Capacity, Confidence, Care – supporting breast screening services using Artificial Intelligence.

Tuesday 23rd October 2018 – Matt Hancock the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care officially announces the launch of the successful Wave 2 Testbeds. EMRAD is one of these.

East Midlands Radiology Consortium (EMRAD) an established collaboration of seven NHS Acute Trusts in the East Midlands has launched an 18 month project on using Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning to support breast screening.

The patient and clinically-led initiative aims to do three things:

1. **Screen and treat more people, supporting service capacity helping ease workforce pressures.**
2. **Boost public, patient and clinician confidence in using AI technology to assist with diagnosis.**
3. **Improve patient care by minimising errors and ensuring consistency**

To achieve these aims, EMRAD has entered into the Wave 2 Testbed with the following partners:

- **GE Healthcare** – a long standing technical partner already supporting the EMRAD consortium.
- **Kheiron Medical Technologies** and **ASI Data Science** - two UK based Small Medium Enterprises specialising in the field of cutting artificial intelligence technologies.
- **East Midlands Academic Health Science Network**, helping us to scale and spread our work throughout the NHS.
- **Optimity Advisors** - Local evaluation partners ensuring that the project clearly defines success criteria and monitors progress against this.

All partners are keen and fully committed to work together to make this vision a reality.

Andrew Fearn, EMRAD Accountable Officer:

"We are very excited about Office for Life Sciences and NHS England backing us to improve the quality of care and reduce the instance of breast cancer for women in the East Midlands. We genuinely believe that the lives of patients will be saved as a result of this project which supports breast screening services through the use of Artificial Intelligence."

Stephen Bromhall, Senior Commercial Director, Northern Europe at GE Healthcare:

"GE Healthcare is delighted to support this project, which may have the potential to change the way breast screening is conducted in the UK. We support a library of 2 billion images from the East Midland Radiology consortium and we hope that this can assist the development and validation of algorithms to support patient care and clinical outcomes"

Dr Hugh Harvey, Clinical Director Kheiron Medical Technologies:

"Kheiron are proud to be one of the first companies leading the way in the evaluation of deep learning technology within the NHS.

This is only possible as result of the partnership and collaboration that exists within the EMRAD consortium."

Marc Warner, CEO ASI Data Science:

"We're really excited to be a part of this Test Bed, and to be able to apply Artificial Intelligence tools and techniques to improve the operational efficiency of breast cancer screening services. This is about the nuts and bolts of how to run services as efficiently and smoothly as possible, helping the NHS to see and diagnose more people, more quickly, with the same resources - and helping to save lives.

"We hope that the Test Bed will act as a proving ground, providing a template for other NHS Trusts to take similar approaches. We think there's a huge opportunity for the NHS to lead the way in both clinical and non-clinical applications of AI, so it's fantastic to be part of this diverse and world-leading consortium."

Tim Robinson, Programme Lead for Digital and ITP at the East Midlands AHSN:

"We are delighted to be a supporting partner in EMRAD's successful bid. The creation of this regional approach of using AI to support breast cancer screening is a great example of organisations across the East Midlands coming together to spread innovation for the benefit of patients. We wish the EMRAD collaboration all the very best as a wave 2 NHS Testbed and look forward to providing continued support and expertise as the initiative progresses."

Dr Niamh Lennox-Chhugani, Healthcare Lead, Optimity Advisors:

"We are delighted to be the local evaluation partner in the hugely exciting project which has the potential to transform breast cancer screening in the East Midlands and ultimately globally. AI and machine learning holds great promise for healthcare, testing this promise in the real world is an invaluable opportunity".

To find out more visit our website or follow us on Twitter:

www.emrad.org

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Notes to editors:
The Test Beds programme is run/administered by NHS England and the Office for Life Sciences.
The Test Beds programme has been set up to:

- test combinations of digital technologies with pathway redesign in a clinical setting with real patients
- harness the potential of innovations to help transform to help transform the way in which healthcare is delivered; empowering staff to deliver care that improves the quality of life for patients and carers.
- EMRAD is one of seven Test Beds from Wave 2 of the programme

The diagram below shows the partners involved in this testbed: