

Publications Gateway Ref. No.  
05659

**To: Provider Medical Directors**

Chief Scientific Officer's team  
Medical Directorate  
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13 September 2016

Dear Colleagues,

### **Lead Healthcare Scientists (LHS)**

Leadership is a key theme in the Five Year Forward View and has been identified across the system as a critical enabler of high quality care. To deliver the transformational changes the NHS seeks we need to focus, with our partners, on making better use of technology, further developing leadership and supporting scientific research and innovation.

The Healthcare Science workforce provides the scientific backbone of NHS and Public Health services, working across laboratory sciences, physiological sciences, bioinformatics, medical physics and clinical engineering. This 50,000 strong workforce underpins 80% of all diagnoses and makes a direct contribution to patient care.

A critical priority for the Chief Scientific Officer team is to develop the professional capacity and capability of our workforce to deliver whole system change. One element of this will be the provision of local healthcare science leadership and advice by;

- Identifying Lead Healthcare Scientists in all provider organisations
- Developing a network of Lead Healthcare Scientists to share, develop and support learning
- Supporting scientific leadership and advice to the employing organisations and healthcare scientists within it
- Linking strong leadership, strategic direction and influence for healthcare science services across the local health and care system and to local, regional and national networks.

To allow us to do this we would like to identify a Lead Healthcare Scientist for each provider Trust across England, many of whom will already be in place. A role descriptor is attached which will help you identify the appropriate individual.

Choose an item.

Could you please confirm their name and contact details so that they can join our network and take advantage of the opportunities we are developing for them.

Please send your response to, [england.cso@nhs.net](mailto:england.cso@nhs.net) by cop **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October.**

We look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'fca', is displayed on a light blue rectangular background.

Fiona Carragher MSc FRCPATH EuSpLM CSci  
Deputy Chief Scientific Officer  
NHS England