

Hot Topics in US Management & Operational Leadership Study Day 2026

TIME & PROGRAM

9.00 Arrival and Registration

9.25 Welcome and House Keeping

SERVICE CHALLENGES

9.30 **GP Direct Access / Straight to Test booking – What does this mean for ultrasound departments / pathway design / issues and challenges**

Nicki Davidson, Alexandra Hospital

9.50 **Faster Diagnosis Standard (FDS) – What is FDS and what can we do to help targets be achieved?**

Shaunna Smith, Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

10.10 **Non-Specific Symptoms: The Hull Rapid Diagnostic Service (RDS). Pathway Design, Challenges and Successes**

Matt Hiles, Hull University Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

10.30 Questions

10.45 Break

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

11.15 **Apprenticeships / UG sonographers – programme / benefits / limitations. How can we UG integrate into the department?**

Catriona Hynes and Michelle Hood, Sheffield Hallam University

11.45 **Are Sonographers Fulfilling their Potential in Advancing Practice? Review of career framework and how we encourage career development from practitioner to consultant?**

James Harcus, University of Leeds

12.15 **Development of AdvP role, what are the benefits to the department and what are the benefits to the sonographer. Outline structure and expectations and how this can then move to Cons Practice.**

Cat Lee, Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital (Wonford)

13.00 **Lunch**

SERVICE DELIVERY

13.50 **Partial Booking – A Case Study**

Lucy Willcox, The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

14.20 **Finding a realistic balance between the expectations of obstetric ultrasound service users and its providers – the BMUS Obstetric Ultrasound White Paper**

Trish Chudleigh, Cambridge University Hospitals

14.50 Questions

RETENTION

15.20 **Career development – Sonographer to Clinical Director**

Steve Savage, Yeovil District Hospital

15.50 **What can we do to retain sonographers? What can we do in the department to support, nurture and encourage our staff to stay?**

Karen Hill, The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust

16.20 Questions and Closing Remarks

16.30 Close