As healthcare systems respond to rising demand, increasing complexity and widening health inequalities, innovative models of education and service delivery are essential. This presentation showcases the work of The Gender Hormone Clinic (GHC), a private, nurse-led service specialising in gender-affirming hormone therapy, and explores how its model contributes to the future of nursing-led practice, partnership working and professional education.

Led by Lead Clinician Mary Burke RN NMP, the world's only nurse-led clinic of its kind, GHC is staffed by nurses and specialist non-medical prescribers and supports over 5,000 registered patients across the UK. The clinic plays a critical bridging role for individuals awaiting NHS gender identity services, delivering safe, evidence-informed and patient-centered hormone care while liaising closely with GPs to promote continuity and shared care.

This presentation examines how a nurse-led specialist service can drive innovation not only in clinical practice but also in education and workforce development. Through in-house GP training, collaborative working under shared care agreements, and ongoing dialogue with primary care and NHS gender identity clinics and services, GHC contributes to strengthening professional confidence and capability in gender-affirming care. The session will explore how these educational interventions enhance patient safety, reduce uncertainty in primary care, and build inclusive, affirming practice environments.

The clinic's engagement with national and international forums, including BAGIS and EPATH, and alongside collaboration with Professor Channa N. Jayasena from Imperial College London and other specialists in this field, further demonstrates the importance of cross-sector and academic–clinical partnerships in shaping emerging standards of care. By integrating specialist expertise, research dialogue and frontline nursing leadership, GHC offers a model of impactdriven innovation grounded in inclusivity and responsiveness to patient need.