother's dementia diagnosis and subsequent decline, he undertook doctoral research at the Bristol Robotics Laboratory investigating how wearable and robotic technologies can aid the management of behavioural and psychological symptoms. Zeke commercialised his research through Milbotix with funding and support from Alzheimer's Society. He is a Visiting Fellow at the Centre for Health & Clinical Research at UWE Bristol and an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at the Bristol Medical School.

## **Benedikt von Thüngen**

CEO and Founder, Sanome

Benedikt is a serial entrepreneur with an academic background in Biomedical Sciences and Business from the Universities of Edinburgh, Salamanca, and Cambridge. He has built companies across renewable energy, enterprise software, deep tech, drug discovery, and healthcare, with three successful ventures.

At Sanome, Benedikt is building a clinical co-pilot to support overstretched clinicians identify patient health changes before they occur, thereby aiming to address the growing pressure on healthcare.

Benedikt is deeply committed to mentoring, having supported more than 50 startups internationally, and shares his experiences to The Royal Academy of Engineering, the Royal Society of Medicine and Cambridge University, where he is a guest lecturer. His work reflects a commitment to integrating bioscience and technology to advance preventative healthcare.