

What are the plenary sessions all about?

Session 1 Webinar: Thursday 8 February 2024 (10.00 – 11.15)

Artificial Intelligence

Our opening session will focus on the emergence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the impact it is having on both healthcare and education. We will discuss the advantages and disadvantages of AI, exploring how we can maximise benefits and minimise potential risks.

Session 2 Webinar: Thursday 8 February 2024 (13.00 – 14.15)

Considerations for Effective Training

This session will consider the differences in how we learn as individuals and whether we can make reasonable adaptations to ensure training is effective. In particular, the speakers will talk about preferred learning styles, neurodiversity and psychological safety.

Session 3 Hybrid: Friday 9 February 2024 (10.00 – 11.30)

Patients First

This session reminds us that regardless of the diverse roles we all have within the Healthcare Science workforce, both our work and our behaviour has a direct impact on patient outcomes. We will open with a celebration of key Healthcare Science milestones achieved during the first 75 years of the NHS.

Session 4 Hybrid: Friday 9 February 2024 (14.30 - 15.45)

Spotlight Our Work

We all do incredible work in our own specialisms, continually developing and improving the services to give patients the best outcomes. However, we don't always communicate the importance of this or celebrate our achievements. This session will shine a spotlight on four of our poster winners, where the brief was to clearly communicate their Healthcare Science specialism and role to the general public.

What are the workshops all about?

Friday 9 February 2024 (11.45 - 12.30 and 13.30 - 14.15) - In Person Only

1. Perspectives of Equivalence Pathways

We commonly hear that equivalence processes can be overwhelming, with a variety of pathways offered by organisations including the ACS, AHCS and IBMS. People often end up not exactly sure which pathway is best for them or where to start. In this workshop, there will be a discussion with our panel of people who have successfully gone through the various equivalence pathways. The panel will share their experiences, so this is a chance to hear their personal perspective and ask any questions. Whether you are looking to go through the process yourself or supervise someone who is, this session will provide useful advice on how to proceed with the relevant equivalent pathway.

2. Healthcare Science Support Worker Education and Development Framework

This workshop will discuss ongoing work by NES Healthcare Science to refine an education and development framework for Healthcare Science support worker staff at career stage Bands 2 to 4: Healthcare Support Workers, Assistant Practitioners and Associate Practitioners. The project is part of a wider commission from Scottish Government that has already published guidance for support workers in the NMAHP (Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professions) workforces.

Join us for a conversation to help explore roles and educational requirements at each of the three levels. Are there learning resources to support these staff? Are there any career opportunities that may widen access, particularly for the young workforce, or widen the diversity in workforce skills? Does our proposed framework help in developing job roles?

3. Continuous Improvement Through Feedback

Our NES Healthcare Science team request feedback from our trainees and supervisors through our Quality Assurance processes. These include our Annual Review of Competency Progression (ARCP) and our annual confidential surveys. This workshop will explore recurring themes which emerge from the feedback we have collected and discuss how we can produce action plans to enable continuous improvement. Let's work together to improve training and, ultimately, patient outcomes.

4. Inspiring Future Generations of Healthcare Scientists

Are you keen to get involved with promoting Healthcare Science and inspiring future generations, but have never known where to start or what it would involve? Join us at this interactive workshop where you will hear first-hand from STEM ambassadors about how you can volunteer and engage with young people. You will get hands-on with an example classroom activity, find out what support and resources are available, and understand the personal benefits volunteering can bring.