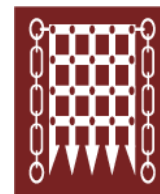


**Westminster Health Forum policy conference:
Priorities for rare disease diagnosis, care and treatment in England**

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 5th June 2025

*****Taking Place Online*****



**WESTMINSTER
HEALTH FORUM**

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Baroness Neville-Jones
- 9.05 **'Four years of the UK Rare Diseases Framework – progress through England's Action Plans and commitments for 2025'**
Dr Kath Bainbridge, Head, Rare Diseases and Emerging Therapies, Department of Health and Social Care
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 **Priorities for patient engagement in shaping rare disease policy**
Nick Meade, Interim CEO and Director, Policy, Genetic Alliance UK
- 9.40 **Strategies for improving early detection, diagnosis and care coordination**
priorities from the England Rare Diseases Action Plan 2025 | delivering faster diagnostics and growing capacity | incentivising clinics for multi-system disorders | improving workforce awareness of rare diseases | equitable access to specialist care and treatment | innovative approaches to patient support | the future for specialised commissioning in NHS reform | priorities for the NHS Genomic Networks of Excellence | approaches to digitalising genomics
Dr Emma Baple, Professor, Genomic Medicine and Medical Director, South West Genomic Laboratory Hub, University of Exeter
Senior representative, workforce
Senior representative, innovation
Senior representative, diagnostics
Senior representative, patient
- 10.10 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **Next steps for whole genome sequencing in newborn screening**
Professor Jim Bonham, President, International Society of Neonatal Screening
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**
Baroness Neville-Jones
- 11.05 Break
- 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.20 **Advancing development of targeted therapies and genetic medicine pathways for rare diseases**
Dr Ana Lisa Tavares, Clinical Lead, Rare Disease Research, Genomics England
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.45 **Priorities for Highly Specialised Technology evaluation and transparency**
Senior representative, guidance
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.10 **The future for personalised treatments, innovative research, and clinical trials for rare diseases**
preparing the NHS to deliver personalised treatments | addressing potential treatment eligibility issues | advancing rare disease medicine development | improving recruitment to clinical trials | regulatory and operational challenges in delivering highly personalised treatments | opportunities for national and international collaboration | priorities for data sharing of real world evidence | centring patient experience and safety | future pathways for accelerated, safe, and approved therapies
Dr Simon Lande, CEO and Co-Founder, HealthLumen
Senior representative, industry
Senior representative, research
Senior representative, advocacy
Senior representative, legal
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Health Forum closing remarks**
Senior Parliamentarian
Jessica Lear, Westminster Health Forum

This conference is supported by HealthLumen

