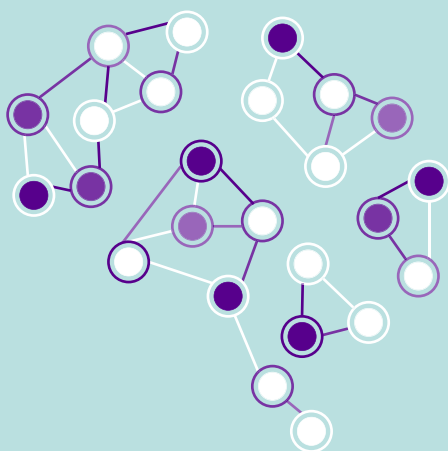


# Patient Inspired Innovation

**Welcome** to issue 5 of the NIHR Brain Injury Healthcare Technology Co-operative (HTC) newsletter. In this edition, we will highlight snapshots of your experiences that are inspiring innovations to improve outcome following a brain injury.

## About us

The HTC is one of eight national Healthcare Technology Co-operatives (HTCs) funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).



The NIHR Brain Injury HTC works with patients, carers, academics, clinicians and industry to develop new medical devices, healthcare technologies and technology-dependent interventions to improve treatment and quality of life for patients with brain injuries.

## Get Involved!

The HTC has developed a volunteer register for patients and carers to assist in the advance of healthcare technologies. For more information, please visit our website: <https://brainhtc.org/patient-and-carer-register/>

## What about the family and carer perspective?

The HTC hosted a small focus group in September 2016 to **acknowledge** the important insights from the family and carer experience following a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

Following a TBI the role of the family and carer is crucial; it is an intensive care experience for the patient which is most likely to be forgotten. We felt that the information gained from discussions about what went well and what could be improved along the care pathway, brought to light some valuable insights into what areas need improving for the well-being of both patients and their carers.

An anonymous survey was sent out in the months leading up to the workshop asking carers about their experience. We are incredibly grateful to those that shared their experiences as part of the survey and within the focus group. We know that this is a very personal and difficult journey and being able to share this and discuss with others is not an easy task.

A report is under development to provide evidence as to where improvements need to be made and set out the recommendations and outcomes of this exercise.

We will share this via our website as soon as it is made available.

Thanks again, we could not do it without your input!



Workshop participants discussing about their experience

# Brain Injury Technology Think tank

## Hyper-Acute Brain Injury Diagnosis and Management

The NIHR Brain Injury HTC will held its second focused Brain Injury Technology Think (BITT) tank on 'Hyper- acute brain injury diagnosis and management' on **18th November 2016** at the Library, Central Hall Westminster, London.

The Brain Injury Technology Think tank series invites small-medium enterprises and entrepreneurs to showcase technologies under development to a panel of patients, carers, industry, clinical and academic experts.

Patient and carer perspective on those new technologies is essential to guide future product development!

**Get involved, come along and have a say in the future of healthcare technologies!**

Please register your interest to attend this event by contacting Talissa Gasser, HTC Programme Co-ordinator: [tg382@cam.ac.uk](mailto:tg382@cam.ac.uk)



*Patient Inspired Innovation*

## 'Brainy Dogs' - A Headway Suffolk Project

Headway Suffolk began a project in 2011 to help people cope with a brain injury through the companionship and therapeutic nature of being with animals; in this case dogs. The dogs are trained by prisoners at Hollesley Bay Prison and supplied by Felixstowe Blue Cross. Some dogs stay at the Headway site for people to come in and simply spend time with, take for walks and enjoy their company under the supervision of the Brainy Dog Coordinator. Headway offer visits to people's homes with a dog as well. You can also apply to adopt a Brainy dog who would then come to live with you at home and become a daily companion, friend and valuable source of motivation. To find out more about the project, please visit Headway Suffolk website:



<http://www.headwaysuffolk.org.uk/brainydogs/>

## Contact us

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