Helen Cole

Helen Cole first joined the national Device Evaluation Service as a medical physicist in King’s Centre for the Assessment of Radiological Equipment (KCARE) in 2001. In the intervening years, the remit for national device evaluation has undergone a number of government reviews, in liaison with industry, and is now hosted within the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), as their Medical Technologies Evaluation Programme (MTEP).

Helen has worked on both the provider and commissioner side of medical device evaluation for the NHS. In 2006, Helen was appointed to the role of Imaging Business Development Manager in the NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency (PaSA) Centre for Evidence-based Purchasing (CEP). Her role was to work with national key stakeholders, to identify and develop evaluation topics in Imaging and work with PaSA-CEP’s independent device evaluation centres to publish reports on innovative imaging technologies.

At present, the NICE MTEP is served by three independent External Assessment Centres (EACs). The EACs follow NICE MTEP processes and methods to review and critique the clinical and cost evidence presented for new, innovative medical devices and diagnostics. Helen became Head of Service Clinical Scientist of the Newcastle and York EAC in 2012.