

RESPOND Project: Advancing a Neighbourhood Respiratory Pathway across the Southern Trust

The NI Health and Social Care Reset Plan places the Neighbourhood model of care at the centre of healthcare transformation, with a focus on expanding primary and community-based services so that more treatment is delivered closer to home, ensuring earlier intervention to reduce demand on hospitals, and addressing health inequalities. The Neighbourhood model of care uses population health data to identify need, ensuring higher-risk patients receive timely specialist support while enabling lower-risk patients to be cared for safely in the community, improving outcomes and reducing pressure on hospital services.

As part of this transformation programme, MOIC is a key partner in the RESPOND Project, a new initiative designed to deliver an integrated, end-to-end respiratory pathway across the Southern Trust area. The project will focus on improving care for patients living with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) by supporting earlier diagnosis, faster treatment optimisation, and more coordinated care closer to home.

The RESPOND Project will be delivered through a collaborative working partnership between Health and Social Care and AstraZeneca, operating within the requirements of the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry (ABPI) Code of Practice.

The initiative represents the first exemplar project developed under the Department of Health/Department for the Economy/AstraZeneca Memorandum of Understanding, which was formally announced by Tom Keith-Roach, Country President of AstraZeneca UK, at the HIRANI HealthTech Spring Conference on 24 April 2026.

Leadership Excellence: Dr Glenda Fleming Appointed Director

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Dr Glenda Fleming as Director of MOIC, whose leadership and expertise continue to make a significant contribution to the work of MOIC and the wider healthcare community.

As the previous Deputy Director for MOIC, Glenda brings extensive experience in pharmaceutical research, strategic leadership and medicines optimisation. She holds a pharmacy degree and PhD from Queen's University Belfast and began her career with a research fellowship at the Northern Ireland Centre for Pharmacy Learning and Development (NICPLD). She subsequently joined the HSC R&D Office, where she played a key role in implementing the HSC R&D Strategy, strengthening research governance and coordinating pharmaceutical research and development initiatives across Northern Ireland.

Alongside her research and leadership roles, Glenda has more than 16 years' experience working in community pharmacy and has made a valuable contribution to the education and development of future pharmacists at both undergraduate and postgraduate level.

This appointment reflects Glenda's outstanding professional achievements, her commitment to advancing pharmacy practice and research, and her dedication to improving outcomes for patients through innovation and collaboration. We congratulate Glenda on this well-deserved achievement.



International Collaboration: Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana Visits MOIC

MOIC was delighted to host a delegation from Ghana. Dr Paul Owusu Donkor, President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ghana and Dr Therestella Obosu Tei-Kwabla, National Chairperson of the Community Practice Pharmacists Association of Ghana, visited Northern Ireland to learn more about pharmacy practice and healthcare sustainability.

The visit was part of a wider programme organised by the Ulster University School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences.



Harnessing Data for Better Outcomes

Health Data Research Service (HDRS) Digital Ecosystem Analysis

Final report

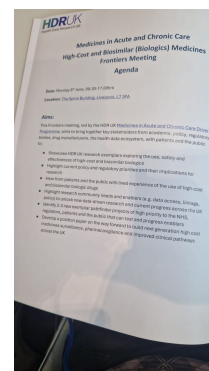
MOIC was pleased to attend a recent Northern Ireland Health Data Research Service update meeting. The session showcased how innovative use of data is driving improvements in health and wellbeing across Northern Ireland and supporting better outcomes for patients. The event highlighted the growing importance of data-enabled decision-making in shaping future healthcare delivery.

Collaboration and Innovation at the HDR UK Frontiers Meeting

It was great to see strong collaboration at the HDR UK Medicines in Acute and Chronic Care Frontiers Meeting in Liverpool, bringing together leaders from research, policy, industry and patient communities to focus on high-cost and biosimilar medicines.

Glenda Fleming attended and contributed as a panellist, sharing expertise in pharmaceutical research strategy and leadership, alongside a strong track record in NHS-industry partnerships, service development, pathway redesign and medicines optimisation.

A valuable opportunity to highlight the importance of data, collaboration and innovation in shaping better outcomes for patients and the NHS.



iMPROVE Project: Progressing Person-Centred Prescribing

Significant progress continues on the iMPROVE Project, with partners coming together for a productive project day in Edinburgh.

Hosted by the Scottish Government's Effective Prescribing & Therapeutics Unit, the meeting included collaboration between Ulster University, MOIC, NHS partners, and academic and healthcare organisations across Ireland and Scotland.

The project is developing innovative, regionally adaptable models of person-centred medication review, incorporating pharmacogenomics to enhance prescribing safety and effectiveness.

iMPROVE

Innovation in person-centered
medication prescribing

Advancing Integrated Medicines Management in Poland

MOIC's influence on international pharmacy practice continues to grow. Congratulations to Kamila Urbańczyk, who recently defended her PhD at Wrocław Medical University, focusing on Integrated Medicines Management (IMM).

Her research evaluated the implementation of clinical pharmacy services within the Polish healthcare system, building on learning gained through collaboration with MOIC. Supervised by Professor Mike Scott MBE, the work demonstrates how IMM can enhance patient safety, improve therapeutic decision-making, and deliver better healthcare outcomes. This milestone represents a significant step forward in embedding evidence-based pharmacy practice internationally.



HSRPP Conference 2026: Advancing Evidence into Practice



Dr Glenda Fleming attended the Health Services Research and Pharmacy Practice (HSRPP) Conference held at Queen's University Belfast on 23-24 April 2026.

With the theme "Following the science: generating and implementing evidence to improve health," the conference explored key issues including the quality of research evidence, implementation in practice, effective communication, and planning sustainable health services for the future.

The conference was opened by Professor Carmel Hughes and brought together colleagues from across the sector, including Primary Care Research NI. It provided a valuable platform for collaboration and knowledge exchange to improve health outcomes.

Sharing Expertise Across Europe: Estonia Engagements



MOIC's Anita Hogg, alongside Alpana Mair, Scottish Government, continued to showcase leadership in medicines optimisation at two key events in Estonia.

At the European Association of Faculties of Pharmacy (EAFP) 2026 Annual Conference in Tartu, Anita and Alpana delivered an engaging workshop and reconnected with colleagues from across Europe. Building on this, they were also invited to present at the Estonian Pharmaceutical Society's 63rd Summer Conference in Laulasmaa.

Their second workshop generated excellent discussion and provided a valuable opportunity to share learning on medicines optimisation with an international audience.

Recent Publications

We are pleased to highlight two recent publications:

Impact of Granada Statements on Clinical and Social Pharmacy Practice Research- published in the *Second Edition of the Encyclopedia of Pharmacy Practice and Clinical Pharmacy*. The paper explores the role of the Granada Statements in strengthening pharmacy practice research.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/chapter/referencework/abs/pii/B9780443264726001352>

New Models of Prescribing: Implementation of Specialist Palliative Care Prescribing in the Community- published in the *British Journal of Healthcare Management*. The paper examines the implementation of specialist palliative care prescribing in community settings.

<https://www.magonlinelibrary.com/doi/full/10.12968/bjhc.2025.0136>

Looking Ahead: Key International Events

MOIC is looking forward to participating in several major international events:

International Conference on Communication in Healthcare (ICCH) 2026, Belfast (14-18 September 2026) - bringing together a global, multidisciplinary community to advance healthcare communication and patient outcomes.

European Society of Clinical Pharmacy (ESCP) Symposium 2026, Almada, Portugal (12-14 October 2026) - focusing on bridging gaps in the digital transition of care.

Celebrating Excellence

A highlight of the year was the Northern Ireland Healthcare Awards, where Cathy Harrison received the Special Recognition Award. Presented by Professor Michael Scott MBE, the award recognises Cathy's outstanding dedication and impact in healthcare. **Many congratulations from all the team at MOIC.**



2026 Step Challenge

And finally, a big well done to the Spec Sisters from MOIC, who finished an amazing 23rd out of 248 teams in the 2026 Step Challenge! Congratulations to the team on such a brilliant result!

Steps Challenge Dashboard	
Rank	Score
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