

NHS England initiative: 'combinatorial innovation' in NHS test beds

Optimising the use of medication is one of the five priorities of the new NHS England test be programme of innovation.

The [call for expressions of interest "Real world testing of 'combinatorial innovation' : A global invitation to innovator"](http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/innovation/test-beds/) opened yesterday 26 March 2015, available on the NHS England website: <http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/innovation/test-beds/>

The idea is to try existing technologies to improve NHS services and patient outcomes. The technologies would have to be integrated into existing settings, with changes in organisational arrangements, workflows, etc. They are referred to as 'combinatorial innovations', to test new technologies in real settings, not controlled environments.

It will be interesting to see the plans for evaluation and whether their designs differ substantially or not from those of 'complex interventions'.

News of this call is also in the eHealth Insider: [NHS to trial innovations in 'test beds'](#)

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