Tuesday 8 September

NHS Fast Tracks Odin Vision's artificial intelligence technology to fight bowel cancer

Odin Vision's artificial intelligence technology will be installed into selected hospitals across the UK to evaluate its impact on patient outcomes and the cost benefits to the NHS, thanks to a new grant award announced today. Odin Vision's ground-breaking CADDIE system supports doctors to detect and characterise the early signs of bowel cancer.

Sir Simon Stevens, NHS Chief Executive, said: "The NHS is determined to take advantage of the artificial intelligence revolution and ensure we are harnessing the latest and best technologies to improve care and save more lives."

The FORE AI project will fast track Odin Vision's CADDIE system into hospitals across the UK for clinical and healthcare economic evaluation. The system uses real time machine learning algorithms to analyse colonoscopy images and support doctors to identify and characterize polyps during colonoscopy procedures. The system is cloud deployed and has the capability to scale across the whole of the NHS.

Peter Mountney Odin Vision, CEO said: "Support from the NHS, NIHR and NHSX helps us to build robust clinical evidence and accelerate the adoption of our AI technology in more hospitals."

The clinical evaluation will be led Dr Sunil Dolwani from Cardiff University, a leading centre for Cancer Research and population healthcare medicine and an NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Centre.

Dr Sunil Dolwani, said: "AI technology has the potential to enhance quality at screening colonoscopy and improve longer term outcomes from bowel cancer."

To evaluate the potential of the CADDIE artificial intelligence system, Bowel & Cancer Research and Aquarius Population Health will gather patient feedback and healthcare economic evidence to support wider adoption across the NHS.

Bowel cancer is the second most common cause of cancer-related deaths in the UK and the number of deaths is predicted to increase by 50% in the next 15 years. Detecting it using traditional colonoscopy methods can be challenging for doctors and up to 25% of polyps are missed. To evaluate the potential of the CADDIE artificial intelligence system, Bowel & Cancer Research and Aquarius Population Health will gather patient feedback and healthcare economic evidence to support wider adoption across the NHS.

"At Bowel & Cancer Research we look forward to a day when no one will die of bowel cancer. As someone who has had their life saved through bowel screening but also had missed diagnosis, I am excited by the impact Odin Vision's artificial intelligence can have on improving early detection and patient outcomes." **Lesley Booth MBE**, Director of Research and Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement at Bowel and Cancer Research.

The AI in Health and Care Award forms part of the NHS AI Lab and is managed by the Accelerated Access Collaborative in partnership with NHSX and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

Matt Hancock, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, said: "Today's funding will ensure the NHS can continue to fast-track pioneering artificial intelligence to the frontline, freeing up clinicians' time and saving lives."

NOTES TO EDITORS AND FURTHER INFORMATION:

About Odin Vision

Odin Vision is a spin out from UCL. Odin Vision is an award-winning Artificial Intelligence (AI) company founded by a team of eminent clinicians and artificial intelligence experts with the mission of creating the next generation of AI enabled applications for endoscopy. Odin Vision was named as one of the Top UK AI start-ups to watch in 2019 and recently won the SEHTA Best MedTech Start up Award. For more information please visit www.odin-vision.com. CADDIE is a CE certified medical device. Not for sale in the US.

Odin received support from UCL's commercialisation team, UCL Business (UCLB), part of UCL Innovation & Enterprise (UCLI&E) and the UCL Technology Fund (UCLTF).

About NIHR

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) is the nation's largest funder of health and care research. The NIHR:

- Funds, supports and delivers high quality research that benefits the NHS, public health and social care
- Engages and involves patients, carers and the public in order to improve the reach, quality and impact of research
- Attracts, trains and supports the best researchers to tackle the complex health and care challenges of the future
- Invests in world-class infrastructure and a skilled delivery workforce to translate discoveries into improved treatments and services
- Partners with other public funders, charities and industry to maximise the value of research to patients and the economy

The NIHR was established in 2006 to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research and is funded by the Department of Health and Social Care. In addition to its national role, the NIHR supports applied health research for the direct and primary benefit of people in low- and middle-income countries, using UK aid from the UK government.