

# Experience of the NHS Digital Academy

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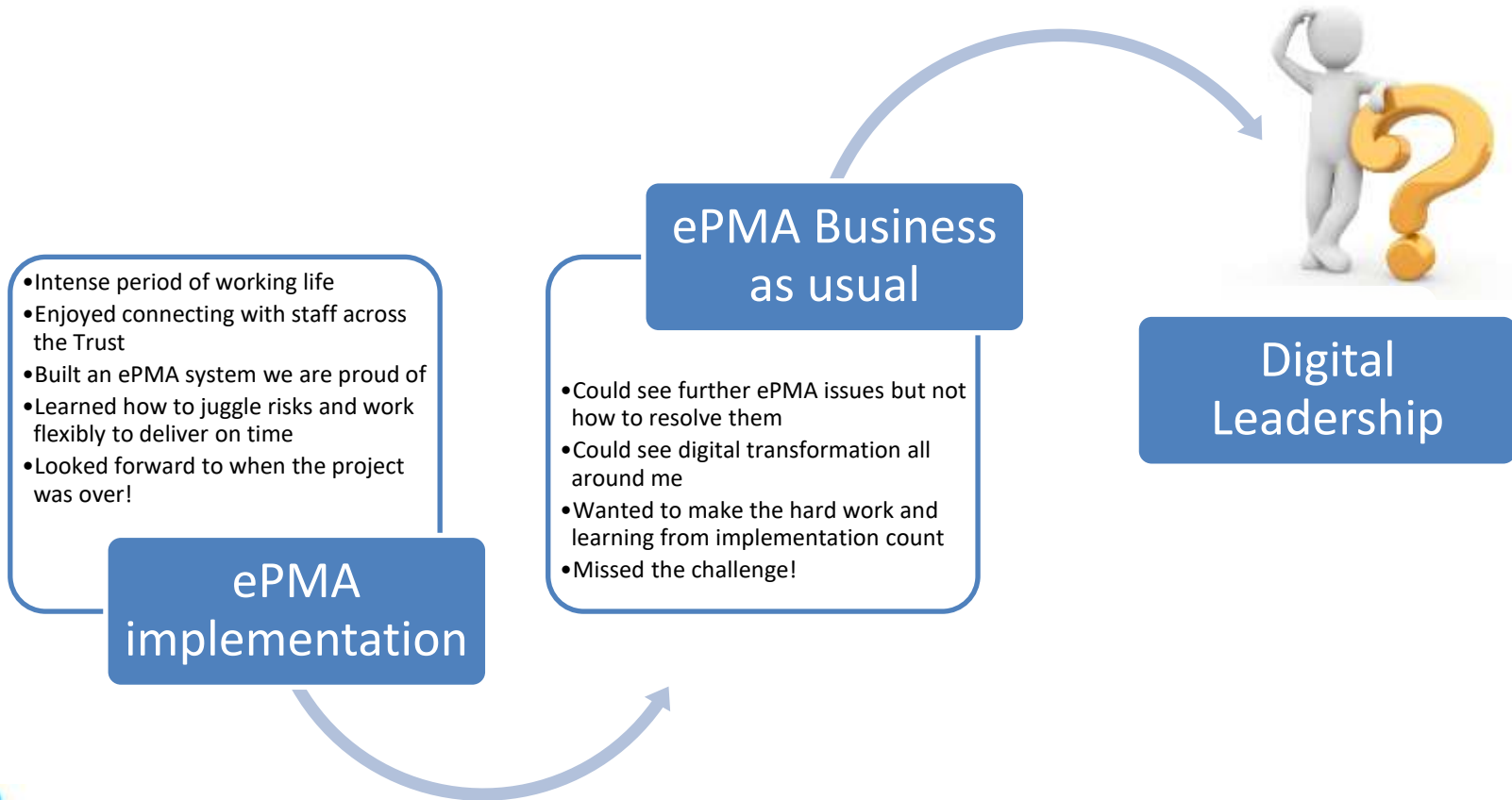
Medicines Management  
and Pharmacy Services

# Plan for session

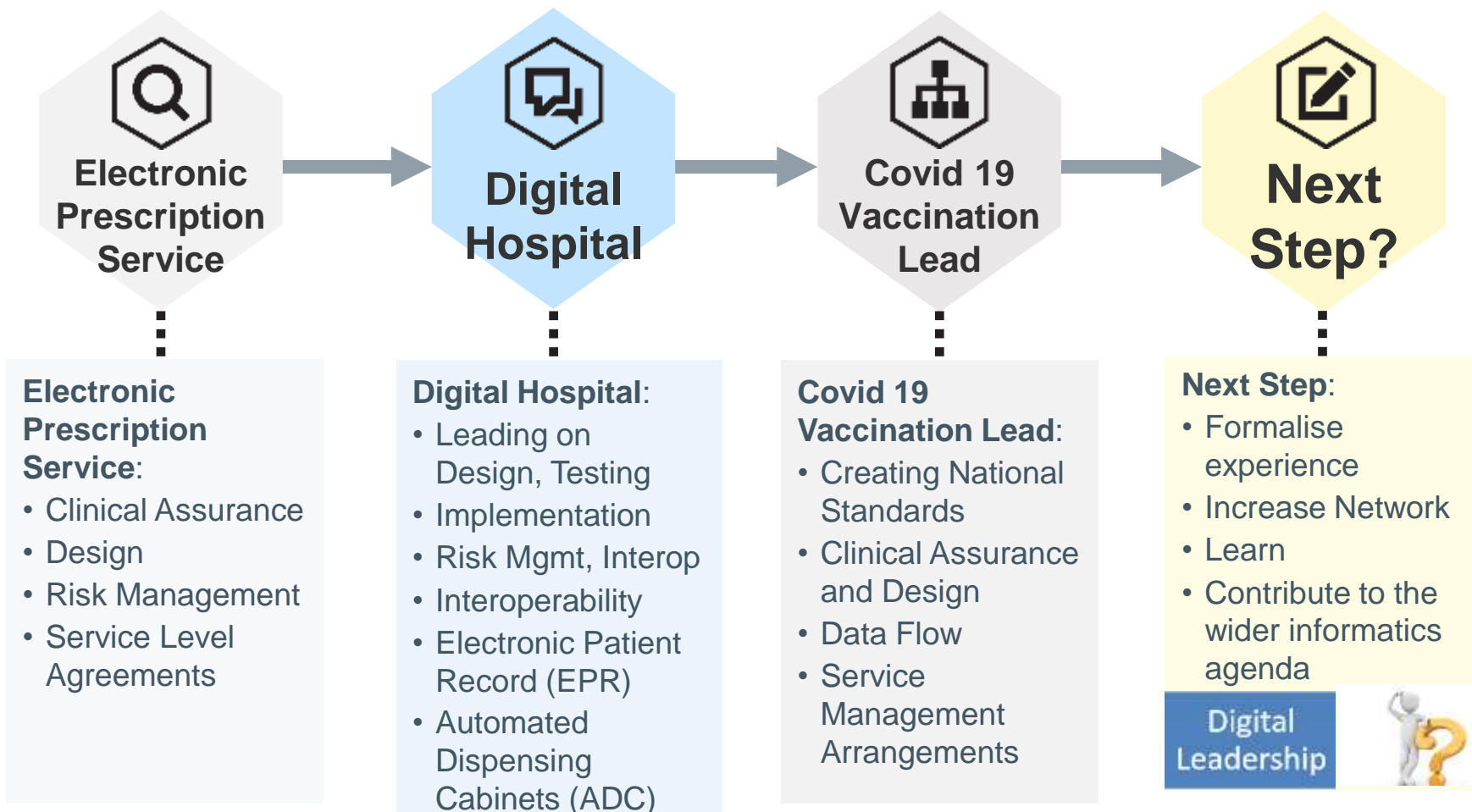
- Our ePMA journey and why we applied to the NHSDA
- The Digital Health Leadership Programme
- What we learned
- Reflections from other participants
- Takeaway messages



# Why I applied to the NHS DA (MT)



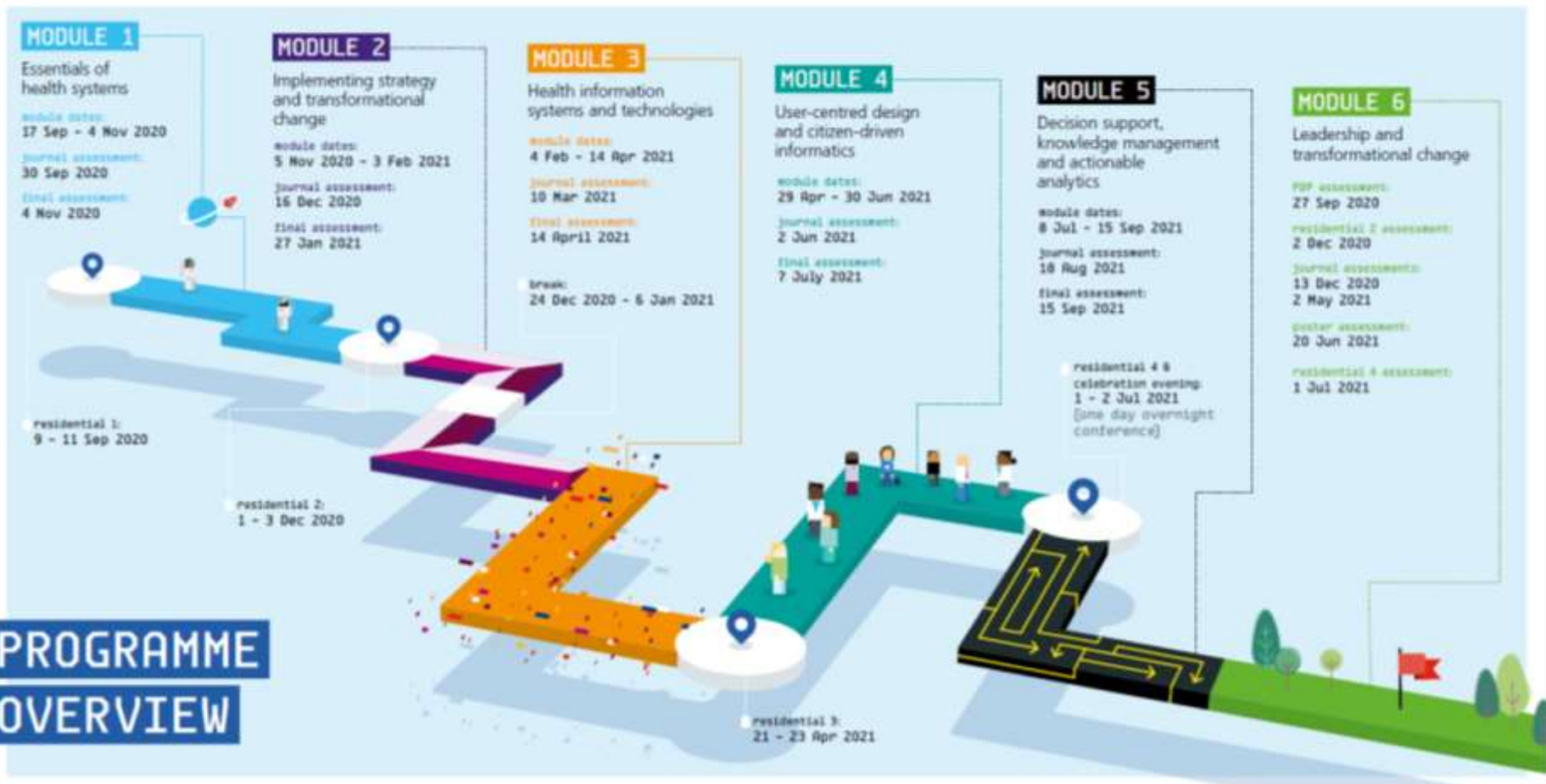
# Why I Applied to the NHS Digital Academy



[Digital Health Leadership Programme \(hee.nhs.uk\)](http://hee.nhs.uk)

# The Digital Health Leadership Programme

Cohort 3 schedule (2020/21)



# What we gained from the programme

## M1: Introduction to Healthcare Systems

Why we fund healthcare  
Process mapping  
Gentle introduction to the course

## M2: Strategy & Transformational Change

Approaches to change  
Enabled me to write a digital strategy for my department

## M3: Health Information Systems

Use of research literature to inform implementation approach  
Importance of good supplier relationships

## M4: User-centred design

Patient and citizen perspectives of healthcare  
Importance of co-creation of healthcare services

## M5: Data and analytics

Clinical decision support, AI and machine learning  
Gained a better understanding of the potential and current reality of AI and the value of data scientists

## M6: Leadership

Practical skills in communication and negotiation  
An understanding of my strengths as a leader

**Confidence**

**Broader view**

**Network**

**Mentorship**

# Perspectives from other participants

The Digital Academy helped me to see the role of digital in healthcare from many different perspectives and consider the impact of digital interventions in ways which I don't think I otherwise would have. The Digital Academy has also consolidated a lot of knowledge and good practice.

The NHS Digital academy has allowed me to develop from an aspiring digital leader within the NHS working now as head of product for a healthcare tech company working in collaboration with our NHS Customers. It has provided me with the confidence and knowledge to pursue this path and allow me to contribute to the future of digital healthcare at an international level.

...building networks and meeting like minded people and sharing problems to help projects become unstuck.

Networking  
Lessons learned  
Broader view  
Leadership

\*I don't think you're ever going to have a chance to be part of a program that is specific to the NHS, [...] and even more so, specific to digital transformation [...]. So, I would recommend that anyone who wants to move forward in this space, this is really a great course to be part of, and the knowledge it gives you is great, and you're part of a collective of cohorts [...]. So, a load of like-minded people that you know are behind you.

Thanks to:

Craig Currie Chief Pharmacy Technician, ePMA, Bedford Hospital  
Bastiaan Buijtenhuijs, Lead Oncology Pharmacist, IQ HealthTech  
Penny Daynes, Lead Pharmacist for Operations, Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust

\* Natasha Walton, from NHSDA promotion video

# Thoughts to take away (MT)

- “The only barrier remaining is ourselves...” (Ann Slee) The Digital Health Leadership Programme supports staff development to enable NHS digital transformation and is a springboard to further personal development.
- Lots of information available at [Digital Health Leadership Programme \(hee.nhs.uk\)](https://www.hee.nhs.uk/digital-health-leadership-programme)

- **References for ePMA implementation and optimisation:**

Cresswell, K., Williams, R. and Sheikh, A. (2020) Developing and Applying a Formative Evaluation Framework for Health Information Technology Implementations: Qualitative Investigation. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*; 22 (6): e15068.  
<https://doi.org/10.2196/15068>

Mozaffar, H., Cresswell, K. M., Williams, R., Bates, D. W. & Sheikh, A. (2017) Exploring the roots of unintended safety threats associated with the introduction of hospital ePrescribing systems and candidate avoidance and/or mitigation strategies: a qualitative study. *BMJ Quality & Safety*; 26: 722–733. Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjqs-2016-005879>

Cresswell, K. M., Bates, D. W. and Sheikh, A. (2013) Ten key considerations for the successful implementation and adoption of large-scale health information technology. *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association*; 20: e9-e13.  
<https://doi.org/10.1136/amiainl-2013-001684>



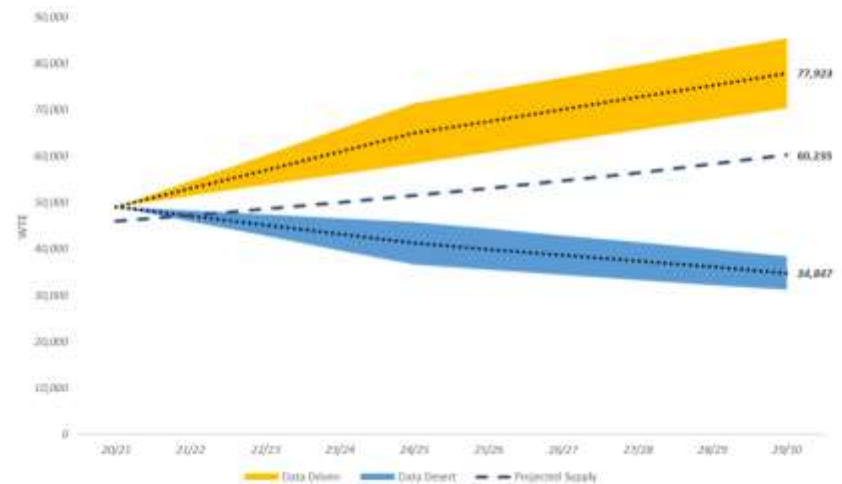
# Thoughts to take away

“We have a unique opportunity to shape the Digital Landscape of the NHS for the Future”

- Year of the Digital Profession 2022
- Become involved in the future of Digital Healthcare
- Skill and Capabilities

HEE Digital Readiness Programme Summary and Recommendations

Figure 1: Supply projection and demand forecasts for the NHS digital technology and health informatics workforce in a Data Driven Future and Data Desert Future – 2020/21 to 2029/30



# Thank you

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