

Healthcare Change Challenge : the role of open source

Healthcare is under pressure to change around the world. The changes required in this complex system will involve people, process and technology elements. Clinical Leadership is required, as is a deep understanding of the process of healthcare. This helps then to design and build health information systems that support healthcare delivery and improvement.

After training in Emergency Medicine and Informatics, Dr Shannon spent 5 years working with the NHS National Programme for IT in England and then the international openEHR Foundation based in London. After identifying a disconnect between frontline innovators and the international standards effort, he moved to a role as Clinical Lead for Informatics in his base hospital Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust, one of the largest hospital groups in the UK with 14,000 staff.

There he is clinically leading an Informatics Strategy that involves open source development. Dr Shannon is a keen clinical advocate for clinical leadership, process improvement, open standards and open source in healthcare. He has a blog at www.frectal.com.