

Joe McDonald, Director, Connected Health Cities

Practicing Consultant Psychiatrist and Deputy Medical Director / Chief Clinical Information Officer at Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust, England's largest mental health trust.

Joe also works as Director of Connected Health Cities , North East and North Cumbria. He has previously been Medical Director at NTW and a National Clinical IT Lead.

He has campaigned for better quality mental health services and to improve how they are measured. He is a clinical engagement specialist with a track record of engaging clinicians in difficult circumstances.

Current Chairman of the CCIO Leaders Network. Joe has a special interest in the usability of clinical software and owns www.comparethesoftware.co.uk. He has provided consultancy services to some of the largest global health IT companies.

Joe is currently the UK's most widely read health IT columnist for Joe's View (Digital Health).

He is a founding member of the Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management and the Founding Chairman of the National Mental Health Informatics Network. An experienced Caldicott Guardian and accredited Clinical Safety Officer. He has worked as an inspector for the Commission for Health Improvement since its foundation in 1999 and successor organisations, CHAI, Healthcare Commission and CQC. He is also founding director of the NHS Open Source Software Foundation.

