

## MS Unite: moving from concept to reality

MS Unite is a conceptual digital healthcare platform with everything in one place, for anyone, anywhere, any time.

This vision arising from the MS Leaders Academy 2020 is in line with the NHS's future vision for health. Echoing NHSX's vision for digital solutions, it will further enable integration across physical, mental, emotional and social elements of care, whilst supporting preventive, proactive and personal health management.

The platform will include different streams under one umbrella:

- **MS Connect** – 24/7 national MS service, helpline, standardised communications and agreed pathways of care
- **MS Educate** – Education & Training for local HCPs involved in the care of a person with MS, Professional mentorship and a Patient buddy scheme
- **MS MDT** – Planned appointment via the platform with the whole MDT and links with MS Connect, virtual networks between specialist centres and community teams, prescribable and monitored exercises
- **MS FAQ/Library** – Answers for HCPs & patient FAQs, library of online resources – for e.g. charities, SLT, exercise, vocational advice, DMT guidelines, relapses and COVID – all updated and in one place
- **MS Access app** – patients able to record symptoms/ appointments/ medications and all HCPs involved able to access this information, provide information for patients, facilitate recording and transfer of information for everyone directly involved in care, access to the FAQ and library, MS Educate and MS MDT

**MS Unite will not duplicate existing services.** Rather, it will bring together, and build on, pre-existing resources and technologies to reduce variance and ensure people with MS have equitable access to care, treatments and advice.

Integrating expertise from many areas is essential to make this concept a reality, from people living with MS and professionals from all aspects of care planning and delivery, to software engineers and technology specialists.

### 'Esther's Story'

This [short animation](#) demonstrates how these ideas could translate into practice.

This [interview](#) with some of the healthcare practitioners behind the concept provides background and explores the exciting potential of MSUnite.

### The right time to act

Our experience during the pandemic has demonstrated the value of digital solutions as an adjunct to traditional forms of care. It has also shown the NHS's ability to be flexible, and to adapt quickly to new technologies when necessary.

MSUnite presents a positive - and transferable solution. A precision medicine approach, in partnership with patients, which focuses on improved self-management, preventative care, and responsive, integrative services when intervention is needed.

With Best Wishes,

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