

IHPN Medical Governance Event

8 October 2026, 10:00 – 15:30

The purpose of this event is to formally introduce and socialise the revised Medical Practitioners Assurance Framework (MPAF), marking a shift in focus from traditional clinical governance approaches to a strengthened, practitioner-centred assurance model. The soft launch provides an opportunity to engage key stakeholders, build understanding of the framework's intent and structure, and support the sectors commitment to continually improving patient safety.

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| 10:00 – 10:30 | Registration, coffee and networking |
| 10:30 – 10:40 | Chair's welcome
Dr Howard Freeman, Clinical Director, IHPN |
| 10:40 – 10:50 | Introduction
Professor Sir Stephen Powis, Independent Chair, Medical Practitioners Assurance Framework (MPAF) Review |
| 10:50 – 11:00 | A brief history of the MPAF
Dawn Hodgkins, Director of Regulation, IHPN |
| 11:00 – 11:45 | Creating an effective medical governance structure
<i>How provider organisations can design governance structures that deliver robust medical practitioner assurance while meeting regulatory expectations.</i>
Leadership, Culture and Board Assurance
Joanna Hayman, Group Medical Director, Circle Health Group |
| 11:45 – 12:30 | Monitoring and assuring medical performance to deliver safe and effective care
<i>How do we actively monitor and assure the performance of medical practitioners</i>
What do we mean by Scope of Practice?
Maxine Hastings, Practitioner Performance and Revalidation Manager, NHSE

Site level data, opportunities and challenges
Registered Manager – Nuffield Health |

12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 13:35	Introduction to the afternoon session
13:35 – 14:20	Raising and responding to concerns <i>The effectiveness of a governance system is measured by how easily concerns are raised—and how well they are handled</i> Legal implications (suspension/withdrawal etc. of Practising Privileges') Dr Cathy Cale, Chief Medical Officer and Responsible Officer, Spire Healthcare Leadership and decision making Dr Sally Pearson, Responsible Officer and HPAN Lead, NHS Resolution
14:20 – 15:05	Supporting whole practice appraisal <i>Factors to consider when developing a whole practice appraisal system across all roles, setting and responsibilities.</i> What do we mean by whole practice? Sue Whitehead, Regional Liaison Adviser, GMC The appraiser's view Dr Reem Hasan Chief Medical Officer
15:05 – 15:20	What next for the independent sector Discussion and agreement of next steps Dr Howard Freeman, Clinical Director, IHPN Dawn Hodgkins, Director of Regulation, IHPN
15:20 – 15:30	Summary and close Dr Howard Freeman, Clinical Director, IHPN