



## PRESS RELEASE

### ABHI welcomes the Accelerated Access Review publication

**24<sup>th</sup> October 2016** – The Association of British Healthcare Industries (ABHI) welcomes the publication of the Accelerated Access Review (AAR).

Its recommendations and subsequent implementation are important steps in making the UK a global medical technology innovation “powerhouse”. ABHI was deeply involved in providing input throughout the review process and finds much to support in the report’s recommendations.

Implementation of these measures is now key to improve the UK as a destination for global investment and create an attractive market that pulls innovations from all organisations, be they start-ups or multinationals. To complement implementation, we need an effective industrial strategy, which will support a more favourable commercial environment for the sector.

ABHI looks forward to working with NHS England on development of appropriate payment systems that will advance innovation adoption at speed. We are pleased to see that many of the enablers of rapid medical technology uptake and spread, identified by ABHI, have been addressed in the Review:

- **Enhanced horizon scanning** – providing for a more systematic way of identifying the most impactful innovations and recognising the crucial role of Medtech.
- **NICE focus on Medtech** – a powerful route to market for key technologies can be created by combining a number of existing methods and processes in conjunction with a funding mandate.
- **Alignment of national evaluation processes** – we support the move to conducting evaluations once only and are pleased to see a renewed focus on “real world evidence” and support for “commissioning through evaluation” type approaches.
- **Support for local implementation** – through realising the full potential of Academic Health Science Networks (AHSNs) to drive innovation adoption at pace and scale, using local networks.

Peter Ellingworth, ABHI Chief executive, said: “We look forward to working with Government and NHS England on the implementation of the Accelerated Access Review recommendations. Our focus on payment systems and incentives will support the rapid uptake of innovations at scale.

There is an opportunity for the Government to reinforce AAR implementation through the upcoming Autumn Statement. In particular, allowing NHS organisations to flex their budgets to invest in wealth-creating, impactful innovations. ABHI would welcome such a move as a further commitment to supporting the medical technology sector as a driver of growth for the UK economy.”

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#### About ABHI

The Association of British Healthcare Industries (ABHI) is the industry association for the medical technology sector in the UK. ABHI’s mission is to champion the benefits and use of safe and effective medical technologies to deliver high quality patient outcomes. With over 250 members, ABHI leads the advocacy of the industry in order to advance access to medical technology. Our membership includes some of the leading multinational businesses in the sector in the UK right the way through to small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

For further information, visit the ABHI website: [www.abhi.org.uk](http://www.abhi.org.uk)

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