

Implementing Transnational Telemedicine Solutions



The **Centre for Rural Health** in Inverness, Scotland will lead a Northern Periphery Programme (NPP) strategic project entitled 'Implementing Transnational Telemedicine Solutions' (ITTS). The project includes partners from 6 northern European countries; Scotland, Norway, Finland, Sweden, Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. It is worth a total of €2.3M and will commence in September 2011 running until December 2013. The project will implement transnational telemedicine solutions, at scale, and in a sustainable manner, into everyday practice across the Northern Periphery.

Ten demonstrator projects on the themes of **video-consultation**, **mobile self-management** and **home-based health services** will be implemented in clinical specialities including speech therapy, renal services, psychiatry, emergency services, diabetes, inflammatory bowel disease, rehabilitation and care of the elderly. Common evaluation methods including health economics will quantify the outputs.

This project will carry on from the work carried out in the NPP funded [Competitive Health Services project](#) where existing best practices and innovations were piloted. It will also fund three new posts at the Centre for Rural Health.

David Heaney, the Project Lead and Associate Director at the Centre for Rural Health said "The challenges of implementing solutions that are sustainable, transnational and at scale are considerable, but strategic investment at this time has the potential to transform health delivery in the northern periphery of Europe"

Lee Dowie, the Project Manager, Centre for Rural Health said "We are delighted to have this opportunity to develop telemedicine services within our project. We are looking forward to working with our partners across Europe, and learning from them"

This project will demonstrate academic and service provider collaboration. The Centre for Rural Health will work closely with our Associate Partners, NHS Highland and NHS Orkney who have contributed staff time to ensure that the demonstrator projects in Scotland are delivered. ITTS will also feed into the P4 Digital Future of Health Care Agenda being developed by Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

The project partners are:

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The **Northern Periphery Programme** is one of thirteen Interreg IIIB programmes aimed at encouraging and supporting transnational co-operation between the regions of Europe. It provides the opportunity for organisations from the programme area to work together on joint projects concerning common issues and problems.

<http://www.northernperiphery.net/>

The **Centre for Rural Health** is an academic research centre which is a collaborative venture between the University of Aberdeen and the University of the Highlands & Islands. Its mission is to 'advance knowledge of health and health services in rural and remote communities' <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/crh>



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University of the Highlands &
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in Europe's Northern
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