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### Forthcoming events involving Medipex:

**6-8 June**  
UK Radiological Congress

**7 June**  
Nursing in Practice

**27-28 June**  
ABHI Annual Conference, London.

"The Changing UK Market for Medical Devices"  
[www.ibr-lifesci.com/abhi](http://www.ibr-lifesci.com/abhi)  
Morning sessions on Evaluation and Payment by results, afternoon sessions on Innovation and Procurement.

**5 September**  
National Winners Award Ceremony of Regional Innovation Competitions, London

**31 October**  
Launch of Medipex NHS Innovations Competition 2006

**16-19 November**  
Medica, Düsseldorf

## Welcome to the Medipex Newsletter

"I would like to take this opportunity to personally welcome you to the first Medipex newsletter, which I hope you will find both interesting and inspiring. We, as a company have been in operation for over a year, and in that time have identified over 200 innovative projects and creative ideas emanating from every level in healthcare from across the region. The past year has been busy, to say the least, and I hope that through sharing our activities and good news with you, you will gain a greater understanding of the company and of ways that we can work more effectively with you."

Richard Clark, Chief Executive of Medipex Ltd.

## About Medipex

Medipex is the Innovation Hub for all NHS staff working in the Yorkshire & Humber region. Where Medipex has been involved, we ensure that ideas that come to fruition will make a significant improvement to the delivery of health care. If an idea relates to a new technology, medical device or software, then we will undertake the commercial exploitation process to ensure that patients benefit from the innovation, as well as the trust and inventor.

Medipex was established as a not-for-profit company offering membership to each trust, this way we ensure everyone has a voice in how we operate. Our relationship with each trust is through a simple service level agreement that spells out what we will deliver in return for an annual fee linked to the level of anticipated activity.

During our first year there have been a number of key achievements including:

- Growing membership from NHS Trusts around the region
- Providing face to face and telephone advice on intellectual property to 60 NHS Trusts and over 100,000 individuals across the region
- Launched the Medipex innovation competition - 140 entries
- Deal flow running at 8 new ideas/month
- Inventions that are being taken forward ranging in commercial values from £0.25 million up to £10 million - with one project having a potential worth of £400 million



Back row (L to R): Lyndon Judd (IP Manager), Dick Clark (Chief Executive), Terry Corbitt (IP Manager).  
Front row (L to R): Stephanie Bridgford (Administrator & Event Co-ordinator), Jan Stott (Event Co-ordinator Assistant), Ann Starkey (General Manager), and Natalie Callender (PR Officer).

- Successfully secured a £0.25 million Proof of Concept fund for assisting project ideas to prototype stage
- Exhibiting NHS innovations at major international, national and regional conferences including Medica, NHS IP, PSRE, BioForum, and HYMNs.
- Range of literature produced including R&D Managers Guidance booklet
- Generated significant commercial interest in the IP and clinical research potential within the NHS (spoken to over 100 healthcare companies)
- Established working relationships with the region's Universities to take forward jointly developed projects

## Medipex NHS Innovation Competition 2005

Staff from across the region's NHS organisations showed their natural entrepreneurial potential at the Medipex Innovation Competition 2005 award ceremony, which was held in April at the Thackray Medical museum, Leeds.



Award winners celebrate their outstanding achievements

In total £7800 was awarded in prize money to the winners, who were in high spirits throughout for being credited for their outstanding achievements in promoting better patient care. The first prize winners from the 'Innovative Service Delivery' and 'Innovative Device or Technology' award categories will now be entered into a national NHS Innovation competition, to be held later in the year in London. Overall, the evening was a tremendous success. The award winners are pictured on pages two and three.

# Competition facts at a glance

- £7,800 prize money awarded
- 136 entries in total
- 46 Trusts entered
- Two competition categories
- 'Innovative Service Delivery' winners - REACT
- 'Innovative Device/ Technology' winners - Sway Pen
- Most entrants in a PCT – Eastern Hull PCT, who had six entries
- National competition (to be held) – 5 September
- Launch of next Medipex competition - 31 October 2005
- Competition sponsors - Doctors.net, Smith & Nephew, Eversheds and Urquhart-Dykes & Lord

For further information on any of the above email:

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# 'Innovative Service Delivery'

First Prize – The REACT Team



## First Prize Winners

First prize in the 'Innovative Service Delivery' category went to the REACT (Recreational Enterprise Assisting Client Training) team, from Doncaster and South Humber Healthcare NHS Trust, for the creation of a one-of-a-kind football orientated initiative for mental health service users to pursue an interest in football.

Using football as a common ground to boost both physical and mental fitness was found to be particularly innovative, as the initiative successfully works to reduce social exclusion and stigma, which are factors that can lead to a lack of motivation, low self esteem, as well as social and communication difficulties. Mick Tasker, from the winning REACT Team said:

"We are absolutely overwhelmed with receiving first prize, but even more than the award, we are proud of our team who have found a certain stability and happiness through being part of a football team. Mental wellness is not something that you can measure, but what is plainly evident is that once our team have their kits on, they are no longer a patient but are part of a confident, enthusiastic and healthy group of individuals. Winning the award will help us to publicise our achievement and hopefully reach more people."

The prize money of £2,000 will go towards further education, equipment, clothing and developing promotional presentations for the group.

## Second Prize Winners

Second prize was awarded to Caroline Hodgson, Anne Alder, and Geoff Thrall, from Hambleton and Richmondshire Primary Care Trust, for Physio Direct - a telephoned based

triage service and new concept in physiotherapy nationally. This service offers assessment, provisional diagnosis, advice and management of musculoskeletal conditions for adults, without intervention of GP's or other healthcare professionals.

Anne Alder said, "We are all absolutely delighted to receive the award, it came as a complete shock. It's very nice to know that our work has been recognised, and we're very much looking forward to rolling out the service across the PCT patch." Caroline Hodgson added, "...the most important thing is that patients are getting a more effective and better service, and that was always the aim when we introduced Physio Direct."

Use of the £1000 prize money will be to install a new dedicated telephone line, develop a computerised tool to assess patients, and to help increase awareness of this service.

## Third Prize Winners

South Yorkshire Ambulance Service (SYAS) received £500 for creating a mobile minor injury/illness unit for patients who would otherwise attend their local A&E department or GP.

This unit acts as a 'gatekeeper' for the Emergency Care Practitioner (ECP) service, which offers experienced paramedics who can provide rapid response, treat at the scene, and refer to other primary care professionals to avoid unnecessary A&E or secondary care admissions.

Use of the award will be to establish a comprehensive Continuing Professional Development Framework to ensure ECPs are able to continue to develop their knowledge and skills, and to support self-directed learning.

## 'Highly Commended' awards

Two 'Highly Commended' awards in the 'Innovative Service Delivery' were given to Susan Barrelle from North East Lincolnshire Primary Care Trust, for the Home-Child immunisation programme. This acts as an alternative service delivery to families who may otherwise have to travel outside their region to doctor's surgeries. And to Kath Lancaster from Airedale Primary Care Trust, for the Health Needs Assessment model. This is a structured process of data collection, which enables school nurses to identify which pupils need one to one support and help.

Second Prize – The Physio Direct Team



# Innovative Device or Technology

Ben Heller and Paul Bacon receiving a £2,000 cheque for development of the SWAY-PEN



## 'Highly Commended' awards

Two 'Highly Commended' awards in the 'Innovative Device or Technology' were given to Andrew Cowie from Tees, East & North Yorkshire Ambulance Service (TENYAS), for his improvements to a spine board. This makes the transfer of patients (on & off) easier and quicker. Also to Aejaz Zahid from Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, for his Switch and Joystick Training Device. This device helps disabled children with special needs (in particular severe athetoid Cerebral Palsy) to start to control their environment, by using a switch/a series of switches, or a joystick.

## First Prize Winners

Ben Heller and Paul Bacon from Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Foundation Trust's Medical Physics department received £2,000 for The SWAY-PEN - a new, low-cost and user-friendly method for measuring postural sway, which can be clipped to the wearer. Software has been written to interface with the pen to use information about the pens movements to give real time sway of the person using it. This is then analysed to provide information about the nature and degree of the user's balance deficit. This innovative device has the potential to be used in rehabilitation centres, GP surgeries and patient's own homes.

Paul Bacon said: "We are thrilled to receive the award, and it has encouraged us to further develop the device for possible widespread adoption. There is a lot of innovation that does take place in the NHS, and the Medipex Innovation Competition has been a fantastic vehicle to get these innovations to the fore".

The award will be used to fund software development.

## Second Prize Winners

Tony Guest and the team from Sheffield's Children's NHS Trust, received second prize for their Telemedicine application, which helps severely neurologically impaired children to live at home. The application uses trusted video conferencing equipment to provide a real time live video link with face to face contact between a specialist health care professional and the family in the comfort of their own homes. This application is unique in that it addresses the issues of parental anxiety, security, vulnerability, and the sense of isolation.

Tony Guest said: "Receiving second prize for the telemedicine project means that we can use the prize money to fund some things that under normal circumstances we would not feel appropriate to fund out of the project running costs, as secured funding is strictly to pay for the three year project. For example, study leave/conference attendance on telemedicine or

related subjects. This is not strictly necessary for completion of the project but would enhance and increase our understanding of the subject. Whilst we did not set out to seek acknowledgment for our work, it is confidence boosting and very much appreciated to know that our colleagues feel the work we are taking part in is important and worthy of wider recognition within the NHS. This gives the team renewed vigour and motivation midway through the project and will spur us on to its completion.

## Third Prize Winners

Jan Blaylock from Sheffield West Primary Care Trust, received £500 for developing a nurses' sterile dressing pack for home use. This innovation promotes best safe practice, simply by using its contents as a visual prompt, while helping to reduce cross infection by promoting hand washing and use of protective clothing.

The dressing pack is unique in that it provides community nurses with all the basic equipment required to perform a dressing effectively and safely in the primary care environment, as well as being a simple and effective solution addressing issues of Health Care Associated Infections, such as MRSA.

Tony Guest and the team from Ryegate Assessment Unit, at Sheffield's Children's NHS Trust



Networking

## What is Medipex?

Medipex is the NHS Innovation Centre for the Yorkshire and Humber region. It is one of a national network of NHS Innovation centres that manage and exploit Intellectual Property (IP) within the NHS.

IP is any new idea or invention. Such ideas can arise out of routine work as well as research and may result in a product which is commercially valuable.

Example ideas are:

- Devices and equipment
- Diagnostics and therapies
- Software
- Training Materials
- Pharmaceutical products and processes

### Aims and Objectives of Medipex

- To ensure the financial benefits of IP created by the NHS are returned to the NHS
- To identify, assess and commercialise new ideas and innovations leading to improved patient care.
- To develop clear IP exploitation policies with NHS Trusts and other NHS bodies.
- To ensure that non-commercial but valuable ideas are disseminated and adopted throughout the NHS.

### What can Medipex provide?

- Advice and guidance on protecting your IP
- Identification, assessment and exploitation of IP.
- Training and education about protecting and exploiting IP.
- Accessing expert advice e.g. legal, financial and commercial.
- Identification of potential commercial partners
- Evaluation of IP and initiation of further R&D
- Commissioning of prototypes and clinical trails including access to proof-of-concept funding
- Construction of useful IP exploitation strategies
- Assistance with the IP portfolio for the annual R&D report

### What next?

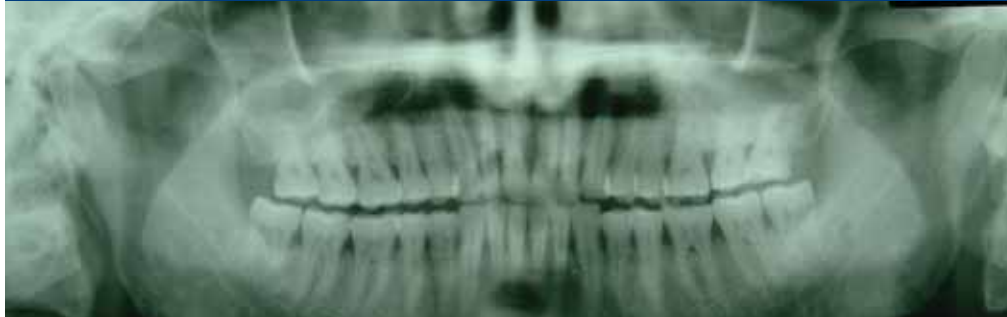
All the above services are free to you providing that you work for an NHS trust based in Yorkshire & Humber and your Trust is a member of Medipex. If you are unsure whether your Trust is a member, please contact Medipex on the number below. Any enquiry whether your Trust is a member or not are treated in strictest confidence and if we can, we will give guidance over the phone.

## Smiles as Leeds signs deal

The Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust has just signed a licence agreement with Leeds Test Objects, which secures the Trust a royalty from sales on the Panoramic Test Object.

The Panoramic Test Object is a device, developed by the medical physics team at Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust that allows routine QA of dental panoramic x-ray units, while affording optimal patient positioning to be determined, therefore improving diagnostic efficiency. Leeds Test Objects, a company based in Boroughbridge, now have the licence to manufacture and sell the device, along with their existing range of X-ray test objects.

Lyndon Judd, Medipex's IP Manager, who project managed the Panoramic Test Object said: "Calibration of these x-ray units is important but often neglected due to their complexity and we feel sure that this device will be a valuable contribution to the dental market."



## A NEW ERA OF NHS INNOVATION AND CHANGE

The Institute for learning, Skills and Innovation is set to herald a new era of innovation and change for the NHS. It will support the organisation and its workforce in accelerating the delivery of world-class healthcare by encouraging innovation and developing capability within the NHS.

The new centre will capture best practice and help to rapidly adopt good ideas and ways of working. The centre will not provide large scale learning, it will identify opportunities and support staff to achieve their full potential by working closely with healthcare professionals in the UK and worldwide to identify best practice.

## NHS Ennovations website

Medipex is due to launch the NHS – Ennovations on-line store in early June.

This website has been designed to offer access to the vast range of good ideas and products emerging from the NHS. The site has been designed and is delivered by Medipex on behalf of Medipex, Trustech (the North West NHS Innovation Hub) and NHS Innovations North.

The on-line store has sections relating to:

[Medical Devices](#)

[Medical Software](#)

[Medical Training](#)

[Radiotherapy](#)

[Diagnostic & Pharmaceutical](#)

[Nutrition and Health](#)

There is an IDEAS section where selected projects from the three Hubs looking for commercial partners can be found. This section also provides a direct link to the national nhs-innovations website where all the ideas from all the Hubs can be located and searched.

We welcome suggestions and requests from businesses for new medical opportunities, solutions and collaborations.

Website address:

[www.nhs-ennovations.com](http://www.nhs-ennovations.com)

**Benefits of Medipex** Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust was one of a consortium of six acute hospital trusts in the Yorkshire and Humber region that identified the need for IP within trusts to be professionally managed. Adam Cairns, Director of Communications & Corporate Affairs, said:

"Exciting new ideas and innovations that lead to improved working practice and essential patient care are constantly being generated by NHS staff. Leeds Teaching Hospitals was instrumental in the set up of Medipex because of the crucial role that Medipex would play in providing trusts with the best route for the assessment, protection and exploitation of IP developed. The newly signed licence agreement for the Panoramic Test Object is testament to this, in that the process has been professionally managed throughout, with the result that not only will patients benefit from this new invention, but the inventors and the trust can commercially benefit too."

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