

# EPSRC DRIVE-Health

Centre for Doctoral Training in Data-Driven Health

Partner engagement, March 2026

**KING'S**  
*College*  
**LONDON**



**DRIVE-Health**

EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Data-Driven Health



Engineering and  
Physical Sciences  
Research Council

# Our vision

DRIVE-Health trains the next generation of health data scientists/computer scientists, healthcare software developers and systems engineers, and AI/machine learning researchers to deliver data-driven, personalised, sustainable healthcare for 2030 and beyond.

Co-created with the NHS, patients, health tech and pharma, DRIVE-Health will deliver the EPSRC strategy for Transforming Health and Healthcare.

We aim to create innovative therapies, drive healthcare system transformation, and step-change improvements in health outcomes and quality of life.



*DRIVE-Health  
students at our  
2024  
Symposium*

# Our impact

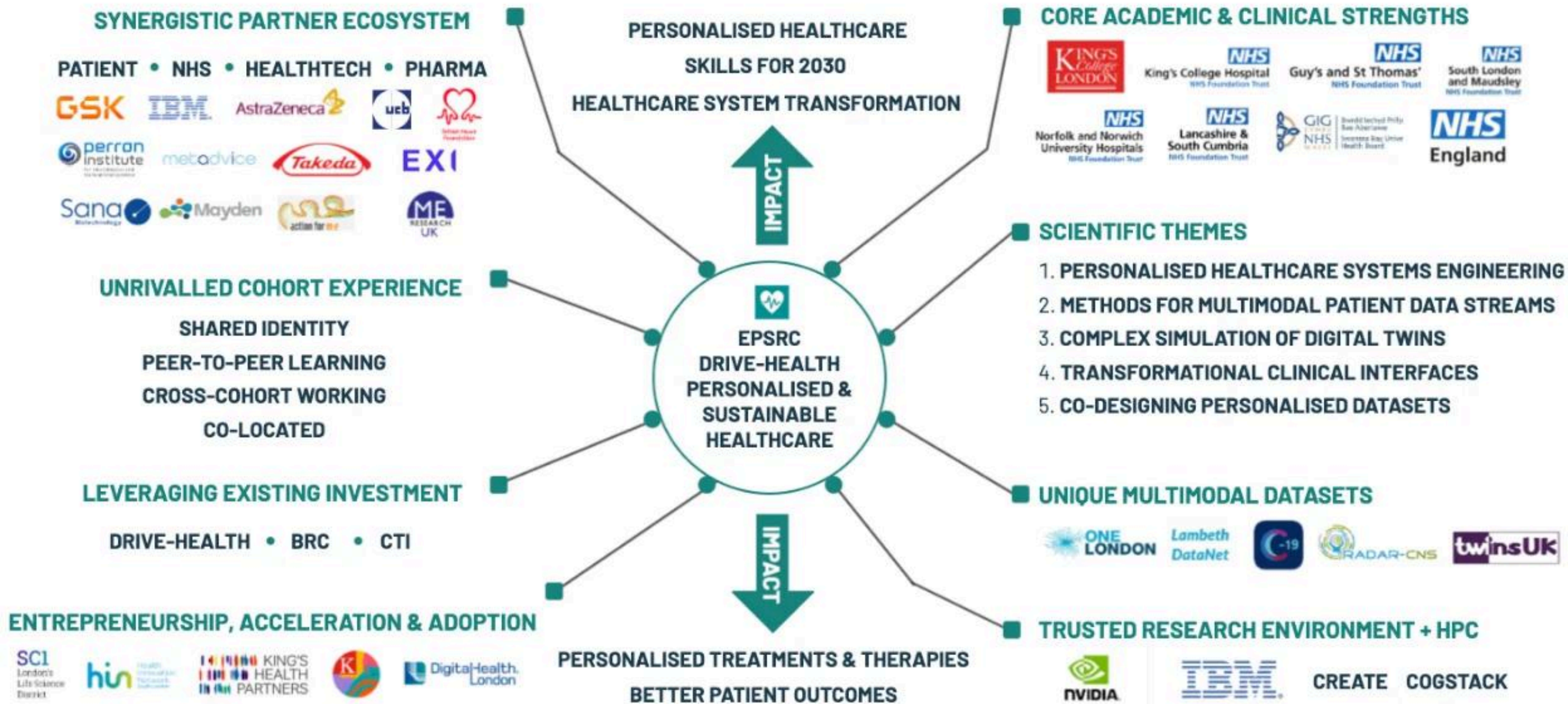
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- Awarded £8.9M UKRI/EPSRC funding to 2032
- Projected partner contributions bring the total investment to £17M
- 36 EPSRC students onboarded since October 2024
- Multidisciplinary, cross-campus training programme and a strong community identity
- **Partner-based delivery is key to our vision, and our portfolio is growing at pace**



# Partner projects 2024-25 *(includes 2026 potential)*





Our ecosystem

1

### Sustainable Healthcare Data Systems Engineering

Theme 1 (T1) investigates methods and frameworks for developing scalable and secure data-driven software systems:

*interoperable software architectures, scalable workflow analytics, clinical decision support, systems sustainability.*

2

### Multimodal Patient Data Streams

Theme 2 (T2) will enable the vision of a highly heterogeneous data environment where device data from wearables, patient-generated content and structured/unstructured information from electronic health records can combine seamlessly:

*machine learning from heterogeneous data, time series analytics, natural language processing, deep phenotyping.*

3

### Complex Simulations and Digital Twins

Theme 3 (T3) focuses on the paradigm of building simulated environments, including healthcare settings or virtual patients, to enable training machine learning and AO models:

*predictive analytics, systems simulation, casual inference.*

4

### Next-Generation Clinical User Interfaces

Theme 4 (T4) will place usability front and centre to ensure health data science applications are usable in clinical settings and are aligned with users' workflows:

*knowledge representation, designing for usability, voice and video interfaces.*

5

### Co-designing Impactful Patient-Centric Healthcare Solutions

Theme 5 (T5) is a cross-cutting exploring co-production and co-design, stakeholder engagement, evaluation techniques and maximising impact:

*public and patient involvement, co-production and co-design, medical device and data regulation, productising academic software, and health economics and evaluation.*

# Scientific Themes (flexible)



**DRIVE-Health**

EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Data-Driven Health



Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council



## Core Clinical & Core Academic



## Healthtech & Pharma



## Acceleration, Adoption & Entrepreneurship



## Leveraging Existing Investment



## Datasets, Infrastructure, & HPC



## Patients & Charity



# Multi-disciplinary Partner Ecosystem



# Our partner engagement strategy

Through our diverse partners across the health data science ecosystem, we aim to:

- Attract outstanding doctoral students who aim to be leaders as well as health data scientists, by providing a range of training, research, and placement opportunities
- Enhance the doctoral training experience and provide access to an expanded range of training, technologies, and facilities through partnerships
- Foster and provide an experience of genuine research collaborations with partners and to increase the impact of academic research
- Offer experience in product development, entrepreneurship, leading-edge milestone-driven research, and in working in multidisciplinary teams in diverse environments
- Promote co-design of translational research projects across industry, the NHS, public and third sectors

# DRIVE-Health Management Team



**Professor Richard Dobson**  
Co-Director

"The team brings an appropriate mix of supervisory, technical, clinical and leadership expertise, enabling it to effectively manage the academic, professional support, financial, and partnership resources for an outstanding cohort-based PhD programme"



**Professor Vasa Curcin**  
Co-Director



**Professor Angus Roberts**  
Training Lead



**Dan Seorici**  
Centre Administrator



**Jo Dobson**  
Partnerships and Communications Lead,  
Deputy Centre Manager



**Dr Helen Jones**  
Centre Manager



**Dr Lucie Burgess**  
Partnerships Development  
Director



**Dr Alex Dregan**  
Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion  
(EDI) Lead

# Leads



**Professor Alfredo Iacoangeli**

Academic Lead for Trusted Research



**Dr Divya Parmer**

Patient Public Involvement & Engagement Lead



**Dr Lisa Harper**

Entrepreneurship/Translation Lead



**Professor James Teo**

Clinical Lead

## Theme 1



**Dr Zina Ibrahim**

Sustainable Healthcare Data Systems Engineering

## Theme 2



**Dr Nicholas Cummins**

Multimodal Patient Data Streams

## Theme 3



**Dr Steffen Zschaler**

Complex Simulations and Digital Twins

## Theme 4



**Dr Timothy Neate**

Next-Generation Clinical User Interfaces

## Theme 5



**Professor Claire Steves**

Co-designing Impactful Patient-Centric Healthcare Solutions

# Why co-fund a studentship?

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Partners collaborate on projects and research roadmaps

- Drives innovation through co-creation
- Aligns academic research with emerging market and policy priorities, making outputs more commercially and clinically relevant
- Positions you as a thought-leader in your research domain
- Opportunities for joint publications, conferences, and public recognition
- Fast-track academic access to explore the potential and solutions to your project(s)

Partners build credibility and visibility

- Brand can be woven into symposia, seminars, public engagement events, social & recruitment campaigns
- Demonstrates corporate social responsibility and investment in collaboration


Partners see real impact of investment and low-risk way to scout emerging talent

- Your student is part of an inclusive, high-performing community attracting top-tier candidates

# DRIVE-Health in action!



# Student successes and impact



**Dr. Julianna Olah**

Juli is co-founder and CTO. She received her PhD from King's College London for research on artificial intelligence (AI) in mental health. Her leading work on voice biomarkers has been published in top journals & conferences. Prior to Psyrin, she started the largest digital therapy marketplace in Hungary, which has facilitated over 10,000 sessions. Get in touch [here](#).



**A Start-up Founder's Story: Psyrin**




podcast PSYRIN

The Costs of a Mental Illness | ...

YouTube · Trail...

**Psyrin raises \$1 million to advance its pioneering approach to mental health assessment using voice biomarkers**

October 29, 2024

## SPARKS digital health founder & ICURE Explore Award winner 2024




*"The highlight of the Accelerator has been the opportunity to connect with so many different companies and researchers who can help us make our technology succeed. They have brought new light into the project. This, combined with the invaluable perspective from the LIFE team makes me confident that there is a practical future for our technology and it's not going to be just a research project confined to a series of papers! I feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to explore the real-world feasibility of our technology, after working on it for so many years."*

**MIGUEL SERRA PASCUAL**  
Biomedical Software Engineer  
2024 programme participant



The Physiological Society Prize winner announced

Cohort 2020

Cohort 2020



**Congratulations**

to Dina Farran, DRIVE-Health student

**Awarded 1st prize**

presentation at the Faculty of Liaison Psychiatry Annual Conference 2024




**Davide Ferrari, MA MS PhD**

Fundraising Pre-seed Round at Lapis AI Studio: developing human-centric AI technology for doctors and asset management

Lapis AI  
370 followers  
2m · Edited · 🌐

Wapping Up an Incredible Journey at the London Business School Entrepreneurship Lab 2025! 🎉 ...more

**Lapis AI**  
370 followers  
1mo · Edited · 🌐

Congratulations to our #CTO and #Founder, **Davide Ferrari, MA MS PhD**, on receiving his Doctor of Philosophy award from King's College London! ...more

**Davide Ferrari, MA MS PhD** · 1st

Fundraising Pre-seed Round at Lapis AI Studio: developing human-centric AI ...  
1mo · 🌐

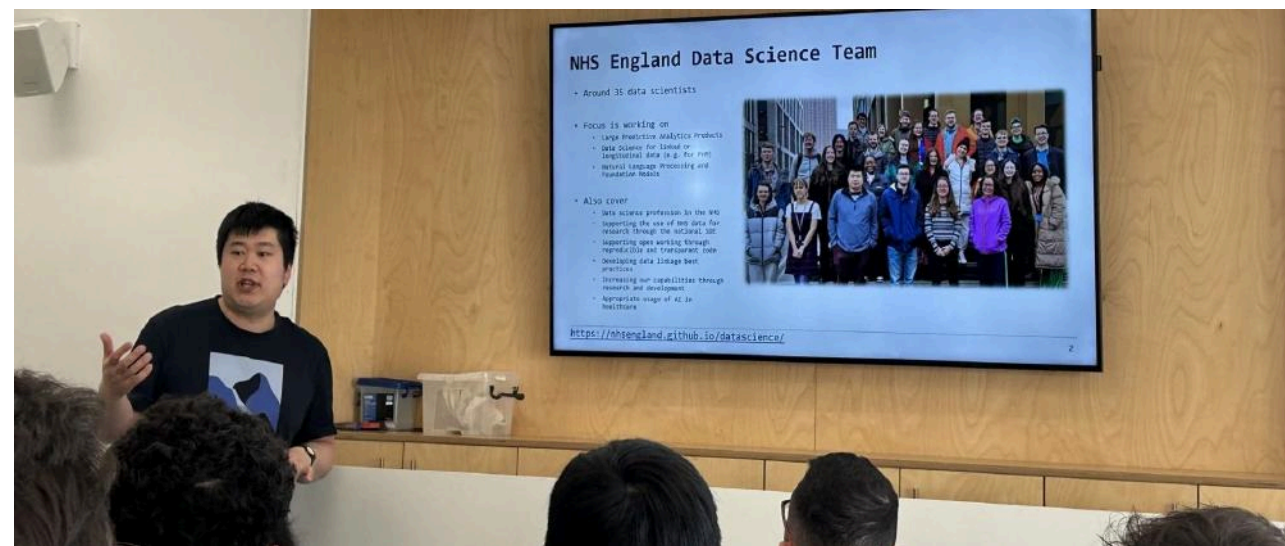
Exciting News! 🎉  
This morning, I officially received my Doctor of Philosophy award from King's College London! 🎓



Over the past four years at the DRIVE-Health CDT, I dedicated myself to developing innovative and impactful Machine Learning methodologies, leading to 10 peer-reviewed publications—including journal and conference papers, posters, and book chapters. This gifted me with four unforgettable ...more

Cohort 2020

# Events



# Student Lightning Talks



*DRIVE-Health students*



*Our 2024 Welcome  
Week*