



Health Innovation
Yorkshire & Humber

Propel@YH

Impact Report 2023-24



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Introduction

This year has been pivotal for our Propel@YH Digital Accelerator programmes with substantial growth in what we offer. Not only have we delivered our flagship UK accelerator programme, but we have also grown our international offering. We have delivered five Propel@YH Boot Camps to international innovators from our base in Nexus, Leeds and are also supporting the export of innovation overseas through our export service. In total, we have supported 56 Innovators from India, Canada, the Nordics, the US and the UK.

Through international collaboration and projects like Propel@YH, we are becoming the UK's main route for international innovators to enter the NHS market.

Along with the growth of our programmes, we have further developed our masterclasses to include high-value content delivered by a wide range of partners such as ORCHA, Quiddity Health, DigiSafe and Acorn Compliance to support innovators at every stage of their journey bringing new innovations to the NHS market. International Investment organisation Par Equity has also joined us as a partner.

Our Propel@YH delivery team has expanded, with the recruitment of a digital navigator, part-time marketing manager and project coordinator and this has resulted in a three-fold growth in our head count. We have also invested in a new website to showcase our work and become a 'front door' to our programmes.



**Find out more about our
Propel@YH programme**

Propel@YH

Five-year impacts



106

innovators
supported



51

UK innovators
supported



55

international innovators
supported



£26m

innovator funding
raised



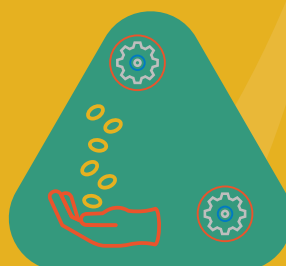
121

jobs
created



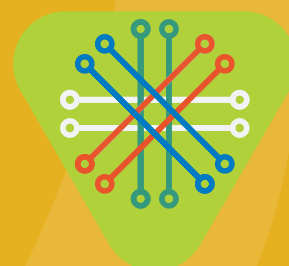
3

full-time
roles



£700k

investment made
into our local
economy



7

international
regions: India x 2,
Nordics x 2,
US & Canada x 2

Turbo-charging digital health innovation

Our Propel@YH accelerator programme supports HealthTech innovators to implement their digital solutions in the Yorkshire and Humber region.

Propel@YH is our flagship digital health accelerator programme that provides companies developing digital health solutions with a six-month course of bespoke support and content aimed at enabling accelerated company growth and adoption, so that our region's population can benefit from new technology first.

Now celebrating its fifth year, we have supported over 100 innovators. The programme provides them with a series of 10 masterclasses covering crucial topics including funding, finance and legal, and three months of 1-2-1 support and mentoring.

In 2023-24, we supported eleven innovators including:

- **Doctoria:** a real-time clinical interpretation tool dedicated to ethnic minorities.
- **Inicio:** delivers clinically-led, patient-centred digital solutions for health.
- **MAIYA:** the automated assistant that provides primary care with the management of long-term conditions.
- **MediTask:** a mobile app that connects medical students to doctors, supporting clinical skills.
- **MyOpNotes:** a digital platform that streamlines writing operation notes and improves medical coding accuracy.
- **EnrichMyCare:** a personalised health and care monitoring platform that accelerates care for children and young people.
- **Neu Health:** making the latest Parkinson's and Dementia care accessible for all.
- **Optimise BP:** automates the management and screening of hypertension.
- **THEIA AI:** develops AI supported software to support decision-making in neurology.
- **Pogo Digital Healthcare:** provides personalised medical information and symptom tracking for people living with long-term conditions.
- **Sympa Health:** the next generation of women's AI powered digital therapeutics, personalised treatment plans and expert support.



Hear from our 2023-24 Propel@YH cohort

Our partners

Our delivery partners use their expertise to support the innovators with their journey into the NHS. This year, we have expanded the Propel@YH partner programme from five organisations to ten, including, Leeds Teaching Hospital NHS Trust's Innovation Pop Up, which assists innovators with clinical engagement and real-world validation projects.

Other partners include: Nexus, University of Leeds, for networking, Barclays Eagle Labs for funding and finance, Hill Dickinson for legal advice, Prova Health covering evidence and evaluation, Par Equity for investment and fund raising, 6B for system integration, Quiddity Health for business support, CDS for user centred design and reducing health inequalities, DigiSafe for clinical safety and Acord Compliance covering Digital Technology Assessment Criteria (DTAC).

We have also worked closely with national and local government organisations including the Department for Business and Trade, West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Leeds City Council.

Supporting and working in partnership with our local NHS system has also been enhanced through collaboration with our local Integrated Care Boards via our Innovation Hubs and the Humber and North Yorkshire Innovation, Research and Improvement System (IRIS) initiative.

We funded six months of support through Nexus for the innovators and funded nine SMEs for innovation support via the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust's Innovation Pop Up.

This year, we were also pleased to see that Propel@YH alumnus, MyOpNotes, secured Innovate UK grant funding to support the integration of its digital platform for surgeons in the NHS, improving patient outcomes and enhancing hospital efficiencies.

The Propel@YH cohort deployed their products into another five new clinical settings and raised £3.6 million in investment. One of the cohort, MAIYA, implemented its solution in a Sheffield GP Practice.

Neu Health also won a contract with Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust in March, in line with the end of the programme.

The programme

We facilitated 10 days of masterclasses to the cohort covering the following areas:

1. Introduction to the programme partners and innovators
2. Growth and spread techniques
3. Sustainability
4. Stakeholder management
5. Legal masterclass
6. Funding, finance and grants
7. Governance
8. Evidence and evaluation
9. Health inequalities
10. Marketing and interoperability



Hear from our Propel@YH partners



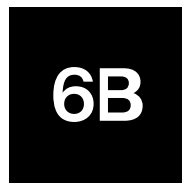
Eagle
Labs

HILL DICKINSON

NEXUS
UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



Prova
Health



cds



Acorn Compliance



medipex[®]
healthcare innovation hub

Government and NHS partners



Department for
Business & Trade



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL



West
Yorkshire
Combined
Authority

Tracy
Brabin
Mayor of
West Yorkshire

Working together to build the



Humber and North Yorkshire
Health and Care Partnership

South Yorkshire
Integrated Care System



West Yorkshire
Health and Care Partnership





Supporting innovators

Case study

Neu Health

Part of the Propel@YH cohort for 2023-34, we have supported Neu Health with its spread and adoption strategy, not only for Yorkshire and the Humber, but beyond. Our business development partner, Quiddity Health, has signed a contract with the company to deliver their sales function with a specific focus on Yorkshire and the Humber. In addition, through the West Yorkshire Launchpad application, Neu Health has created very good relationships with Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and are awaiting news of whether its application was successful.

Case study

THEIA AI

THEIA AI is one of the earlier stage companies on Propel@YH. They have two employees, both currently in the final stages of PhDs at the University of Leeds. Propel@YH has supported them with everything they need to think about for creating their company, deciding on its location, connecting them with relevant stakeholders and more.

“

I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of this year's cohort. Both my co-founder and I are currently at the end of our PhDs and have not had any previous experience working in or with the NHS. The Propel@YH accelerator put all the information we could possibly need into one place about integrating into the NHS and understanding the processes required. It has also been valuable to hear from the other companies about their experiences and struggles. There is no doubt that this accelerator will prove to be useful as we enter the NHS landscape.

Joe Sims, Co-founder,
THEIA AI

Partners

Case study

Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust's Innovation Pop Up

This year we have worked closely with the Innovation Pop Up. By engaging with their Innovation leads we identified the value they could bring to the Propel@YH cohort. This included providing a briefing session to the cohort covering the trust's strategy, priorities for innovation, the building of its new hospitals and its 'Building the Leeds way' initiative.

Working with the Propel@YH team has been a great experience for us, helping the trust understand the potential of the innovators and identify products that can fulfil our unmet needs.

Richard Evans – Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust's Innovation Pop Up

As part of Propel@YH, we also funded nine of the innovators to become members of the Innovation Pop Up scheme. This will give them access to the innovation team who will work with them to showcase their solutions and provide crucial access to their clinical and procurement teams.



Propel@YH programme metrics 2023-24



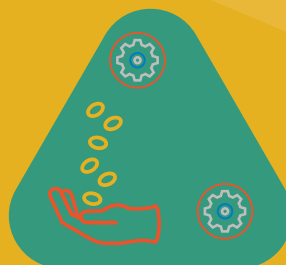
11

UK innovators supported



£3.6m

innovator funding raised



£100k

investment made into our local economy



5

products in new clinical settings



10

days of high-quality content delivered in person to 11 companies over three months



11

days of 1-2-1 support/mentoring to the Propel@YH cohort



6 months

Nexus co-working space provided for each of the 11 companies



9

of the Propel@YH cohort were funded through the Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust's Pop Up service



3

innovators supported with SBRI and other funding bids



80

regional stakeholders attended an event in Leeds showcasing the innovators

Supporting international innovators

Our Propel@YH Boot Camp programme is designed to help international innovators launch their solutions into the NHS market. This ensures that people and patients in our region benefit from the latest health innovations as quickly as possible. Inward investment also bolsters the regional economy through the generation of new jobs created when these companies establish themselves in Yorkshire and the Humber.

The programme is designed for innovators outside of the UK and builds on the success of Propel@YH. The five-day programme of intensive support and masterclass content, provided by our expert partners, gives innovators a crash

course on the UK healthcare market, access to subject matter experts and the opportunity to engage directly with NHS stakeholders as well as the wider HealthTech ecosystem in the Yorkshire and Humber region.

This year has been pivotal for us and our Propel@YH International Boot Camps, with our first year of providing a structured programme of masterclasses, networking and 1-2-1 support for international HealthTech innovators looking to export their technology into the UK. Over the last twelve months we have delivered the Boot Camp to an Indian, US, Canadian and Nordic cohorts of innovators.

The Boot Camp is delivered with the same partners who deliver the main programme and is in collaboration with a wide range of supporting organisations including:

UK Government Organisations

- Department for International Trade
- West Yorkshire Combined Authority
- Leeds City Council

NHS Partners

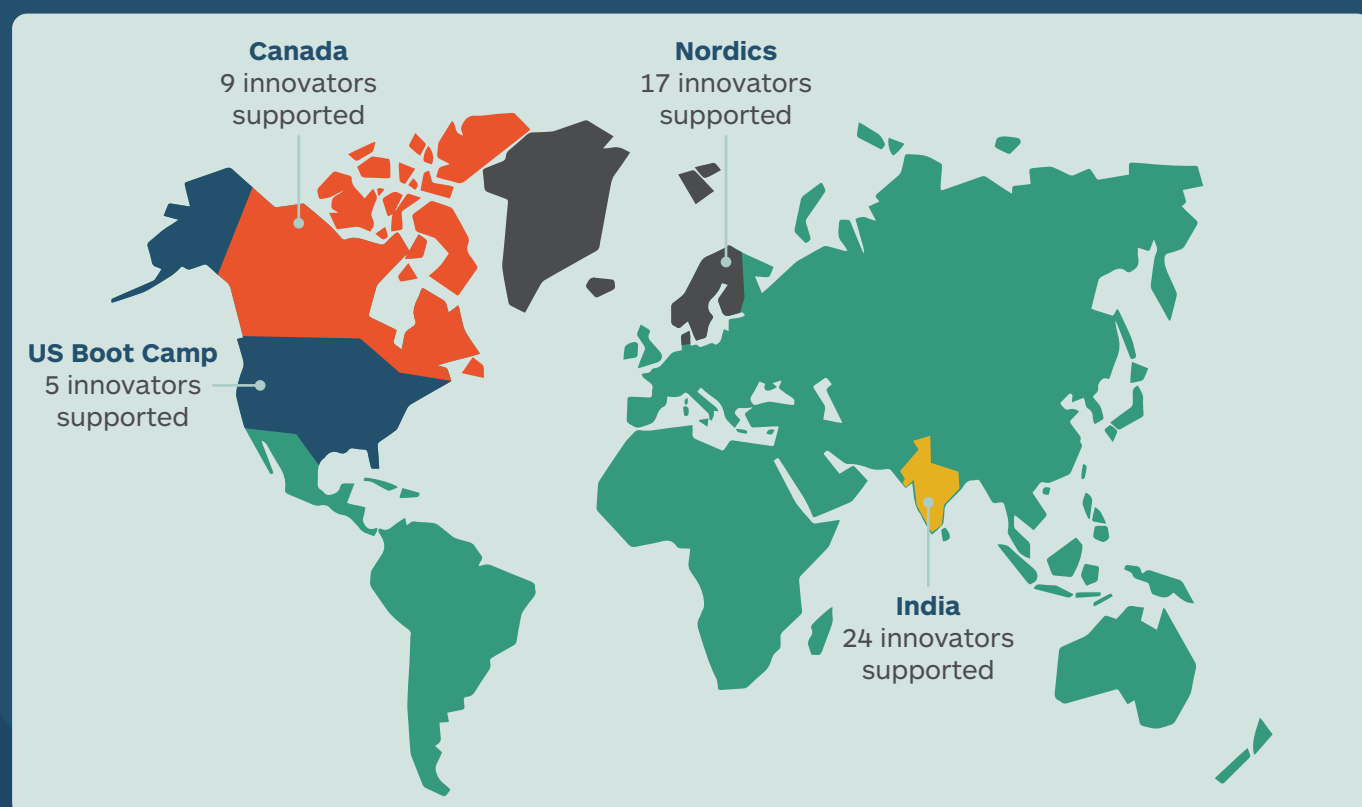
- Humber and North Yorkshire IRIS team
- West Yorkshire Innovation Hub
- South Yorkshire Innovation Hub

International Partners

- Nordic Innovation
- Government of Ontario
- British Deputy High Commission Bengaluru
- Department of India

Our International Boot Camps

A global map showing the countries we have supported on the Propel@YH Boot Camp.



We adapt the content for each Boot Camp to fit the needs of the innovators who attend, and this includes content from ourselves and our partners who provide a series of masterclasses covering: investment and funding, legal, digital compliance, evidence and evaluation, interoperability, health economics, clinical safety, governance and DTAC.

Alongside the classroom content we also organise opportunities for participants to pitch, engage and network with representatives from local and regional health care organisations including clinicians and digital stakeholders as well as colleagues from Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber and our partners.

Boot Camps delivered so far



Nordic Boot Camp 2024

In January 2024, we delivered our second Nordic Boot Camp in collaboration with Nordic Innovation, and we supported nine innovators:

- **Svar Calpro:** CalproSmart is a rapid test for detection of calprotectin in faecal samples and is used to monitor disease activity in patients with Irritable Bowel Disease (IBD) in the privacy of their own home.
- **Citynomadi:** creates 3D maps to assist patients with navigation in and around hospital sites.
- **Sylvia Health:** has developed a medical device to empower women with pelvic organ prolapse to reclaim their quality of life.
- **Dynamon:** simplifies and streamlines shift preparation using Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- **Peilivision:** EFSim Check is a web-based simulation game that assesses ADHD symptoms in children aged 8-13
- **Medfield Diagnostics:** has developed a stroke triage tool that uses microwaves and AI-technology to assist in the clinical evaluation and triage of suspected stroke.
- **Easymeeting:** Nattugla is the next generation of supervision cameras using AI-powered alarms to make it easier, more secure and more effective in making seniors' lives safe and sound.
- **Tada Group:** ReLink is a device that is designed to prevent dislodgement of intravenous catheters and associated spill of fluids, thereby providing increased safety for patients and nurses.
- **Resani:** its mission is to realise the life-saving potential of improved hand-hygiene in healthcare settings.

We are currently working with the cohort to support them with their journey into the NHS. From initial feedback and discussions, we are supporting six of the Innovators progressing into the UK NHS.

India Boot Camp 2023

The India Boot Camp was delivered over two events, the first involved a delegation of staff from Health Innovation Yorkshire & Humber, West Yorkshire Combined Authority and the Department for Business & Trade going out to India and delivering three days of content to a cohort of 25 Indian innovators. The second event involved a UK visit of 11 Indian innovators coming to Leeds to attend a further three days of Propel@YH masterclasses and a networking event. The 11 innovators included:

- **ArogyaAI:** aims to reduce the spread of antimicrobial resistance by harnessing the power of genomics and AI
- **Avay Biosciences:** designs and manufactures 3D printers for tissue and organ printing.
- **Cutting Edge Medical Devices:** a portable urine protein analyser that can help detect kidney disease earlier.
- **CoRover:** AI platform to automate business operations without needing the internet. It enables patients to book appointments quickly without the need to talk to a receptionist.
- **DigiHeal:** AI-based pain and wellness management platform for healthcare providers.
- **Green Ocean Research Labs:** ASHA+, is a hand-held point of care monitoring solution that can measure vital signs.
- **Ibrum Technologies:** AI-based point of care pneumonia screening device that enables healthcare providers to screen and refer babies with early symptoms of the condition.
- **Karkinos Healthcare:** a purpose driven technology-led oncology platform focused on designing and delivering bespoke solutions for cancer care.
- **LarkAI Healthcare:** AI-powered cardiac health monitor that can detect early-stage heart impulse and valvular disease.
- **Manentia AI:** AI-based imaging diagnosis and monitoring system that's transforming the way medical professionals diagnose and treat a range of conditions.
- **Marbles Health:** a portable brain stimulation and monitoring headband which combines with a cognitive therapy app for the treatment and management of depression.
- **MedTel Healthcare:** a smart population remote monitoring platform to aid continuous monitoring of chronic diseases by both providers and their patients.

Case study

LarkAI Healthcare: Setting up operations in the UK

LarkAI Healthcare's innovation is the world's smallest AI-powered cardiac health monitor and can detect early-stage heart impulse and valvular disease.

After attending the Indian Boot Camp, LarkAI Healthcare has been working with global partners to explore opportunities. They have raised \$500K in investment and additional government grants, recruited a sales director and during Arab Health showcased their technology with the UK government, West Yorkshire Combined Authority and the Department for international Trade. LarkAI Healthcare is currently in the process of recruiting 25 people and opening an office in Huddersfield.



Canadian Boot Camp 2023

The first Canadian Boot Camp was delivered in June 2023 in collaboration with the Government of Ontario, and we selected six innovators for the programme:

- **CanImmunize:** is a technology company specialising in immunisation software. Its app and web portal helps patients keep track of their vaccinations.
- **Fluid AI:** its innovation, Origin, is a monitoring solution for detecting post operative leaks.
- **Hyivy Health:** offers pelvic health rehabilitation for patients.
- **Orchid Analytics:** its platform addresses operational challenges such as surgeon and patient scheduling
- **Savyn:** a digital Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) mental health therapy platform.
- **Smile Digital Health:** a collaborative and comprehensive health data and integration platform.

Case study

Hyivy Health lands in the UK

Hyivy Health has created a pelvic rehabilitation system for women with a tight pelvic floor.

After the Canadian Boot Camp, Hyivy Health recruited a UK Account Director, officially opened a subsidiary in Leeds and is in several exploratory talks for clinical trials with key partners including the University of Leeds and the University of Sheffield. They continue their progress with support through the Advanced Wellbeing Research Centre in Sheffield through their Advanced Wellbeing Accelerator programme.



Nordic Boot Camp 2023

The first Nordic Boot Camp was delivered in January 2023 in collaboration with Nordic Innovation and included the following innovators:

- **Cuviva:** its solution enables new ways of working in healthcare – with increased security and quality of care for multi-sick and frail elderly people as a result.
- **Dignacare:** provides dignity in the daily lives of people who live with incontinence, while making the duties easier for healthcare professionals allowing them to free up time for critical care.
- **Leviosa:** spend less time on medical documentation and reduce provider workload. Modernise patient care by introducing smarter technology.
- **Lifeness:** a cloud-based medical platform that makes it easier to give people with obesity and lifestyle diseases closer follow-up.
- **Njord MedTech:** solving unmet needs in radiology and patient handling for sustainable healthcare.
- **SmartCrowding:** a new system to enhance hospitals and trusts with operational leadership and operation regarding patient flow management and resource planning in times of high activity.
- **Thula:** providing first class software solutions to the healthcare sector, based on our extensive experience and proven track record in delivering successful projects.
- **Visikon:** health professionals, animators, and developers, delivering award-winning, research-based visual health communication.

Case study

Progress since the Boot Camp: Norwegian innovation combats overcrowding in hospitals

Norwegian healthcare business SmartCrowding is striving to tackle an ongoing issue in the health industry, developing software for hospitals to reduce overcrowding through patient flow and planning.

After the Nordic Propel@YH Boot Camp, SmartCrowding has made strong connections in the domestic market with help of Nexus, University of Leeds. The company is now working to expand its network in Leeds and is looking to hire someone to represent the company in the UK from this year.



US Boot Camp

The first US Boot Camp was delivered in March 2022 in collaboration with the Texas Medical Centre and the Department for Business and Trade (formerly the Department of International Trade) and included the following Innovators:

- **Luminare:** accelerates the speed of sepsis detection to save lives.
- **Behavidence:** an app that gives daily feedback based on a users digital behaviour, to help identify, track and cope with their mental health.
- **Lab Ready:** world's first automated sample prep system that collects and stores bacterial samples automatically enabling a faster diagnosis.
- **Televeda:** empowers communities to engage active adults through live events that support healthy ageing and reduce social isolation.
- **SingFit:** an award-winning therapeutic music app for cognitive health and wellness.

Case study

Progress since the Boot Camp: SingFit launched in the UK

SingFit is a revolutionary award-winning digital health platform and music app designed to improve wellbeing through the therapeutic benefits of music. Developed by Musical Health Technologies, an innovative HealthTech company in California, the novel technology platform dramatically expands the ability of people to access the proven health benefits of therapeutic music to improve health.

After attending the US Boot Camp, SingFit decided to launch its product into the UK. The company is actively involved in the Leeds ecosystem and working towards multiple adoption projects in the UK.



Since being on the Propel@YH Boot Camp programme, we are now fully registered as a UK company and have a pilot project underway in Leeds with the Royal College of Occupational Therapists to test SingFit's cultural relevancy and clinical efficacy with those living in the UK

Rachel Francine,
CEO.



Propel@YH International Boot Camp impacts:



x7

international Boot Camps delivered: x2 Indian, x2 Nordic, x2 Canadian and US Boot Camp



55

international innovators supported



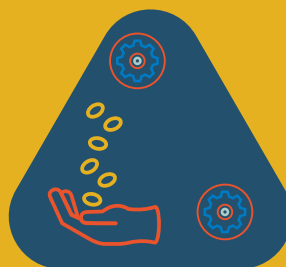
£11m

innovator funding raised



5

products in new clinical settings



£110k

investment made into our local economy

Value Generated:



19

international innovators entering the UK



7

international innovators landing in West Yorkshire



70

UK jobs created



6

international innovators joining Nexus

CHANGING
SOLUTIONS

DEVELOPEL
WITH

NEW IC
SEEDS



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