

Yorkshire MedTech

Place-Based Impact Accelerator



Engineering and
Physical Sciences
Research Council



University of
Sheffield



UNIVERSITY
OF LEEDS

Thursday 8 October 2026

Headingley Stadium, St Michael's Lane, Leeds LS6 3BR

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW – FULL SURGTECH DETAILS [ONLINE](#)

08:00: SurgTech Registration opens

08:45: Welcome & Housekeeping – Prof David Jayne & Vee Mapunde

09:00: Opening Remarks – Prof Nick Plant – UoL, & Prof Michael Lewis - NIHR

09:30: SurgTech Plenary: AI Tools & Data – Keynote Lawrence Tallon – CEO MHRA

11:00: Break – Head to The Long Room for Yorkshire MedTech refreshments & breakout 1

11:30: Yorkshire MedTech breakout: Routes to Market for Medical Devices – Keynote Dr Susan Partridge, BSI – full session details overleaf

13:00: Lunch and Yorkshire MedTech networking and poster presentations in The Long Room

14:00: SurgTech Plenary: Robotics – Keynote Michael Lewis, NIHR

15:30: Break – Return to The Long Room for Yorkshire MedTech refreshments & breakout 2

16:00: Yorkshire MedTech breakout: Securing funding for your spin-out or start-up, from Seed to Series B – full session details overleaf

17:15: SurgTech Day 1 Closes



YORKSHIRE MEDTECH BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

11:30 – 13:00 | YORKSHIRE MEDTECH BREAKOUT 1: ROUTES TO MARKET FOR MEDICAL DEVICES

The session will cover an overview of the key considerations when commercialising a medical technology to ensure compliance with UK notified bodies, plus the different considerations for spinning out and licence deals to make a success of your commercialisation journey.

Keynote speaker – Susan Partridge – BSI

You'll hear **case studies from researchers taking technologies to market** :

- **Dr Rasha Rezk** – University of York – The Microfluidic French Press: Safe Delivery of Gene Therapies
- **Dr Elliott Smith** – University of Leeds – Haemodynamic Estimation in Arteries with Transthoracic 4-Dimensional imaging (HEART-4D)
- **Prof Cheryl Miller & Dr Caroline Harrison** – University of Sheffield – Innovative Injectable Antimicrobial Bone Graft Substitute

The session will close with a **panel hosted by Prof Paul Hatton**, providing further insights into overcoming common barriers to commercialisation

16:00 – 17:15 | SECURING FUNDING FOR YOUR SPIN-OUT OR START-UP, FROM SEED TO SERIES B

Hear what investors look for at pre-seed stage, directly relevant to those who are early on their spinout journey. We will then delve into **case studies to take you through approaches to securing funding** from seed to series B.

Keynote speaker: Dr Andrew Round, Deepbridge Capital

Investment insights case studies from:

- **Prof Ipsita Roy & Dr Andrea Mele** – [PHAsT's](#) funding journey from ICure-Innovate UK-Angel investors
- **Henry Dunne** – [Microneedle Solutions](#), the Leeds spinout 'reinventing the injection' who are working towards a Series A raise in the near future
- **John Naybour** – [Eventum Orthopaedics](#), sharing insights on the company's progression to Series B raise

The session will close with a panel hosted **by Prof Robert Kay**, to explore practical tips for securing investment.

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OUR BREAKOUT KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

ROUTES TO MARKET FOR MEDICAL DEVICES

Dr Susan Partridge is a Clinical Regulatory Lead within BSI's Approved Body and Notified Body, bringing more than 15 years of experience in orthopaedic medical devices, clinical research, and regulatory affairs. She specialises in clinical evaluation, MDR clinical evidence requirements, and the regulatory assessment of orthopaedic devices. She has presented at leading regulatory conferences and contributed to BSI white papers on topics including Summary of Safety and Clinical Performance (SSCP), investigator-initiated studies, early feasibility studies, MDR clinical evidence requirements, EUDAMED, In-Silico evidence and Article 61(10). Susan has conducted clinical evaluation assessments as part of the Orthopaedic & Dental team at BSI and has authored clinical evaluation reports for a broad range of orthopaedic devices across multiple risk classifications in industry. Susan holds a PhD in Medical Engineering and has an academic background in biomechanics and pre-clinical testing of joint replacement devices. She also brings extensive experience in research ethics, having served as a member of an NHS Research Ethics Committee for the past 10 years.

SECURING FUNDING FOR YOUR SPIN-OUT OR START-UP, FROM SEED TO SERIES B

Dr Andrew Round is the Investment Director at Deepbridge Capital, bringing over 15 years of experience in investing in Healthcare and Life Sciences companies. Prior to joining Deepbridge, Andy worked with Praetura Ventures and Maven Capital Partners, and has managed investments from EIS and VCT funds, as well as public/private funds and balance sheet investments. Andy has a strong track record of successful Healthcare exits and has also worked as a consultant for leading companies such as DSM, Sumitomo Chemical, Bayer, and Lanxess, advising them on mergers and acquisitions. Additionally, Andy was a Founder of an early-stage Biotech company, which raised over £60m and was listed on AiM, focusing on using microbes as a drug delivery vehicle.



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Thursday 8 October 2026 – The Long Room

Yorkshire MedTech poster presentations - available to view in breaks, with presentations during lunch

Holistic 3D measurement of GI pathologies	Sharib Ali University of Leeds
Handheld device for rapid antibiotic sensitivity monitoring	Samadhan B Patil University of York
Improving Early Acne Diagnosis and Scarring Risk Prediction Through Advanced Non-Invasive OCT Imaging	Yilong Zhang University of York
Injectable biomaterials for soft tissue regeneration	Vanessa Hearnden University of Sheffield
An Injectable Self-Assembling Hydrogel for Minimally Invasive Nucleus Pulposus Augmentation	Ruth Wilcox University of Leeds
An Injectable Self-Assembling Peptide-GAG Hydrogel for Articular Cartilage Repair	Jordan Roe University of Leeds
Broad applicability of drug measurement approach for personalising dosing	Tim Luxton University of Leeds
Organic LEDs for medical applications	Andi Szloboda University of Sheffield
Electrical impedance spectroscopy for the early detection and monitoring of oral cancer and potentially malignant disorders	Craig Murdoch University of Sheffield
Soft Implant for the Treatment of Short Bowel Syndrome: Feasibility Study of Non-Invasive Endoscopic Implantation	Dana Damian University of Sheffield