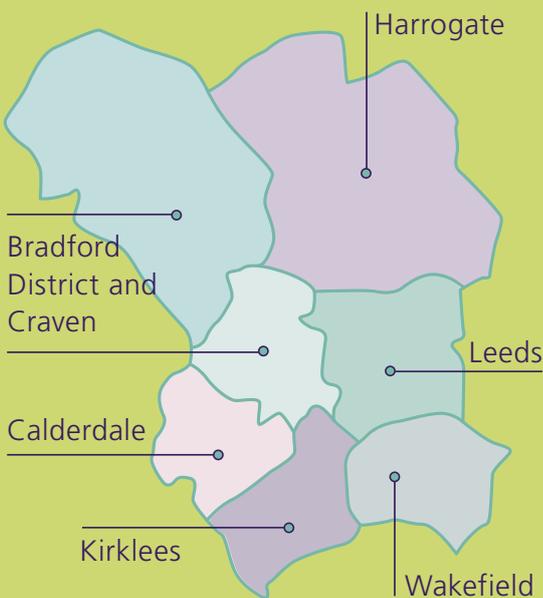


Telling our Partnership story



Proud to be the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership

Committed to improving the health and wellbeing of people living in:



- > Working to improve people's health with and for them
- > Improving people's experience of healthcare
- > Making every penny in the pound count
- > Working to keep people well and make life better for 2.6 million people living in West Yorkshire and Harrogate.

West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership



Digital pathology

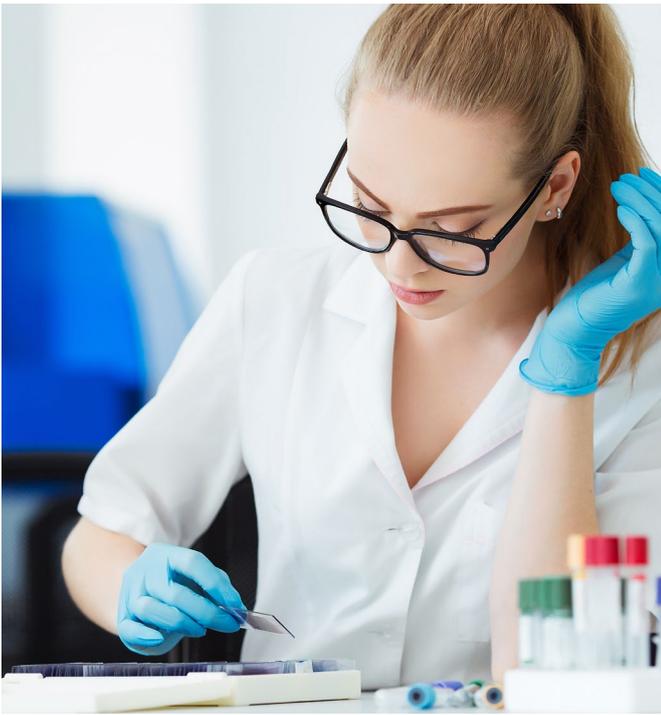
Our ambition

Cancer is the biggest cause of death from illness in every age group in West Yorkshire and Harrogate.

Early diagnosis is a key area of work for West Yorkshire and Harrogate Cancer Alliance and we aim to increase the number of cancers diagnosed at a stage where they can still be cured, from 40% to 62% by the year 2020.

Pathology departments are under growing pressure due to increasing requests and a declining workforce which is reaching retirement age.

Traditionally pathologists diagnose cancer by viewing glass slides under the microscope. This method has challenges including transporting slides, storage, and sharing of information with other pathologists for a second opinion.



The step-by-step process each slide goes through at Leeds has been rigorously tested and received ISO15189 (International Organisation for Standardisation) accreditation laying the foundations for national guidelines on using digital pathology.

What next?

Leeds researchers have recently been awarded a £10.1m investment from UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) to expand a digital pathology and artificial intelligence programme across the North of England. The successful partnership bid was led by the University of Leeds and Leeds Teaching Hospitals as part of a network of nine NHS hospitals, seven universities and ten industry-leading medical technology companies, called the Northern Pathology Imaging Co-operative (NPIC).

The investment of £10.1m from UKRI is boosted by an initial investment of £7m from the companies involved in the programme. The consortium is now set to become a globally-leading centre for applying artificial intelligence (AI) research to cancer diagnosis. Clinicians will work with industry and academic researchers to make new AI systems capable of analysing digital pathology images leading to better diagnoses for diseases like cancer.

What we are doing

A digital transformation of pathology in Leeds has been made possible thanks to a partnership between Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, the University of Leeds and cancer diagnostics company, Leica Biosystems. It has also been backed by £1m from the Trust's partner charity, Leeds Cares.

The Pathology Department, located in St James's University Hospital in Leeds, is one of the largest in the UK processing over 1,000 pathology slides a day, and is now digitally scanning every slide. This makes getting a second opinion much quicker and easier than the traditional method.

NHS Wakefield CCG
White Rose House
West Parade
Wakefield
WF1 1LT

✉ westyorkshire.stp@nhs.net
🌐 www.wyhpartnership.co.uk
🐦 @WYHpartnership
☎ 01924 317659

A partnership made up of the NHS, local councils, care providers, Healthwatch, community and carers organisations.

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West Yorkshire and Harrogate
Health and Care Partnership

