

digitalhealth

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Digital therapeutics (DTx) - introduction

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Digital Health and Care Alliance

- Estd. 2013 by what is now Innovate UK
- Vision *“as the world ages, digital technology will enable professionals to care for more people, better”*
- Purpose to help members scale digital innovation in the UK
- Free to join
- Membership c1100 small SME founders/directors. 905 currently opt in to our trimonthly newsletter
- Major current issues:
 - DTAC
 - level playing field for devices
 - £ vs change



Level playing field

- Use similar benefit metric as conventional alternative
 - eg QALY
- Make both available on same basis
 - eg free at the point of care/as prescription
- Guidance documents should include both



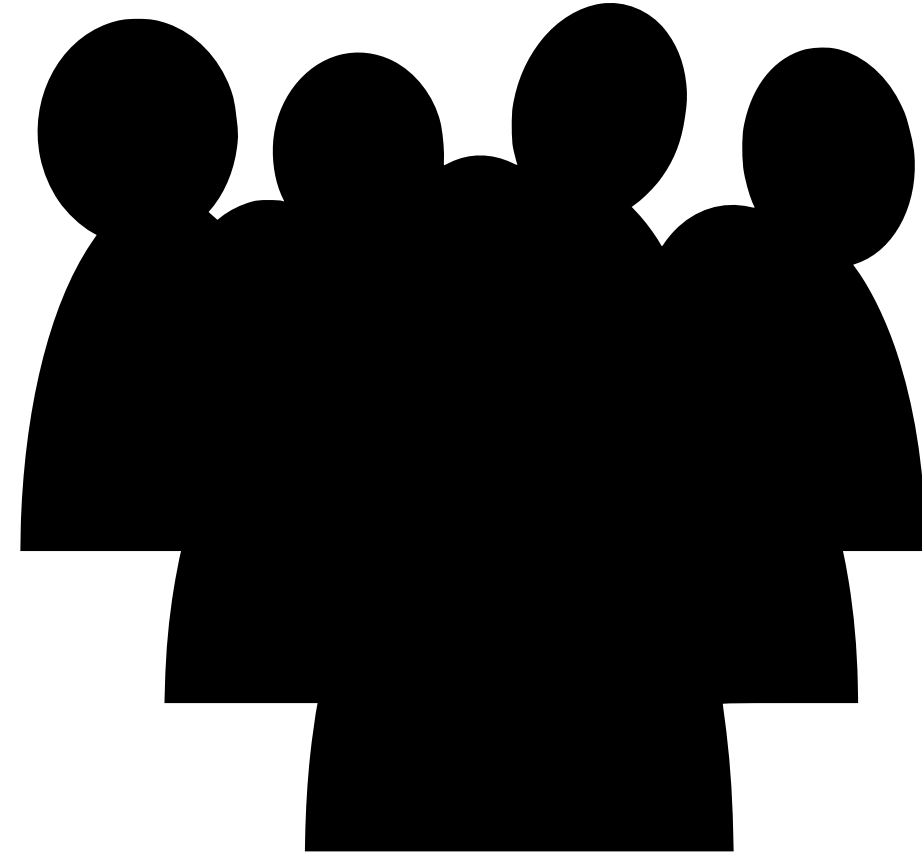
Digital therapeutics

- “...deliver medical interventions directly to patients using evidence-based, clinically evaluated software to treat, manage, and prevent a broad spectrum of diseases and disorders”*
- Perfect alignment with the DHACA vision – typically they:
 - Reduce need for regular professional involvement
 - Facilitate monitoring of care delivery
 - Deliver Real World Evidence
 - Improve sustainability
- NHS June 2023: “The government is ramping up support for digital therapeutics, Lord Markham said”

* <https://dtxalliance.org/understanding-dtx/>

Co-development

- Particularly important to recognise that digital technology has at least two different users
 - Professionals are often the gatekeepers
 - Patients need to maintain participation
 - Carers potentially also relevant
- Requirements of each can be very different
 - Overwhelmed GPs
 - Boring/difficult patient interfaces
 - Both welcome (different) intuitive interfaces
 - Sustainability increasingly important



Two excellent examples

- Lord Markham's statement mentioned two disease areas specifically: mental health and MSK
- For mental health, Careloop delivers a digital service for people with severe mental illness
- For MSK, Flok Health delivers a digital service to help people with back pain

Thank you

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